

PUBLIC HEARING REPORT

E: US 290 Area Major Thoroughfare Study

APPLICANT: Harris County Engineering Department

KEY MAP:
JURISDICTION: Harris County

LAMBERT:
DISTRICT/PRECINCT:

PROPOSAL:

Update of the major thoroughfare grid in the area bounded by the northern Harris County line, the western Harris County line, the Katy Freeway to south, and S.H. 99 (Grand Parkway) to the east.

Case No.	Street	Street Segment	Request Action	Request Justification / Summary
E-1	Hegar Rd	Stokes Rd/ Field Store Rd to north Waller County Line	DELETE / COORDINATE	DELETE Hegar Rd segment within Harris County/Houston ETJ to avoid two major bridge structures within a 1/2 mile; to ensure viable East/West connection, coordinate with Waller County on realignment of Hegar Rd between Kickapoo Rd and Field Store Rd in Waller County north of Spring Creek
E-2	Mayer Rd	west Waller County Line to Stokes Rd	REALIGN	REALIGN to remove +/-250 jog in existing paving
E-3	Kermier Rd	Waller Spring Creek Rd to Castle Rd / Waller County Line	DELETE	DELETE to avoid two major bridge structures within a 1/2 mile and to avoid currently proposed major intersection directly over Spring Creek; to ensure viable north-south connections along Spring Creek, prioritization of bridge crossings is necessary; coordinate with Waller County
E-4	Badtke Rd	FM 2920 to Waller County Line	DELETE	DELETE to avoid approx. +/-2,000' of physical constraints between Spring Creek floodway and HL&P easement
E-5	Castle Rd / Magnolia Rd	Kickapoo Rd to Kermier Rd	REALIGN	REALIGN to maintain current paving with +/-1,660' intersection jog on Kickapoo Rd (remove reverse-curve alignment from the map)
E-6	Waller Spring Creek Rd / Owens Rd	FM 362 to City of Houston ETJ	WITHDRAWN	WITHDRAWN

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E-7	Waller Spring Creek Rd / Owens Rd	City of Houston ETJ to Kickapoo Rd	WITHDRAWN	WITHDRAWN
E-8	Cypress Hill Rd	Juergen Rd to Grant Rd	REALIGN	REALIGN to turn west and connect to Mueschke Rd south of Bauer Hockley Rd (within Tomball ISD property)
E-9	Binford Rd	Hempstead Hwy to Burton Cemetery Rd	DELETE	DELETE due to lack of railroad crossing for connection to Hempstead Hwy
E-10	Betka Rd	Warren Ranch Rd to Badtke Rd	REALIGN	REALIGN Betka Rd between Warren Ranch Rd and Badtke Rd, to tee into Badtke Rd further south for an increased distance from the US 290 interchange
E-11	Baethe Rd	Warren Ranch Rd to Badtke Rd	WITHDRAWN	WITHDRAWN
E-12	Betka Rd	Katy Hockley Rd to Becker Rd	ADDITION	ADDITION to connect Betka Rd realignment (see Amendment 7) with Mound Rd (see Amendment 8B), to enhance the east-west connectivity south of US 290
E-13	Mound Rd	Katy Hockley Rd to Becker Rd	REALIGN	REALIGN Mound Rd east of Katy Hockley Rd to create a T-intersection with Betka Rd (see Amendment 8A)
E-14	Binford Rd	Burton Cemetery Rd to Mound Rd / Roehen Rd	DELETE	DELETE roadway within the Little Mound Creek & Mound Creek floodway/ floodplain areas
E-15	Binford Rd	Mound Rd / Roehen Rd to Jack Road (cross Waller County Line)	DELETE	DELETE where existing alignment traverses through +/-10,000 of Mound Creek floodway and floodplain and cannot be realigned due to physical constraints regarding creek and existing development
E-16	Smalley Rd	Mound Rd / Kickapoo Rd to Binford Rd (cross Waller County Line)	DELETE	DELETE where current alignment traverses across an existing neighborhood
E-17	Smalley Rd	Mound Rd / Kickapoo Rd to Warren Ranch Rd	DELETE	DELETE where existing alignment impacts environmentally sensitive area controlled by the Katy Prairie Conservancy
E-18	UNNAMED (Kermier Rd)	Mound Rd to Sharp Rd / West Rd	DELETE	DELETE where existing alignment traverses +/- 6 mile stretch through the Cypress Creek floodway/ floodplain and environmentally sensitive area controlled by the Katy Prairie Conservancy

