



AGENDA MEMORANDUM
Public Hearing for the Planning Commission Meeting January 8, 2020

DATE: December 31, 2019

TO: Carl Crull, Chairman of the Planning Commission

FROM: Daniel McGinn, AICP, Director of Planning & Environmental Services
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**Urban Transportation Plan Amendment for Oso Parkway & Related Streets
Located South of FM 43 and West of Oso Creek**

CAPTION:

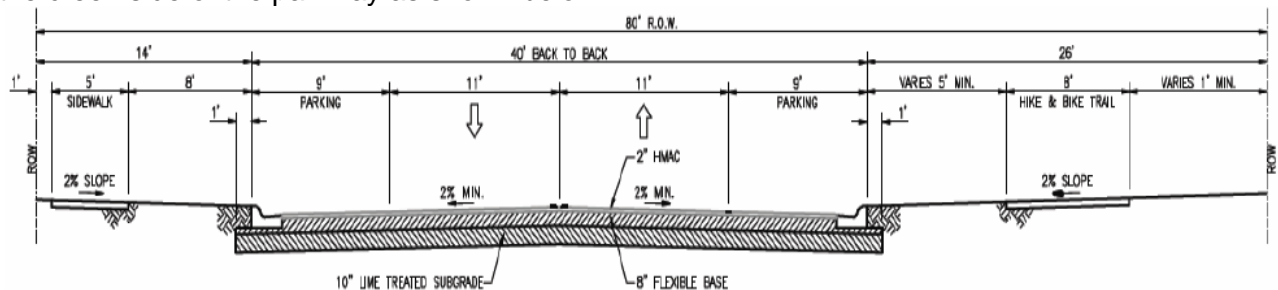
Ordinance amending the Urban Transportation Plan map of MobilityCC, a transportation element of the City's Comprehensive Plan, to adjust the location of the future Oso Parkway relative to the Oso Creek flood zones; to eliminate a duplicative north-south Collector street as a result of shifting Oso Parkway westward; and to adjust the connections between CR 43 East and CR 20A with Oso Parkway.

SUMMARY:

This ordinance amends the City's Urban Transportation Plan to shift Oso Parkway out of the Oso Creek floodway; to eliminate a duplicative north-south Collector street as a result of shifting Oso Parkway to the west; to adjust the connections between CR 43 East and Oso Parkway; and to connect CR 20A to Oso Parkway. The amendments improve the future street network in this area.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The City's current Urban Transportation Plan was last updated in the subject area in 2010. The amendments created a half-mile grid street network with the proposed Oso Parkway on the west bank of the Oso Creek. The Oso Parkway is a collector type street with a proposed right-of-way (ROW) width of 80 feet, a 40-foot wide paved street, and a paved hike and bike trail on the creek-side of the parkway as shown below.



Since the alignment of Oso Parkway was established, new FEMA flood maps have been developed. The proposed Oso Parkway is currently shown within the Oso Creek floodway and within the 100-year flood zone, where development is not encouraged. Staff is proposing amendments that will better comply with FEMA guidelines and that improve connectivity in the subject area.

Description of the Amendment:

The proposed amendments will:

1. Realign Oso Parkway out of FEMA's floodway and 100-year flood zone where possible.
2. Delete a north-south Collector that becomes unnecessary when Oso Parkway is shifted west.
3. Improve the alignment of the CR 43 East connection with Oso Parkway.
4. Connect CR 20A to Oso Parkway to complete the street network.

Grid System

The City's Urban Transportation Plan in the area south/west of the Oso Creek was amended in 2010 to create a grid system of arterial and C3 Collector streets at a half-mile spacing. A grid system increases the street network's ability to handle traffic. The grid pattern increases connectivity, increases routes available, and helps address congestion. A grid system that is smaller than the one-mile grid system is supported by the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI). A grid system is also a major theme of Smart Growth advocates.

Hike/Bike Trails

The City's adopted HikeBikeCC identifies the "Lakes Loop" and identifies an off-street facility as an opportunity trail in this area. Oso Parkway, when constructed in accordance with the proposed amendments, will include construction of this off-street trail.

Analysis of the Amendment:

The proposed amendments will maintain an adequate and efficient street network for the proposed land uses and will improve connectivity. The amendments better reflect FEMA guidelines for construction in flood zones.

ALTERNATIVES:

No alternatives were considered.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

No financial impact is associated with this item.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the transportation plan amendment.

Input from the Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC) is pending and TAC is scheduled to review this item on January 13, 2020.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Illustration of Transportation Plan (Before/Proposed/After)
Presentation