Ellis County-Midlothian to Waxahachie Trail Corridor Research

The University of Texas at Arlington
Program in Landscape Architecture, School of Architecture and
The Institute of Urban Studies, The School of Urban and Public Affairs
The University Partnership Program

North Central Texas Council of Governments
The University of Texas

Ellis County
City of Midlothian
City of Waxahachie

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Presentation Outline

Existing Corridor Information
- Inventory: Natural Features
- Inventory: Manmade Features
- Recent and Future Development

Photo Inventory: Existing Corridor Areas and Character

Summary Analysis and Concept

Proposed Trail Corridor Elements and Alternatives

Key Issues and Questions

Next Steps
The Regional Veloweb, 2010

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
The Trail Corridor

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Midlothian-Waxahachie Corridor Inventory

Natural Features
- Creeks and Streams
- Lakes
- Vegetation & Land Cover
- 100 Year Flood Plain

Human Features
- Roads and Highways
- Schools
- Cemeteries
- Parks
- Railroad

Land Use
- Land Use
- Parcels
Natural Features Inventory

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Distance Relationships

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Proximity to Trail Corridor

Waxahachie Creek

0.5 mi = approx. 10 min. walk
3 mi = approx. 15 min. bicycle ride

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Recent and Future Development Plans

Midlothian

MIDTOWNE

DIAMOND J RANCH

KEMP RANCH

Waxahachie

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Photo Inventory and Observations
City of Waxahachie
Getzendaner Memorial Park

Midlothian

Waxahachie
Trail Map A

[Images of various trails and maps including a map from Google Maps, 2014]
Trail Map A
Trail Map A
Trail Map B
Trail Map B: Sardis
Trail Map C: Airport Access
Trail Map C

Google Maps, 2014
Trail Map C: Community Access
Trail Map D
Trail Map D

Midlothian

Waxahachie
City of Midlothian
Summary Analysis: Key Sites

Midlothian:
- Downtown
- KEMP RANCH
- MIDTOWNE
- LAKE GROVE PARK

Waxahachie:
- 287 CROSSING and GATEWAY PARK OPPORTUNITY
- TRAILHEAD OPPORTUNITY
- 287 CROSSING OPPORTUNITY
- SARDIS
- CEMETERY
- I-35 CROSSING
- PARK ANCHOR
- 287 CROSSING and GATEWAY PARK OPPORTUNITY

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Exploring Detailed Alignments

- Generally, yellow route maximizes creek views and adjacency
- Orange route more closely follows rail r.o.w. where feasible
- Optional spur linkages to resources and community access
- Connections to the city trail systems
Legend

- Orange Route
- Yellow Route
- Trail Head
- Gateway park/trailhead
- Pedestrian and Bike Bridge only
- Pedestrian and Bike underpass
- Railway Crossing
- Community Access Bikeway
- Community Access Trail
- Proposed Park Expansion
Midlothian-Waxahachie Trail Concepts
Trail Concept Map C
Trail Concept Map D
Length: 11.1 miles

Gateway acquisitions: 2
Trail heads: 7
Bridges: 15
RR Crossings: 6
Underpasses: 1
Properties Crossed: 50
Miles of RR r.o.w.: 6.6

ORANGE ROUTE

Length: 11.3 miles

Gateway acquisitions: 2
Trail heads: 7
Bridges: 17
RR Crossings: 2
Underpasses: 1
Properties Crossed: 65
Miles of RR r.o.w.: .6

YELLOW ROUTE
Key Issues: What we need to know

• Alternative main trail routings:
  – Yellow route?
  – Orange route?
  – Hybrid/mixed?

• “Community Access” routes:
  – Extent and destination

• Future parkland and easement opportunities
  – Gateway parks
  – Function of trail (high speed vs. recreation)
  – Scenic value/character of trail experience

• What do we take forward?
Next Steps

• Today’s feedback
• Revisions based on feedback
• Opinion of concept level budget
• Implementation strategies
• Draft report
Acknowledgements

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### Key System Elements: Quantifications

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