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E-19	UNNAMED (Warren Ranch Rd / Pitts Rd)	Jack Rd to Longenbaugh Rd	DELETE	DELETE where existing alignment traverses the Cypress Creek floodway / floodplain and environmentally sensitive area controlled by the Katy Prairie Conservancy
E-20	UNNAMED (Badtke Rd)	Mound Rd to Sharp Rd / West Rd	DELETE	DELETE where existing alignment traverses the Cypress Creek floodway / floodplain and environmentally sensitive area controlled by the Katy Prairie Conservancy
E-21	Louetta Rd	Badtke Rd to Katy Hockley Rd	DELETE	DELETE where existing alignment traverses environmentally sensitive area controlled by Katy Prairie Conservancy
E-22	Jack Rd	Binford Road to Kermier Rd (cross Waller County Line)	REALIGN	REALIGN to minimize the impact of physical constraints created by the existing floodway / floodplain
E-23	UNNAMED	Binford Road to Kermier Rd (cross Waller County Line)	DELETE	DELETE where existing alignment traverses through the Cypress Creek floodway / floodplain and environmentally sensitive area controlled by the Katy Prairie Conservancy
E-25	UNNAMED (Hebert Rd)	Existing Hebert Road to Katy Hockley Rd (cross Waller County Line)	DELETE	DELETE where existing alignment traverses through the Cypress Creek floodway / floodplain and environmentally sensitive area controlled by the Katy Prairie Conservancy (see Amendment 25)
E-26	Kickapoo Rd / Mound Rd	Sharp Rd to Hebert Rd	REALIGN	REALIGN to intersect existing Hebert Rd / Sharp Rd at a right angle in coordination with Waller County; coordinate with Waller County to delete segments traversing the Cypress Creek floodway / floodplain and environmentally sensitive area controlled by the Katy Prairie Conservancy
E-27	Sharp Rd	Tuckerton Rd / Sharp Rd to West Rd / Sharp Rd	ADDITION	ADDITION of existing Sharp Rd paving segment as Minor Collector (see Amendment 50)
E-28	West Rd / Sharp Rd	Pitts Rd to Katy Hockley Rd	REALIGN	REALIGN segment to connect to Pitts Rd further south, at proposed intersection with Longenbaugh Rd / Morrison Rd (see Amendments 51 and 52)
E-29	Pitts Rd	Longenbaugh Rd to Hwy 529	REALIGN	REALIGN to straighten proposed intersection with West Rd. (See Amendment 50 and 52)
E-30	Longenbaugh Rd	Katy Hockley Rd to Pitts Rd	REALIGN	REALIGN to straighten intersection with Pitts Rd in conjunction with Amendment 50 and 51
E-31	Bartlett Rd	West Rd / Sharp Rd to Longenbaugh Rd	DELETE	DELETE due to 1/2 mile of existing physical constraints due to the existing floodway / floodplain

