

## **HARBOR BRIDGE PROJECT COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

May 31, 2018

*The following notes are the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) summary of the meeting and are not designed to be an exact representation of proceedings. The responses to questions posed during the meeting included in this document may be abbreviated and not constitute the full and appropriate responses for individuals' situations. Community Advisory Board (CAB) members and the public should contact the appropriate agency for complete and personalized answers to their questions.*

### **Open House**

An open house was held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., prior to the CAB meeting. During the open house, Flatiron Dragados, LLC, the contractor on the project, presented a looping video of the project animation showing traffic flow. The animation presentation was done as part a request from the CAB to "show a model of the different traffic movements" when construction is completed. The Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) was also present to answer questions and provide information on bus service and detours through the Hillcrest & Washington Coles Neighborhoods.

### **Opening of the CAB Meeting, 6:00 pm**

- Pastor Adam Carrington opened the meeting and welcomed the CAB, partner agencies, and the public. He encouraged the community to provide input on issues and raise concerns.
- Christopher Amy, TxDOT, introduced representatives from the Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), who provided a transit service update.
  - RTA planning director Gordon Robinson and senior transit planner Wes Vardeman talked about detours, in particular, Route 12, which has changed due to Harbor Bridge and Bond 2014 construction projects.
  - Old Robstown Road will be closed due to construction. The detour will be Villa Drive, which will have four temporary stops, and then Omaha Drive, which will be a permanent change.
  - The Staples overpass main route to Hillcrest has been diverted to Carancahua and Tancagua streets.
  - The detour from the Martin Luther King Drive frontage road will be on Noakes Street.
  - The detours have not hurt the RTA's on-time performance. Route 12 will serve the Oveal Williams Senior Center.
- The RTA responded to questions from the CAB and public.
  - Comment: It is a federal mandate to have access for seniors and the disabled. The route is not serving its purpose. Response: We will still serve seniors and the disabled. For example, we continue to provide access to the HEBs. We've added an additional HEB we're providing service to. We are also going by the DelMar East Campus.
  - Question: Do you serve Driscoll? Response: Project underway at Driscoll. We currently cannot drive in front of Driscoll. The full Robstown Corridor project is being fast-tracked. We're trying to stick to the arterials. Once construction is done, we're going back to serve Robstown bi-directionally.

- Question: Why did you down-size buses? Response: Due to ridership. There was a 20% decrease in ridership. We looked at every single route in our system and the ridership in 2017 versus early 2018 and we saw a 20% decrease.

### **Del Richardson & Associates (DRA) Update**

- On May 7 DRA sent a letter to all property owners, reaching out to those who had not responded regarding the VARP. A sample letter was brought to the meeting. Those who own a home and are under contract would not have gotten a letter.
- 331 parcel owners have expressed interest in participating in the Voluntary Acquisition and Relocation Program (VARP). 229 have received offers. 205 have accepted the offer. 12 parcels have declined to participate in the VARP. 143 parcels have been acquired. There are about 500 parcels in the program area.
- A CAB member stated the program should be extended six months to account for the time the program was on hold. He stated they need to get that time back or risk a class action lawsuit. Christopher stated that the program would conclude in May of 2019. However, he mentioned that an eligible person can technically request to be a part of the program on the last day. Property owners will have 60 days to consider an offer.

### **Port of Corpus Christi Authority (POCCA) Update**

- A CAB member mentioned that she can smell the asbestos as the houses are being demolished in the neighborhood. The Port talked about encapsulating the houses in plastic as an abatement measure.
- The Port mentioned 93 demolitions had been done to date.
- A CAB member shared his concerns on abatement and stated he had photos and video of demolitions during which abatement procedures were not being followed. The Port asked him to share those with them to address the issues with the contractor. The CAB member stated that there needs to be a stop order of work as soon as possible because it takes a long time to address an issue if it goes through the regular, formal process. Sam Esquivel, with the Port, encouraged people to contact him directly.
- A CAB member stated that work trucks are not marked and that the contractor is doing whatever they want because no one is watching them. CAB member stated they are pulling trees out, like pecans, which is a state tree. They need to have a permit and they don't. Sam Esquivel asked the CAB member to please provide photos or videos of this. Professional Services Inc. is doing the demolitions.
- A CAB member stated that the contractor leaves dirt, rocks, and debris lying around after demolition has been completed. They leave dirt all along the road and when they crush wood they leave splinters all over the property.
- Another CAB member noted that heavy equipment driving on public streets is causing wear and tear on the street surface.
- The Port stated the contractor brings in dirt to fill holes and seed to establish and maintain grass.
- A CAB member stated that after the 19 CAB meetings that have taken place, the community has seen no results.
- Christopher noted that the CAB addresses the questions and concerns as they come up in the CAB meeting and those items are captured in the meeting notes. He acknowledged they will do a better job creating an awareness of what is being addressed. Christopher said he would meet with CAB Chair Pastor Adam and consultants and figure out a way to address

