

Outer Loop at US 75 Environmental Status

*Program Engineer
North Central Texas Council of Governments*

Local Environment Document

- Based on the conceptual design of the interchange, a local environmental document has been prepared for the early acquisition of right-of-way for the proposed interchange at US 75 and the Collin County Outer Loop
- This document was prepare to allow the purchasing right-of-way for the interchange; it does not allow for the construction of the interchange
- Once the interchange has been designed in more detail, a separate environmental document will be needed for construction

Local Environment Document

- Main Sections of the Document:
 - Need and Purpose
 - Alternatives
 - Public and Agency Coordination
 - Environmental Resources, Effects, and Mitigation
- Available on-line at:
<http://www.collincountytx.gov/mobility/Pages/outerloop.aspx>

Needs

Growing Population

- Collin County is one of the top growing counties in the state and nation
- Collin County is the fastest growing county in the region
- In 2015, the population of the county was estimated at almost 869,000
- By 2040, the county is expected to almost double in population to over 1,500,000 people

Collin County

Change in Population by TSZ
2007 to 2030

Legend

Change in Population

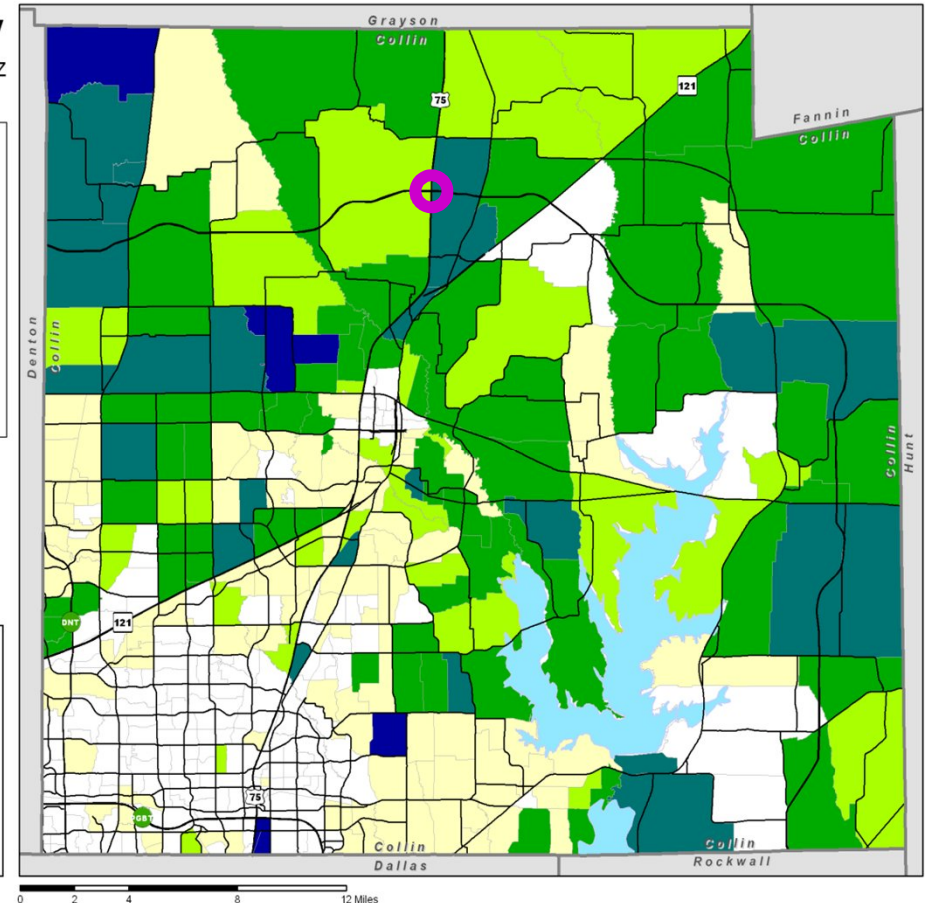
- No Significant Change
- Moderate (<100%)
- Notable (<200%)
- Considerable (<400%)
- Substantial (<800%)
- Extreme (>800%)
- County Boundary



North Central Texas
Council of Governments
Transportation



June 4, 2007



The county is proactively planning the development of transportation facilities to accommodate the future growth

Purpose

- The advance purchase of right-of-way will:
 - Prevent development of the land needed for the multi-level interchange, which will avoid displacements
 - Reduce project costs by acquiring property before development occurs
 - Help ensure that Collin County will have the ability to address future transportation improvements at US 75 and the Collin County Outer Loop and minimize impacts to the community

Resources Evaluated

- Land Use
- Right-of-Way Acquisition and Relocations
- Community Cohesion
- Environmental Justice and Limited English Proficiency
- Farmland
- Vegetation
- Threatened and Endangered Species, Wildlife, and Migratory Birds
- Water Quality, Floodplains, Wetlands, and Waters of the US
- Regulated/Hazardous Material Sites
- Air Quality and Noise
- Cultural Resources and Parklands

Property Owner Meetings

- All affected property owners were contacted by Collin County staff
- Meetings with affected property owners were held on August 18th and 19th
- Information regarding the conceptual design, property impacts, and acquisition schedule was provided
- The majority of the property owners had no issues
 - One property owner was concerned about being potentially land locked with the acquisition; but it was determined the property would not be land locked
 - One property owner expressed concern for aerial setbacks from the elevated roadway structure

Summary

- Requires the purchase of 14.05 acres of land from 8 parcels currently being used as farmland/ranch land, industrial, or is undeveloped property
- No structures would be displaced
- No properties would be divided
- No streams or water bodies are within the proposed right-of-way; however, 0.2 acres of the land within the southeast quadrant is in the 100-year floodplain
- No regulated material sites within the proposed right-of-way

Investigations conducted did not reveal any significant impacts to social, economic, and/or environmental resources

Recommendation

- Approval of the document for acquisition of right-of-way for the interchange
- Conduct a second environmental evaluation once the design is developed further to assess social, economic, and environmental effects prior to construction