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E-32	West Rd / Sharp Rd	Pitts Rd to Kickapoo Road / Schlipf Road (cross Waller County Line)	DELETE	DELETE where existing alignment traverses the Cypress Creek floodway / floodplain and environmentally sensitive area controlled by the Katy Prairie Conservancy
E-33	Porter Rd	Sharp Rd / Tuckerton Rd to West Rd	DELETE	DELETE where current alignment bisects proposed and existing detention basins within John Paul's Landing Park
E-34	Porter Rd	West Rd to Longenbaugh Rd	DELETE	DELETE where current alignment bisects +/- 5000' of floodway / floodplain and overflow and requires a major creek crossing that would mainly serve undevelopable land
E-35	Beckendorff Rd	Katy Hockley Cut-Off Rd to Porter Rd	DELETE	DELETE due to 1/2 mile of existing physical constraints due to the existing floodway / floodplain.
E-36	Jack Rd	Grand Parkway to Mason Rd	DELETE	DELETE segment that intersects with the Grand Parkway that lacks an existing or future interchange or grade separation.
E-37	Fairfield Place	Louetta Rd to Jack Rd	DELETE	DELETE remainder segment in conjunction with Amendment 29
E-38	Field Store Road	Castle Rd to Waller Spring Creek Rd	WITHDRAWN	WITHDRAWN

APPLICANT'S JUSTIFICATION and HISTORY:

The US 290 Area Major Thoroughfare Study area is located in the northwest region of the Greater Houston Metropolitan Area. The greater study area is roughly 400 square miles of largely undeveloped tracts spanning three counties (Harris, Montgomery, and Waller) and is comprised of approximately 256,000 total acres. This area is generally between the northern Harris County Line, the western Harris County line, the Katy Freeway to south, and S.H. 99 (Grand Parkway) to the east. The core study area, which is the focus of the Study, is located only within Harris County and is limited by FM 529 on the south.

The Houston Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP) was originally adopted in 1942. The original street network prescribed a one-mile grid system of major thoroughfares and the overall Houston MTFP has undergone many refinements in the areas that have since developed. The study area was incorporated into the Houston MTFP in 1966; however, due to limited development in this region, the thoroughfare network in the study area has not been adjusted since it was initially established. Development activity on the fringes of the study area is increasing, which has prompted the need for a comprehensive regional study of the thoroughfares within the area.

The US 290 Area Major Thoroughfare Study represents the most significant proposed amendment to the City of Houston's Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan since the area was included in Houston's ETJ in 1966, fifty years ago. A collection of thirty-three segments within Harris County and the City of Houston's ETJ are proposed to be amended to reflect the findings

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of the US 290 Area Major Thoroughfare Study. These findings are described in detail in the final study report, which can be found on Harris County's website at: <http://www.eng.hctx.net/US290-Area>.

STAFF ANALYSIS:

Potential Alternatives:

Planning & Development Department (P&D) received comments from the Katy Prairie Conservancy (KPC) on certain MTFP amendment requests submitted by Harris County as part of the US 290 Area Major Thoroughfare Study. KPC is concerned about proposed major thoroughfares which intersect their conservation properties in the area immediately west of the Grand Parkway. See the proposed Harris County thoroughfare deletions in **Exhibit A** and the proposed Harris County thoroughfare grid in **Exhibit B** below.