concerns and better communicate the resolution during the format of the CAB meeting. This proposed time segment during the CAB meeting will likely make it clearer to CAB members what has been addressed and resolved.

- CAB Chair Pastor Adam pointed out that there have been results that come from the CAB meetings. He read aloud two questions from the April CAB meeting minutes that were asked by the CAB and for which answers were provided immediately. Pastor Adam encouraged CAB members to read the meeting minutes.
- Sam Esquivel noted the Port has 45 properties and two to three break-ins weekly. He asked the group to please let the Port know if they see something and shared his phone number 361-882-1182. Christopher added that the CAB indicated people were trespassing on Port purchased property. As result of the CAB the Port increased their presence in the neighborhood.

### **Flatiron Dragados, LLC (FDLLC) Update**

- Flatiron Dragados provided an update on construction progress.
- The Staples Street bridge has been removed. Crews are about to close the frontage road. Detour routes will be in place. FDLLC is working with the bus service provider.
- Short term closures will be in place by TC Ayers pool as drainage structures are built.
- A CAB member asked why the access road by Martin Luther King Drive was closed. FDLLC stated they are doing work on the frontage road. There is a temporary off ramp at Leopard Street. Work continues on retaining walls, and a flyover. The contractor is looking at traffic and how to keep it moving.
- I-37 Southbound will have main lane closures. On June 11-14 traffic coming from San Antonio will be shifted over. Port Avenue Bridge must be rebuilt. It will be closed for a few days for demolition. It's inconvenient but it's safe.
- There are cranes on the frontage road between Port and Leopard streets. Drivers will need to take Port Avenue to Leopard Street, then Tancahua. Construction will start on Antelope Street the second week of June. The Nueces Bay entrance ramp is closed. Traffic will be moved to the other side of I-37.
- A CAB member stated they are trying to get small businesses work (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise [DBE]-certified). He wanted to know how small businesses based in Hillcrest can get work on the project. He asked for a cost breakdown of Stillman Street Bridge to share with businesses and see if they're competitive. FDLLC stated they could not provide the cost breakdown.
- The CAB member asked if Harbor Bridge is a federal project and stated they should be able to provide the breakdown of what has been paid because it includes public funds. The Corpus Christi Housing Authority representative stated that might be allowed. Christopher stated he spoke with the project manager who said he is not used to giving that information out this early, but he has put that request in.
- Lorette Williams, FDLLC asked the CAB member if he was wanting information specifically for DBE. The CAB member stated he wanted information on total paid to date and total DBE participation. Lorette stated they could request it in writing through the public information act.
- FDLLC mentioned they are working on patching potholes and conducting the work in off-peak hours at night. They have an operations and maintenance subcontractor specifically for that work.

- A CAB member noted that drivers coming off the ramps are doing so at high speeds. The contractor stated the ramp speed should match the frontage road speed. Chris mentioned HNTB talked to the Corpus Christi Police Department about enforcing the speed limit. The contractor mentioned they may add rumble strips to the ramps to slow vehicles using the exit ramp.
- A CAB member asked for an update about an issue that was brought up at the last CAB meeting, when another CAB member claimed she was declined for a job due to her involvement with the CAB.
- CAB Chair Pastor Carrington mentioned that was April Bassett. He said he was contacted by Janice Sweet with Human Resources. The Chair had not responded because he had not talked with April first. He asked the group to give him a few days to talk to April and then he would address it. The Chair would like to get approval from April first to talk to the HR director about her matter. He would like to get the facts first.
- A CAB member asked when the next job fair would take place. FDLLC said they would be hosting it in conjunction with Workforce Solutions and stated she would share the dates. The listing would be shared.
- A CAB member asked that the dates be shared with the CAB. Chris stated that TxDOT meets with FDLLC on a regular basis. When they get the notice, they'll send out an update to everyone with information on these job fairs.
- A CAB member asked how movers in the VARP were selected. DRA said they asked them to come walk through the property and provide a bid. They were local companies.

