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

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Ellis County
City of Midlothian
City of Waxahachie

The University of Texas
Presentation Outline

Existing Corridor Information
Photo Inventory: Existing Corridor Areas and Character
Summary Analysis and Concept
Trail Routing Alternatives
Key Issues and Feedback
Recommended Trail Plan
Moving Forward
The Regional Veloweb, 2010

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010

Midlothian
Waxahachie
Study Area

Trail Corridor Study Area

Midlothian

Waxahachie

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

Midlothian

Waxahachie Creek

Waxahachie

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Land Use/Parcels

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Distance Relationships

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

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

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Photo Inventory and Observations
City of Waxahachie
Getzendarner Memorial Park
Trail Map A

Google Maps: 2014

Midlothian

Waxahachie
Trail Map A
Trail Map A
Trail Map B
Trail Map B: Sardis
Trail Map C: Airport Access
Trail Map C: Community Access
Trail Map D
Trail Map D
Trail Map D

Midlothian

Waxahachie
City of Midlothian
Summary Analysis: Key Sites

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Summary Analysis: Community Access

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Linkage Opportunities

Midlothian

- Downtown
- Midtowne
- Lake Grove Park
- Residential Infill
- 287 Crossing and Gateway Park/Anchor Opportunity
- Trailhead Opportunity
- Airport
- Lakes
- Diamond J Ranch
- Cemetery, Scenic Lanes
- 287 Crossing Opportunity
- Kemp Ranch

Waxahachie

- I-35 Crossing
- Park Anchor
- Cemetery

Data Source: NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Exploring Alignment Alternatives

- Generally, yellow route maximized 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
Trail Route Alternatives
Trail Route Alternatives Map A

NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Trail Route Alternatives Map D
Length: 11.1 miles 11.3 miles

- Gateway acquisitions: 2 2
- Trail heads: 7 7
- Bridges: 15 17
- RR Crossings: 6 2
- Underpasses: 1 1
- Properties Crossed: 50 65
- Miles of RR r.o.w.: 6.6 .6
Public Meeting  October 13, 2014
Public Meeting  October 13, 2014

- Support for continuous multi-use trail linking the cities
- Support for collaborative efforts between the cities
- Concerns over trail route crossing specific private properties, especially in the Sardis area
- Concerns over trail interrupting use of adjacent private property and businesses, especially in the Sardis area.
Coordination with Union Pacific
Recommended Trail Plan

NCTCOG GIS Data, 2010
Recommended Trail Plan Map B
Recommended Trail Plan Map D
Moving Forward:

• Adopt the plan as amendment to parks portion of the comprehensive plan.
• Identify and pursue funding sources for land acquisitions and trail system development.
• Conduct necessary engineering, environmental, and detailed design/construction packages in cooperation with potential partners.
• Construct trail system.
• Maintain the system.
Acknowledgements

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• Ellis County
• City of Midlothian
• City of Waxahachie

• The University of Texas
# Key System Elements: Quantifications

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