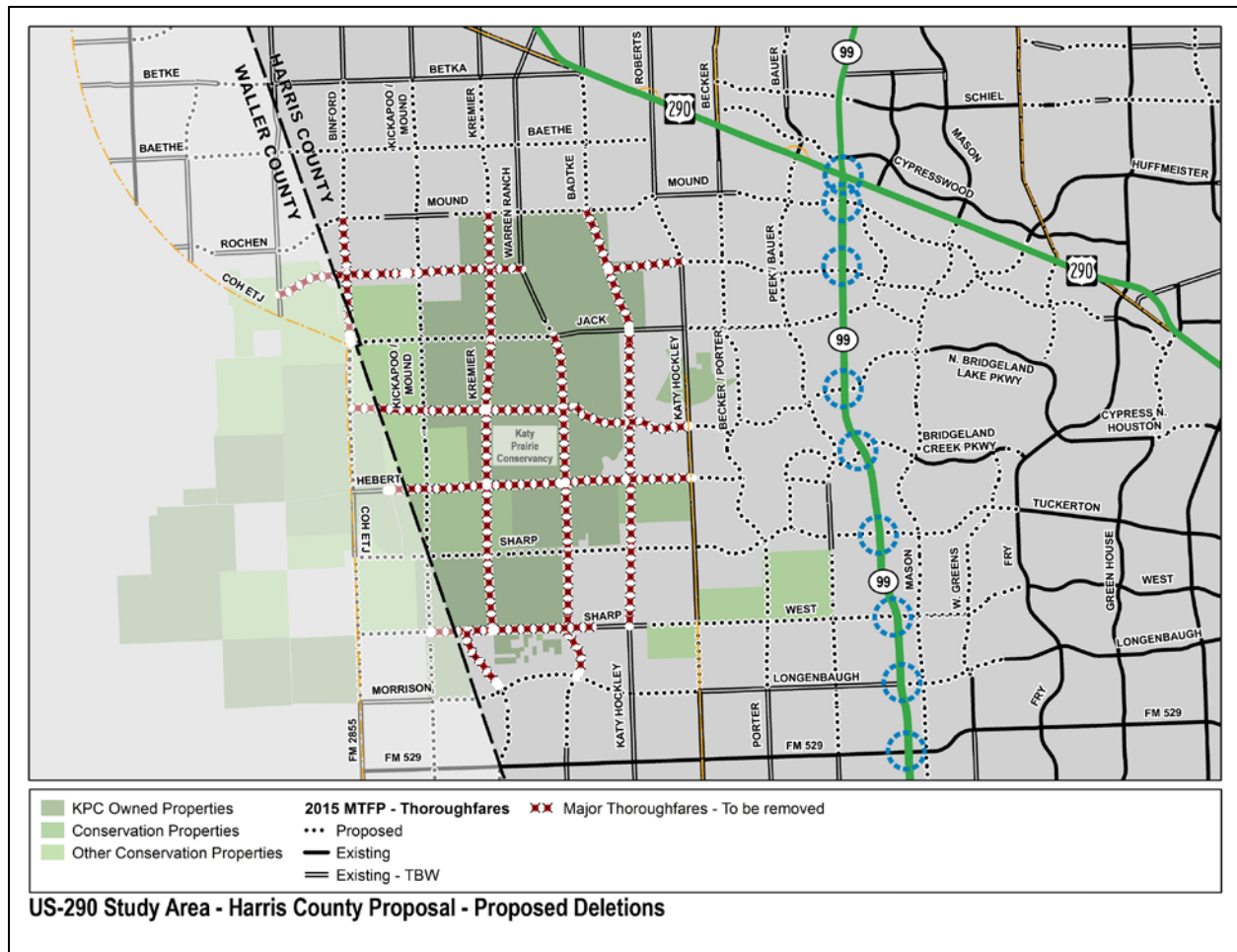


Exhibit A

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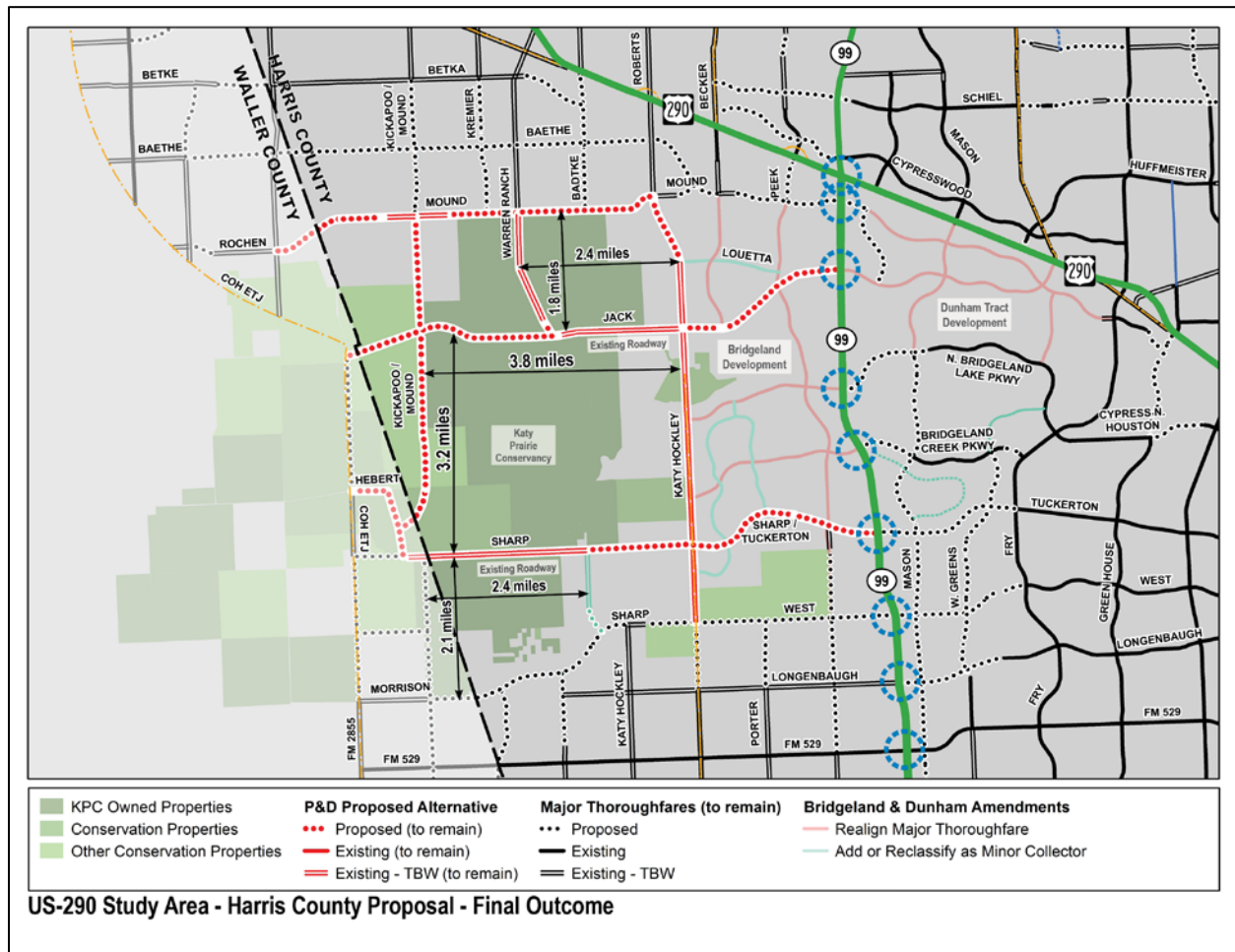


Exhibit B

Based on KPC’s comments, P&D had added an alternative reflect this request with the Harris County amendment area. This “Alternative 1” eliminates the majority of existing major thoroughfare alignments in the KPC property area bounded by Mound Road to the north, Longenbaugh Road to the south, Katy Hockley Road to the east, and the Harris County boundary line to the west. Key existing roadways that provide circulation in the area are proposed to be classified as Minor Collectors, to maintain existing circulation to and through the KPC properties. **Exhibit C** shows the thoroughfare deletions of the proposed alternative and **Exhibit D** shows the final outcome of the proposed alternative.