### **Adjournment of the Meeting**

The power went out in the building. The meeting adjourned.





## **Save the Date!**

### **Harbor Bridge Community Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting**

**6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

**When:** Thursday, May 31, 2018

**Where:** Oveal Williams Senior Center  
1414 Martin Luther King Drive  
Corpus Christi, TX 78401

### **Come early for an Open House**

**5:30 – 6:00 p.m.**

Flatiron Dragados, LLC will present an animation of the project showing various traffic movements

Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority will provide a transit service update



**CORPUS CHRISTI**  
Housing Authority



## **¡Guarda la Fecha!**

### **Reunión del Comité de Consejo Comunitario para Harbor Bridge**

**6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

**Cuándo:** jueves, 31 de mayo de 2018

**Dónde:** Oveal Williams Senior Center

1414 Martin Luther King Drive

Corpus Christi, TX 78401

### **Vengan temprano a una Casa Abierta**

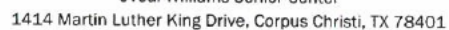
**5:30 – 6:00 p.m.**

Flatiron Dragados, LLC presentará un video del proyecto que muestra varias configuraciones de tráfico

Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority dará un informe sobre el servicio de tránsito



**CORPUS CHRISTI**  
Housing Authority





# Harbor Bridge Community Advisory Board Meeting #19

Thursday, May 31, 2018 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Oveal Williams Senior Center

1414 Martin Luther King Drive

## GENERAL PUBLIC SIGN-IN SHEET

Name (Please print) Nombre (Use letra de bloque)	Address Dirección	Phone Teléfono	Email Correo Electrónico	Affiliation (homeowner, tenant, property owner, media, etc.) Afiliación (propietario, inquilino, dueño, prensa, etc.)
Wesley Vardeman	CCRTA			presenter
Gordon Robinson	CCRTA			stakeholder
Ruby Bell	3422 Topham			owner
Pilar Gonzalez	City of Corpus Christi			Harbor Bridge Liaison
Daniel Pena	2813 Hulbirt			Tenant
Erin Guevas	TRUA			
Evelyn Sanford	1402 Van Loan Ave.			Homeowner
Jamie Klein				Rep Abel Herrero
Errol Summerlin				







# Harbor Bridge Community Advisory Board Meeting #19

Thursday, May 31, 2018 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Oveal Williams Senior Center

1414 Martin Luther King Drive

## STAFF SIGN-IN SHEET

Name	Organization
Cynthia Coss	HNTB
SUMNER LANTON	HNTB
Debbie Taylor	HNTB
Deborah Sherrill	CC Housing Authority
* BOBBY HARBAID	TXDOT
Lorette Williams	FDLLC
Darrell Chambers	FDLLC
Julee Hugo	FDLLC
JOELLE FRANKS	AECOM
MIKE GALLOWAY	TXDOT
Ton NISRAZA	CITY
Al Alonzi	FHWA
* Sam Esquivel	DRA
	PCCA
* Mark Arrington	FHWA
Rick Rio	DRA



