The Oklahoma Department of Transportation will host a virtual public open house to present the preferred alternative for SH-10A improvements through Paradise Hill in Sequoyah County. This open house will present the proposed design for the project and allow the public to submit input. Due to concerns over the spread of COVID-19, this will be a web-based format (no in-person meeting). The information will be available beginning August 2, 2021 and comments are requested by August 16, 2021.

**Purpose**

The purpose of the project is to correct roadway deficiencies, enhance safety, and efficiently accommodate traffic. Existing SH-10A is an asphalt, two-lane rural highway with 10 ft. to 11 ft. wide driving lanes. Substandard curves and hills and valleys in the roadway contribute to a collision history approximately three times the statewide average for a roadway of this type.

The public may view the project design on the virtual open house website and see additional information about the project.
Dear Stakeholders, Property Owners and Utility Owners:

Re: SH-10A Improvements from 2 miles East of the SH-10 Junction East to SH-100 Junction, Sequoyah County, Oklahoma, State Job Piece: J/P No. 30562 (04), Project No.: J-03562(004)

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is proposing improvements to State Highway (SH) 10A from 2 miles east of the SH-10 junction extending east to the SH-100 junction in Sequoyah County, Oklahoma. The existing SH-10A has no shoulders and hills/curves that do not comply with current design standards, contributing to a collision history approximately three times the statewide average for a roadway of this type. The purpose of the proposed improvements is to correct roadway deficiencies, enhance safety, and efficiently accommodate traffic.

ODOT has communicated SH-10A project information to the public and sought public input through several public involvement activities. At a stakeholder meeting held October 18, 2016 in the Great Hall meeting room of the Fin & Feather Resort and also at a public open house held January 31, 2017 in the Town of Gore Community Building, ODOT presented seven improvement alternatives, as well as ODOT’s rationale for selecting a Preferred Alternative. Upon review of public input following these events, ODOT issued a letter dated September 1, 2017 to all agencies, officials, and involved members of the public that explained ODOT’s intent to proceed with the environmental studies and design plans for ODOT’s Preferred Alternative. At a public open house held April 4, 2019, ODOT presented the results of the environmental studies and the preliminary design plans for the Preferred Alternative. After having the opportunity to visit with the local residents at the April 4, 2019 public open house and reviewing written comments received, ODOT issued an update flyer dated July 19, 2019 stating that ODOT decided not to move forward with the proposal for an offset alignment for the section of SH-10A between Orchard and Tower Roads. Instead, ODOT is considering staying on or near the existing alignment in this section and making corrections at the curves to reduce the sharp turns and minimize the amount of right-of-way required.

Due to ongoing concerns about COVID-19, ODOT will host a virtual public open house at www.odot.org/SH10ASeqCo from August 2 to August 16, 2021. The purpose of the open house is to present the project design for the Preferred Alternative and obtain input from the public. This pamphlet contains additional information about the virtual public open house. After the virtual public open house, project information may be viewed at www.odot.org/publicmeetings. If you are leasing this property, please notify your lessee more about how the project will affect homes and businesses.

The enclosed map shows the design of the Preferred Alternative. The map may be viewed at www.odot.org publicly meetings. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding this project, please email environment@odot.org, or call 405-325-3269.

Respectfully,

Siv Sundaram
Siv Sundaram, P.E.
Environmental Programs Division Engineer
SS/AW/Triad/MB

Enclosures: Preferred Alternative graphic, Comment Form, and ODOT Property Rights Brochure

Cc: Project Management Division
Field District Engineer

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) ensures that no person or groups of persons shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, retaliation or genetic information, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any and all programs, services, or activities administered by ODOT. To request an accommodation please contact the ADA Coordinator at 405-521-4140 or the Oklahoma Relay Service at 1-800-722-0353 no later than 72 hours before any scheduled event. If you have any ADA or Title VI questions email ODOT-ada-titlevi@odot.org.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Julie 28, 2021

Project Background

In 2015 ODOT began work to identify SH-10A improvement alternatives. In October 2016, a stakeholder meeting was held to present 7 improvement alternatives developed for consideration, as well as ODOT’s rationale for selecting Alternative 2 as the Preferred Alternative. Alternative 2 stayed mostly upon existing alignment, with a west offset alignment for the section of SH-10A between Orchard and Tower Roads. The same information was presented at a public Open House held in January 2017. After receiving and considering all public comments, ODOT issued a letter September 2017 to all interested parties of the decision to confirm Alternative 2 – West Offset as the Preferred Alternative.

Revision of Preferred Alternative: Preliminary design and environmental field studies were performed for the Preferred Alternative, and the results of the studies were presented at a second public Open House held in April 2019. After having the opportunity to visit with the local residents at the April 2019 public open house and reviewing written comments received, ODOT decided not to move forward with the proposal for an offset alignment for the section of SH-10A between Orchard and Tower Roads. Instead, ODOT decided to stay on or near the existing alignment in this section and make corrections at the curves to reduce the sharp turns and minimize the amount of right-of-way required. A flyer informing all interested parties that the Preferred Alternative had been revised to not include a west offset and instead to stay on the existing alignment was mailed in July 2019.

Presentation of Final Preferred Alternative Design Plans: The purpose of this August 2021 public Open House is to present the final design plans for the SH-10A improvements. The public comment period is open through August 16, 2021, and right-of-way acquisition is scheduled for late spring/early summer 2022.

Project Description

ODOT proposes to improve existing SH-10A on existing alignment. The roadway will have 12-foot wide driving lanes and 8-foot wide shoulders, with 4-foot wide shoulders through Paradise Hill. See the following graphic of a 2-lane typical section.

The enclosed map shows the design of the Preferred Alternative. The public may view the project design on the virtual open house website and read more about how the project will affect homes and businesses.

1 The mission of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation is to provide a safe, economical, and effective transportation network for the people, commerce and communities of Oklahoma.