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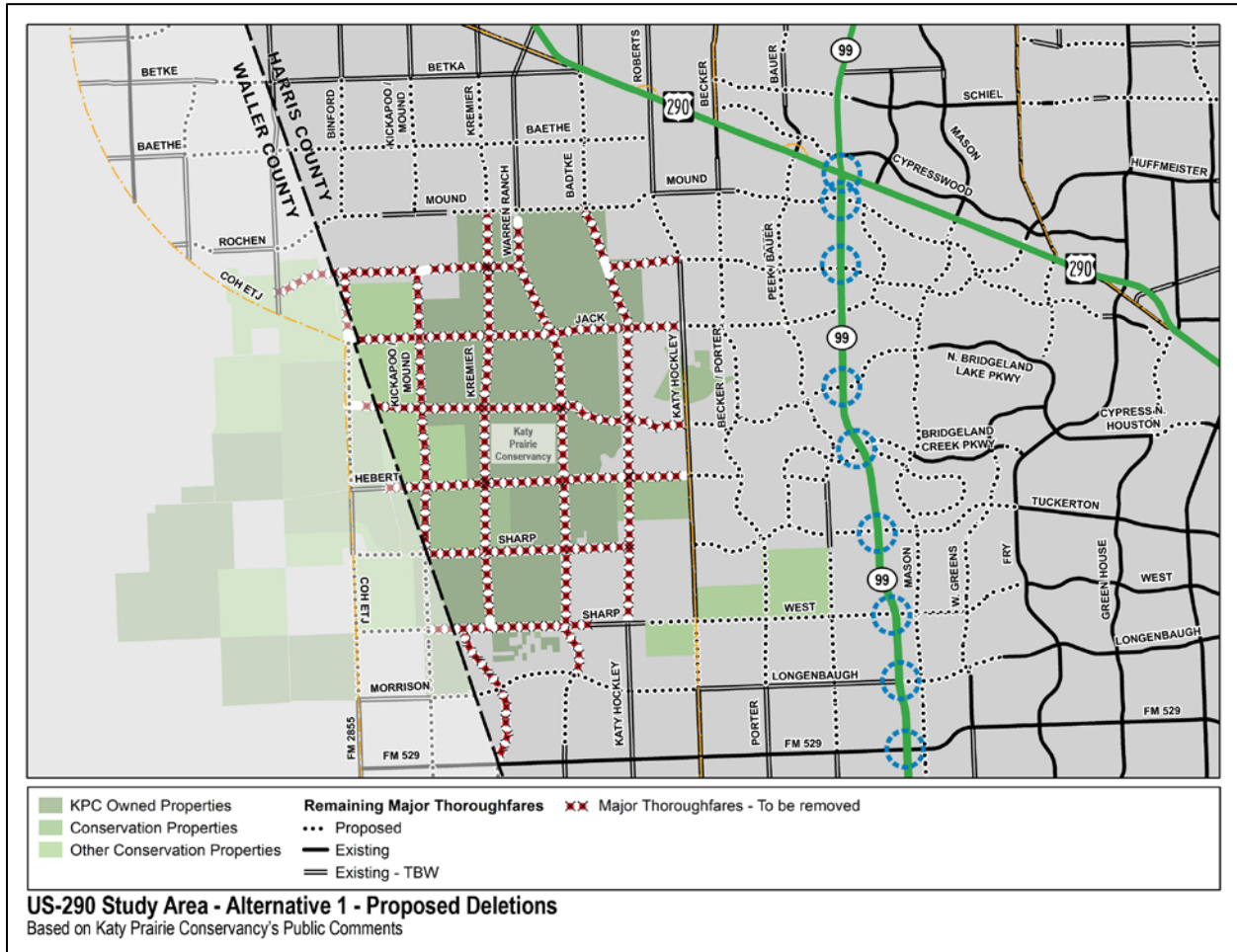