CORPUS CHRISTI  
Housing Authority



## Community Advisory Board Meeting #19 Agenda

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday, May 31, 2018
<b>5:30 p.m.</b>	Doors Open
<b>5:30 p.m.</b>	Open House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FDLLC will present an animation of the project showing various traffic movements</li> <li>• Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority will provide transit service update</li> </ul>
<b>6:00 – 7:30 p.m.</b>	Community Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting
<b>Location:</b>	Oveal Williams Senior Center 1414 Martin Luther King Dr., Corpus Christi, TX
<b>Purpose:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide current data on the progress of the Voluntary Acquisition and Relocation Program (VARP)</li> <li>• To report on Port activities</li> <li>• Update on bridge construction activities</li> <li>• To report on the Park Walk</li> <li>• To address previous questions to TxDOT and other agencies</li> <li>• To allow the opportunity for CAB and members of the public to ask questions</li> </ul>
<b>Agenda:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The CAB chair will welcome the group and open the meeting</li> <li>b. DRA will provide an update on the VARP</li> <li>c. The Port of Corpus Christi Authority will provide an update on property demolitions, maintenance, and safety</li> <li>d. FDLLC will inform the group about upcoming construction and traffic control</li> <li>e. TxDOT and CAB Chair will report on:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Update on Park Walk and park questionnaire results, recommendations</li> <li>2) Next Livability Plan Subcommittee Meeting</li> </ol> </li> <li>f. CAB members will give feedback to the agencies and have an opportunity to raise questions and concerns</li> <li>g. The public will provide comments on topics addressed in this meeting</li> <li>h. The CAB Chair will close the meeting.</li> </ol>

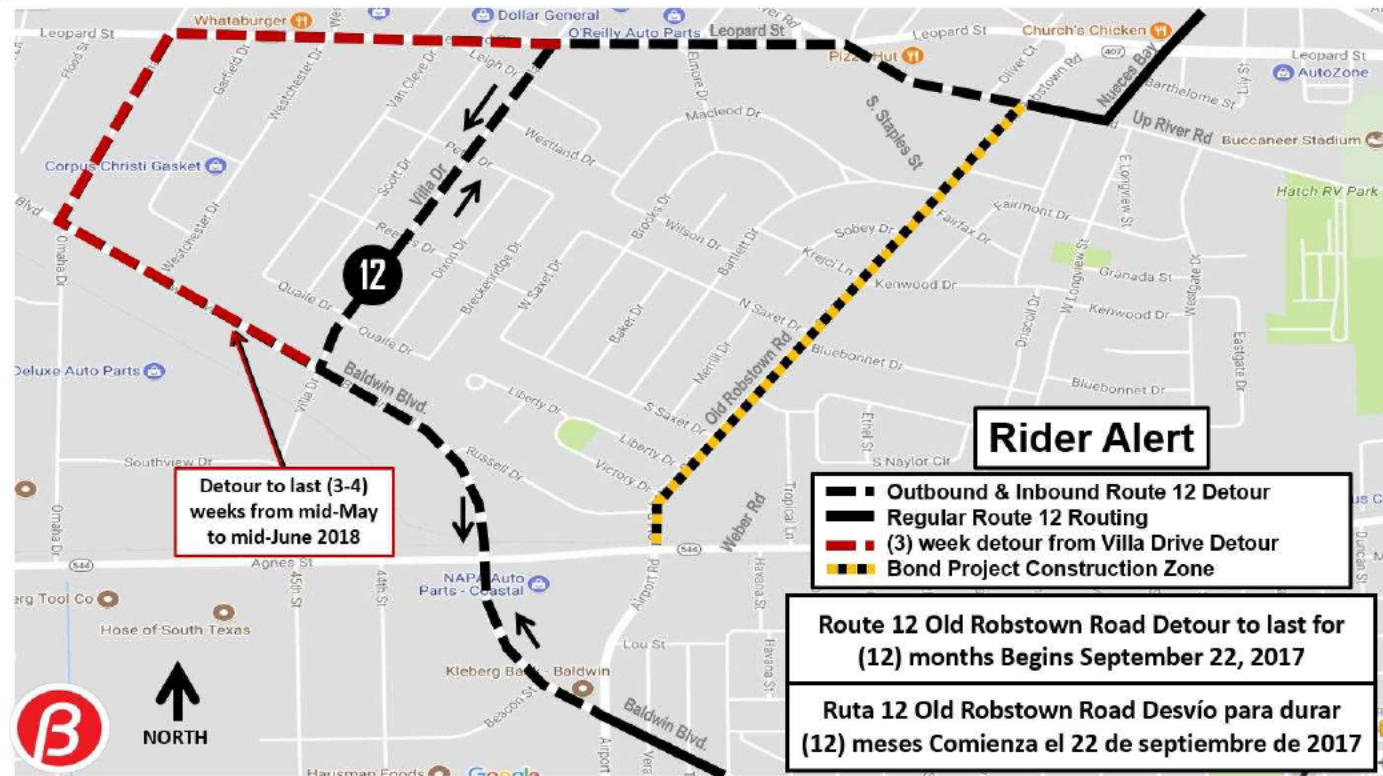


# **Harbor Bridge Community Advisory Board (CAB Meeting) May 31, 2018**

**Impacts to CCRTA Bus Routes 12 & 12s  
From City Bond Projects & The New Harbor Bridge**