Exhibit C

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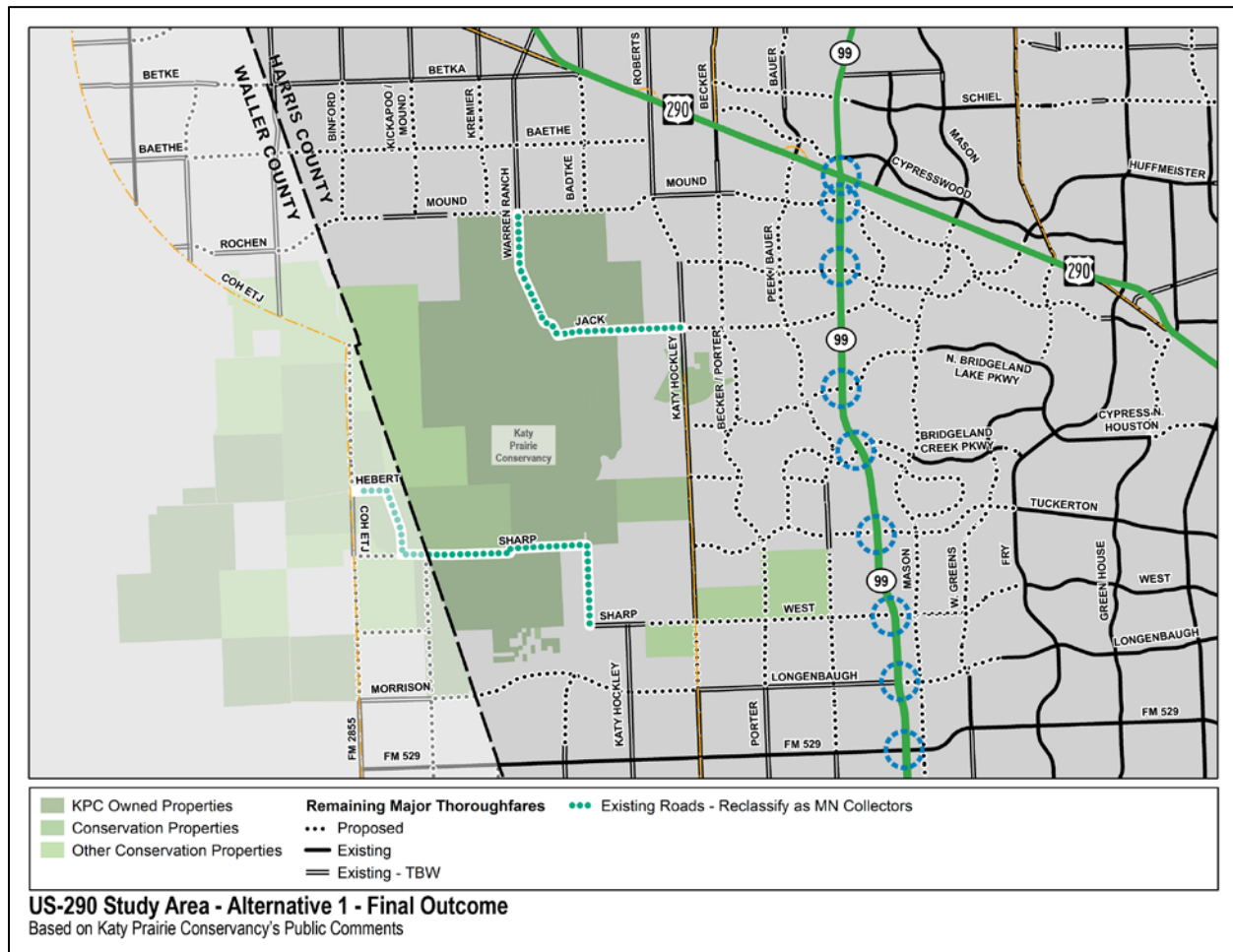


Exhibit D

In addition to the proposed alternative based on KPC's comments, P&D is also proposing an alternative for the E-5 Castle Road/Magnolia Road MTFP amendment. Major Thoroughfare Castle Road is proposed to align with Major Thoroughfare Magnolia Road in Waller County. The proposed alternative maintains the current major thoroughfare alignment for Castle Road/Magnolia Road, and classifies existing Margerstadt Road as a Minor Collector (MN-2-60). The proposed alternative will preserve 60' ROW along existing Margerstadt Road, while maintaining east west regional circulation provided by major thoroughfare Castle Road/Magnolia Road across Spring Creek without an offset interaction at Kickapoo Road. See **Exhibit E** below.