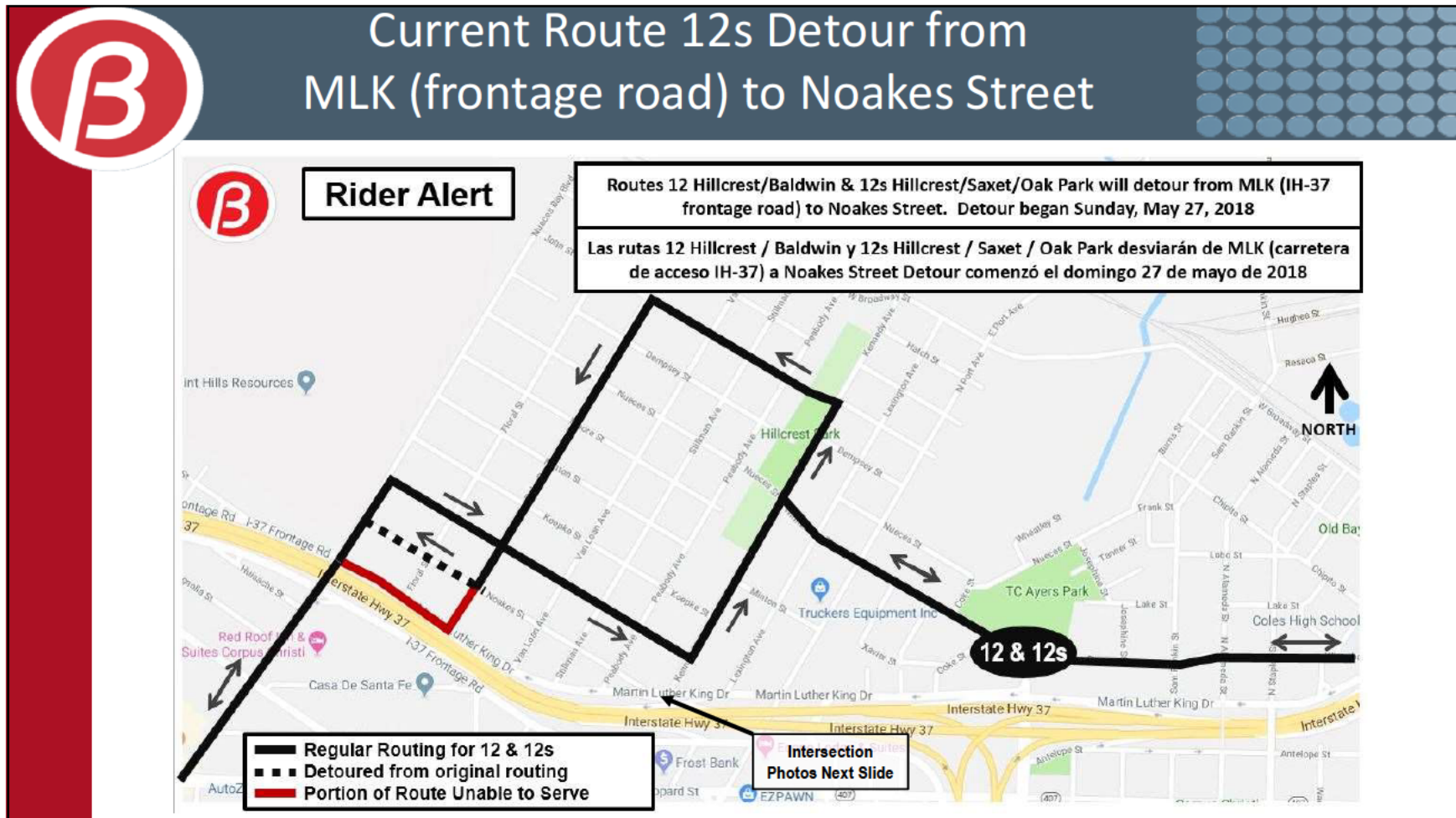


## Bond 2014 Project Detour of Route 12 from Old Robstown Road to Villa Drive



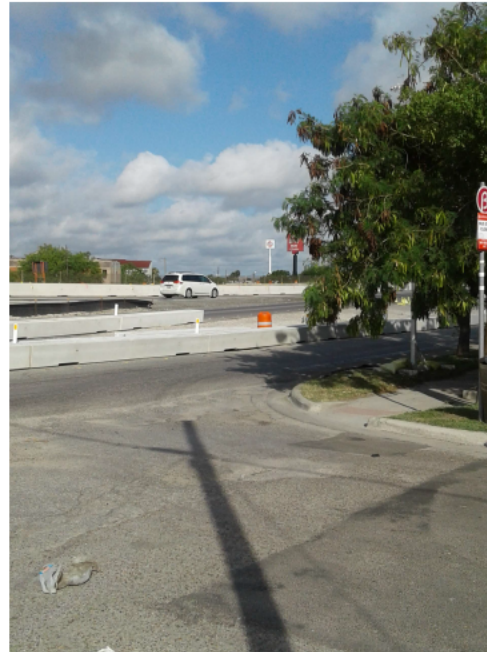
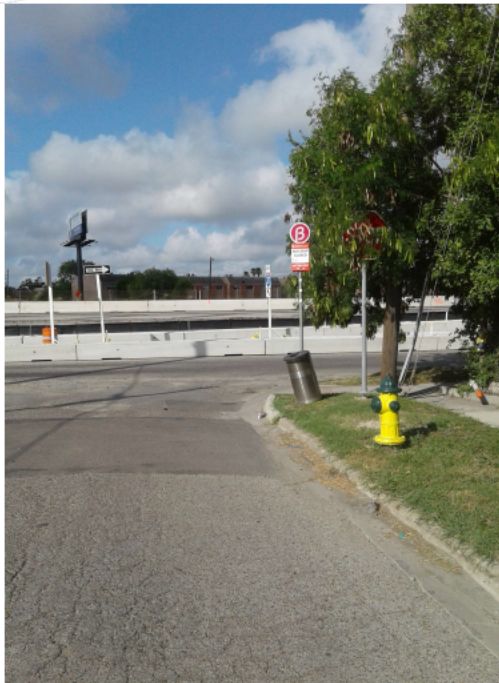








## Current Route 12 & 12s Detour from MLK (frontage road) to Noakes Street

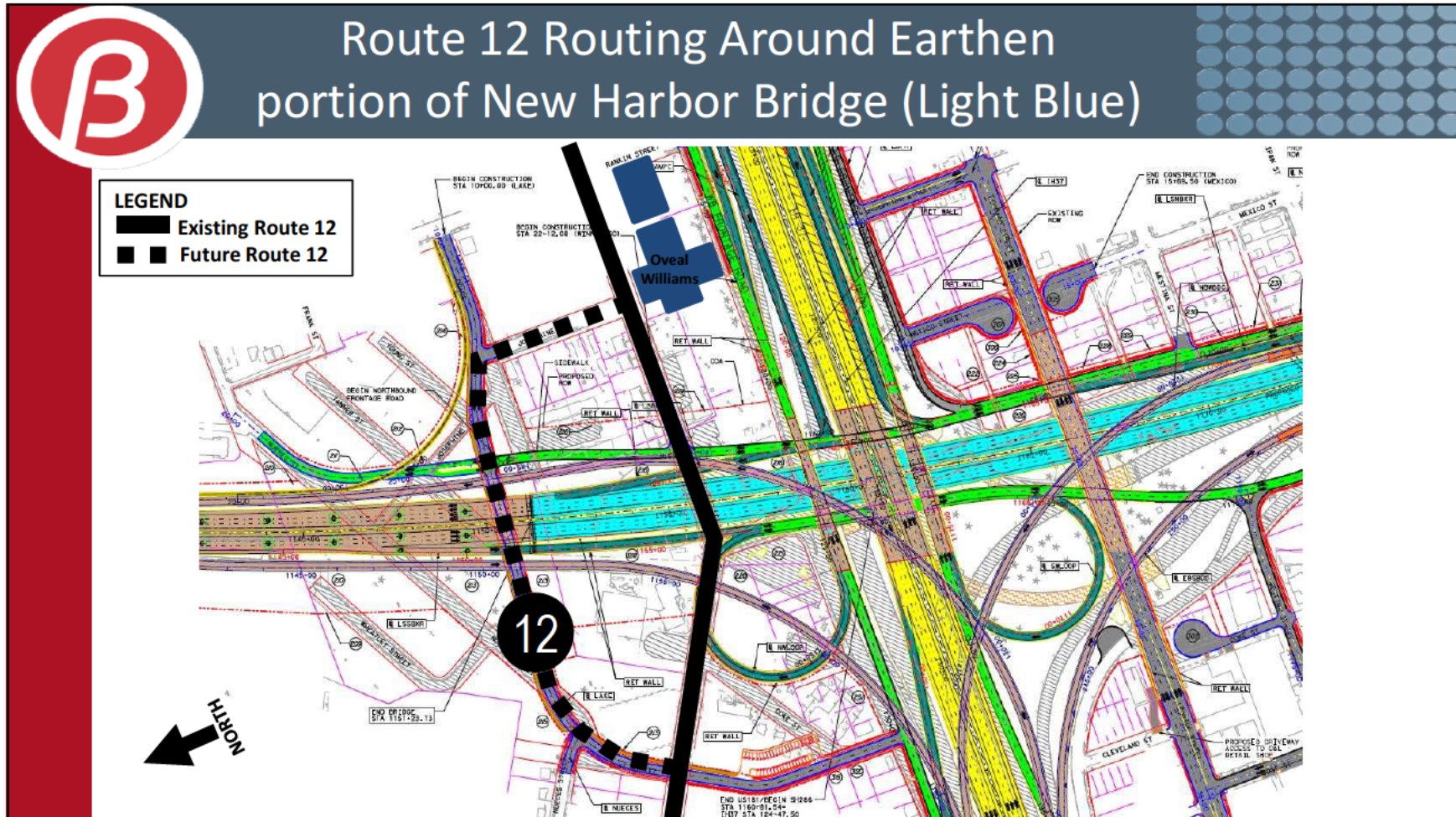






# Route 12 Routing Under New Harbor Bridge







## QUESTIONS





## **HARBOR BRIDGE PROJECT COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

April 5, 2018

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### **Opening of the Meeting, 6:00 pm**

Pastor Adam opened the meeting and welcomed the CAB, partner agencies, and the public.

### **Del Richardson & Associates (DRA) Update**

- DRA provided a report on progress of the Voluntary Acquisition and Relocation Program (VARP).
  - 124 parcels have been acquired
  - 60 in escrow
  - 64 properties have been demolished
  - 317 owners have expressed interested
  - 210 offers have been made and 189 have been accepted
- A final notice will be sent to the community informing them this is the final year to participate in the VARP.
- DRA encouraged those who have submitted letters of interest to please visit the office. They have about 50 property owners who submitted letters of interest, but who have stopped communicating.
- A CAB member requested the program be extended six to nine months due to delays.
- Another CAB member noted that animals are being dropped off in Hillcrest. Resident said she encountered a stray dog who was growling at her.
- CAB member: Can someone come and check vacated homes? The Port stated they are currently doing this and said Corpus Christi Police Department (CCPD) will be made aware.
- CAB member: Are there "No Trespassing" signs being placed at vacant homes and lots? The Port answered that they are not currently placing "No Trespassing" signs on vacant lots, but stated they would start putting the signs up since some people are using vacant lots to park, which is not allowed.
- CAB member: How long does it take to be called after someone turns in a letter of interest? DRA explained that the property owner has to prove they qualify, get a title commitment, then get an appraisal done. It takes two to three months to schedule an appraisal. The appraisal is then reviewed; an offer is made and that takes about six months.
- CAB member: Does the Port acquire properties if the home is vacant? The team responded that if the home was vacant as of January 1, 2016, then yes. The property owner has to document the home was being rented out a combination of 45 weeks throughout 2014 and 2015. Tenants can visit the DRA office to see if they're eligible for the program.