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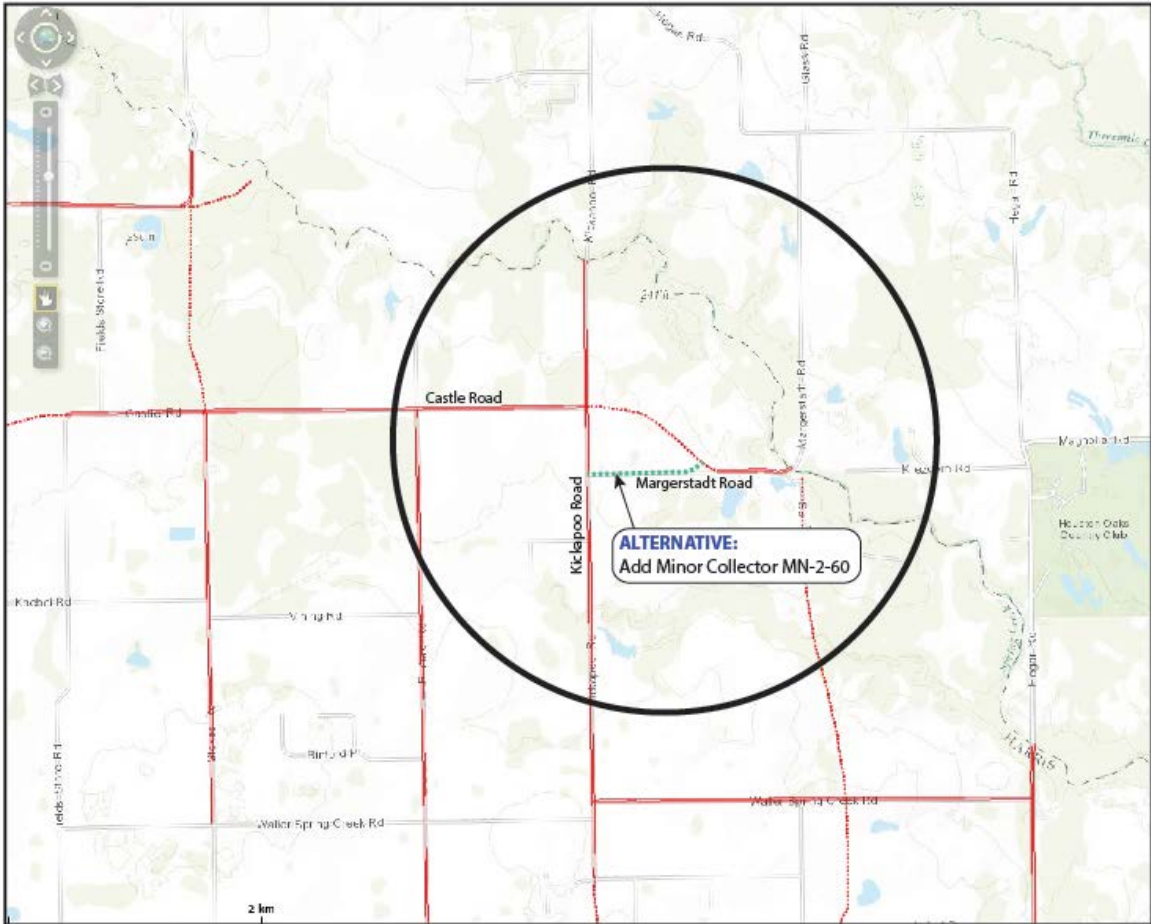


Exhibit E