### **Port of Corpus Christi Authority (POCCA) Update**

- Sam Esquivel put the Port Police Department phone number (361-885-6197) up on the flip chart for people to call if they want to report something.
- He reported that 67 units have been demolished as of March 30. A map of the properties that have been demolished was shown.
- Maintenance has had trouble keeping up with mowing in the neighborhood. Sam encouraged residents to call him at 361-885-6140 if they see parcels that have not been mowed. He shared his phone number with the group. The Port is trying to set up procedures to identify properties that need to be mowed. Someone suggested painting address numbers on the sidewalk.

### **Flatiron Dragados, LLC (FDLLC) Update**

- Darrell Chambers gave an update on construction activity.
  - Stillman Bridge has been removed.
  - The Staples Street bridge will start demolition on April 7. The new bridge to be built will be wider.
  - The Comanche Bridge columns are coming up. Columns and beams will be placed next.
  - One side of I-37 will be reconstructed. A traffic shift will be put in place in mid-April.
- CAB member: What is the small business participation? Darrell said he would find that information and share it with the group.
- Chris mentioned a job fair was coming up and would be a good opportunity for the community to apply for jobs. A CAB member mentioned they applied for a job and were told by human resources personnel that they could not be considered for the position since they were a member of the CAB. TxDOT, the CAB Chair, and FDLLC asked for a specific name of the person so they could address the situation since that is not a valid reason to remove someone from consideration for a job.
- CAB member: What is the total cost of construction? You should have that number because it is included in the bids. Chris stated they do not have that figure since the project is ongoing, but he may be able to share cost information for those parts of the project that have completed construction.
- CAB member: What is the easiest way to get around since Staples is closed? Darrell answered that the Alameda Bridge will stay open to pedestrians. An alternate route for drivers is to exit Port and take Winnebago.
- CAB member: How is dust, noise, and vibrations created by cranes being dealt with? FDLLC responded that vibration is being monitored and water is being used to mitigate dust.
- CAB member: What were the results of soil testing? FDLLC responded that there has not been soil testing done in Hillcrest, only within the right-of-way. Once a new site is opened up for construction, soil testing is done. This is something that can be discussed during the Northside Neighborhoods Park Walk, to be held April 7.
- CAB member: I'm disturbed by the remediation being done. There is asbestos contamination. FDLLC stated that testing was done at the bridges and no asbestos was found. He also stated they have misters near the bridges.
- CAB member: There is a lack of security at construction sites. FDLLC stated that security officers have been assigned to project sites. They mentioned all neighborhood residents were notified in English and Spanish of upcoming construction activities.



### **Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)**

- Chris encouraged people to fill out the questionnaire regarding the parks. Mitigation at HJ Williams and TC Ayers parks is required and Chris and Pastor Adam encouraged everyone to come out to the Northside Neighborhoods Park Walk on Saturday, April 7 to provide their input, which TxDOT will submit to the Federal Highways Administration (FHWA). He mentioned the group would be driving between parks.

### **Questions and Answers by CAB Members and the Public and Agency Responses**

- CAB member: Trucks in construction sites need to be identified. Darrell stated they're in the process of getting stickers for FDLLC's trucks.
- CAB member: There are rodents and possums in the neighborhood – need to deal with these.
- FDLLC stated they provided bus passes to schools in the area at no charge (within two miles) to distribute to kids and their parents.
- CAB member: Where is the project model? Chris stated they would have an animation at the next meeting with details on traffic movements. The idea would be to present this video animation during an open house right before the CAB meeting.
- No one from the public had any comments or questions.

### **Adjournment of the Meeting**

- Pastor Adam once again encouraged everyone to come out to the park walk again, provide input, and be open-minded.
- Chris closed the meeting out and stated a notification about the next CAB meeting will be sent to the group once the date is confirmed.