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16. Abstract This report summarizes the delivery and outcome of a series of workshops conducted at 23 Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) districts across the state on corridor management and preservation in Texas. The workshops served as follow-up implementation work for research project 0-5606, "Creating Partnerships with Local Communities to Manage and Preserve Corridors." The report provides an overview of the project and documents the dates, locations, and attendance of workshops implemented during the three-year project period.					
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**DELIVERY OF WORKSHOPS ON CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT
AND PRESERVATION IN TEXAS**

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The contents of this report reflect the views of the authors, who are responsible for the facts and the accuracy of the data presented herein. The contents do not necessarily reflect the official view or policies of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) or the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). This report does not constitute a standard, specification, or regulation. The research supervisor in charge of this project was Edwin N. Hard.

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- Mr. Phillip Howlett, San Antonio District
- Ms. Sandra Sierra, El Paso District
- Mr. Robert Appleton, Bryan District
- Mr. David Miller, Amarillo District
- Ms. Norma Garza, Pharr District
- Ms. Melissa Montemayor, Laredo District
- Mr. Steve Stafford, Beaumont District
- Mr. Steve Warren, Lubbock District
- Ms. Angelia Thomason, Wichita Falls District
- Ms. Deanne Simmons, Atlanta District
- Mr. Matt Carr, Odessa District
- Mr. Blair Haynie, Abilene District
- Mr. John DeWitt, San Angelo District
- Mr. Sam Skrehot, Lufkin District
- Ms. Rhonda Moorman, Yoakum District
- Mr. Ricky Mackey, Paris District
- Mr. Elias Rmeili, Brownwood District

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1.0. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Corridor management (CM) and corridor preservation (CP) are important transportation planning activities that require coordination and partnerships between the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), local jurisdictions, and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). In light of this, the TxDOT Workshops on Corridor Management and Preservation in Texas were developed to promote the understanding and importance of CM and CP and to facilitate these activities through coordination of transportation and land use planning between TxDOT and its local partners. The workshops provided training, promoted TxDOT local partnerships, and provided guidelines on the development and adoption of CM/CP plans for on-system and off-system facilities.

The series of workshops served as a follow-up implementation project stemming from research project 0-5606-1, “Creating Partnerships to Manage and Preserve Corridors.” This research was sponsored by TxDOT and completed by the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) in 2007. The workshops were developed and conducted by the TTI researchers who conducted the 0-5606 research. The primary source of material covered in the workshops came from 0-5606-P1, Guidelines on Corridor Management and Preservation in Texas.

The workshops provided guidelines, training, and case studies on CM and CP and brought together staff from TxDOT, cities, counties, MPOs, and Regional Mobility Authorities (RMAs) to discuss approaches, methods, and opportunities in CM and CP in their respective areas. It addressed how corridor management and preservation tools and approaches can be integrated into MPO planning, the local development process, and TxDOT’s project development process to benefit existing and future on-system corridors. Key areas covered in the workshop included:

- an overview of CM and CP and how districts can work with local partners to use their plans and regulations to better manage development and preserve on-system corridors;
- current tools, practices, and case study examples in CM and CP, including what is being done in other districts and what is being done in other states;
- the latest in advanced right-of-way (ROW) acquisition, linking the MPO planning process with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and recent legislation in Texas that allows districts and counties to coordinate in CP; and
- guidelines on how to identify and prioritize existing or future TxDOT corridors in a district for special CM or CP treatment and how CM&P can be incorporated into local, MPO, and TxDOT planning.

The workshop was intended for district staff that interacts with local jurisdictions on local planning, development, and MPO matters as well as key individuals from MPOs and local jurisdictions involved in planning and development review. Area Engineers, Directors of Transportation Planning and Development, ROW Administrators, and/or key members of their staffs were typical TxDOT participants in the workshops. Typical class size ranged from 30 to 35 participants, but this can be flexible. The workshop was conducted as a one-day class that began at 8:30 a.m. and ended no later than 4:30 p.m.

2.0. WORKSHOP LOCATIONS AND ATTENDANCE

The corridor workshops were conducted over a two-year period beginning in the fall of 2008 and ending in the summer of 2010. A total of 23 workshops were conducted at 22 of TxDOT’s 25 district offices across the state. The first workshop was held in Waco in July 2008, and the final workshop was held in San Angelo in July 2010. An average of 17 participants attended each workshop. [Table 1](#) shows the date, location, and attendance for each workshop.

Table 1. Location, Date, and Attendance of Workshops.

Year	TxDOT District Office	Date of Workshop (2005)	Number of Participants
2008	Waco	July 31	20
	Austin	August 15	21
	Houston	August 26	30
	Houston	August 28	29
2009	Laredo	March 3	25
	Pharr	April 2	19
	Lubbock	April 28	14
	Amarillo	April 30	15
	Bryan	May 15	25
	Corpus Christi	May 27	18
	San Antonio	June 2	11
	El Paso	June 8	39
	Wichita Falls	June 11	8
	Atlanta	June 18	14
Beaumont	August 20	10	
2010	Abilene	June 3	6
	Odessa	June 8	8
	Yoakum	June 15	7
	Lufkin	June 22	17
	Paris	July 13	5
	Brownwood	July 20	11
	San Angelo	July 27	15

The workshops were designed for TxDOT employees and staff from local jurisdictions who interact on planning, development, and MPO matters. TxDOT employees from the host district were given priority when establishing workshop attendance. An objective in establishing workshop attendance was to obtain a good mix of TxDOT personnel and representatives from local jurisdictions. After an attendance list was established, an informational flyer was e-mailed to all potential participants inviting them to attend the workshop. [Figure 1](#) shows an example of

the workshop flier used for the Bryan District corridor workshop. Figure 2 shows an example of a typical workshop setting and attendance.



CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT AND PRESERVATION IN TEXAS

May 15, 2009
8:30 am – 4:30 pm
TxDOT Bryan District Office
1300 North Texas Ave
Bryan, TX

Join us for a **one-day workshop** about corridor management (CM) and corridor preservation (CP) and how TxDOT, cities, counties, and MPOs can work together on these important transportation planning activities.



The workshop will cover:

- The importance and benefits of CM and CP.
- CM and CP plans, practices, tools and approaches, and case studies
- How to identify and prioritize corridors in your plans for CM/CP
- The latest in ROW preservation, linking planning with NEPA, and legislation
- Recommendations on CM and CP in Texas from TTI research

The workshop is intended for TxDOT, local, and MPO staff who interact on planning and development matters. Space is limited so contact one of the individuals below if you would like to attend.



Bob Appleton, TxDOT, (806) 356-3246 or BAPPLET@dot.state.tx.us

Ed Hard, TTI (979) 845-8539 or e-hard@tamu.edu

Brian Bochner, TTI (979) 458-3516 or b-bochner@tamu.edu



Figure 1. Example Workshop Flier.



Figure 2. Typical Workshop Setting.

3.0. WORKSHOP AGENDA

The workshops began with an introduction by the host district's district engineer, transportation planning and development director, or other local TxDOT representative. These opening statements were followed by instructor introductions and then by going around the room and having participants introduce themselves, the agency they represented, and their job title.

The workshops lasted approximately seven hours and generally began at 8:30 a.m. and ended at or before 4 p.m. The workshops included eight sessions with each covering different topics. [Figure 3](#) shows a copy of the workshop agenda.

The workshops included a great deal of interactive discussion among participants and between the participants and the instructors. The sessions on corridor management tools and plans and corridor preservation tools and strategies generated the most discussion and interaction. The case studies of actual corridor management plans generated discussion about how a similar plan could be adopted and implemented in the host area. The sessions on ROW protection and preservation for corridors often led to discussions about how the local planning staff's coordinated with the TxDOT, how this interaction could be improved, and what new methods or processes could potentially be used.

Session	TOPICS
Opening 8:30- 8:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and Introductions • Workshop Objectives • Today's Agenda
1 8:45-9:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CM and CP: Definitions and Overview • Purpose and Benefits of CM&P • Authority and Abilities of CM&P in Texas
2 9:15-10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Policies That Support CM • CM Tools, Access Related
	BREAK 10:00 – 10:15
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CM Tools, Zoning and Development Related • CM Tools, Platting Related
3 10:30-11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CM Plans • Discussion of CM in Host Area
4 11:00-11:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CM Case Studies
LUNCH 11:30 – 1:00 (on your own)	
5 1:00-1:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CP Overview • ROW Acquisition and Preservation Tools
6 1:45-2:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop CP Strategies • Early Environmental in CP
BREAK 2:30 – 2:45	
7 2:45-3:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CP Conclusions • Discussion of CP in Host Area
8 3:15-3:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bills in the 80th Legislative Session Impacting CM&P • Intergovernmental Agreements • CM/CP Practice in Select States
Closing 3:45-4:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary Recommendations • Participant Feedback • Course Evaluation

Figure 3. Workshop Agenda.

4.0. SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP EVALUATIONS

The research team developed a course evaluation form that participants were asked to complete at the conclusion of each workshop. The evaluation form provided an assessment of each individual session as well as the value of the overall course. The sessions were rated on a scale of 1 to 5, with “1” being very poor (not useful) to “5” being very good (very valuable and useful). [Table 2](#) shows the overall average scores of all workshop locations for the different workshop sessions and topics as rated by participants.

Table 2. Average Ratings of Workshop Sessions and Topics.

Session or Topic	Overall Average Rating for Workshop (on a scale of 1 to 5)
Opening: Workshop Objectives	4.19
1. CM &CP Definitions, Purpose, Benefits, Authority	4.14
2. Development Policies, CM Tools in Access, Platting, and Zoning	4.09
3. CM Plans, Discussion n Host Area	4.32
4. CM Case Studies	4.19
5. CP Overview, ROW Acquisition and Preservation Tools	4.22
6. CP Strategies and Early Environmental	4.29
7. CP Conclusions, Discussion in Host Area	4.27
8. CM/CP Legislation, Practice in Select States	3.97
Closing: Summary Recommendations and Feedback	4.12

The overall average rating for the entire course was 4.22. [Table 3](#) shows the average rating of the workshop by TxDOT district location. The score for each district was developed by combining and averaging the scores from each participant at each respective workshop.

Table 3. Evaluation Ratings of Workshops by District.

District	Overall Average Rating for Workshop (on a scale of 1 to 5)
Waco	4.44
Austin	4.44
Houston	4.05
Houston (1)	4.09
Houston (2)	4.37
Pharr	3.98
Lubbock	4.46
Amarillo	4.05
Bryan Corpus	4.53
San Antonio	4.30
El Paso	4.26
Wichita Falls	4.01
Atlanta	4.30
Beaumont	4.16
Yoakum	3.83
Lufkin	4.01
San Angelo	4.48

Each participant was also asked to evaluate seven different statements about the overall content of the workshop using a scale of 1 to 5 with “1” being strongly disagree and “5” being strongly agree. [Table 4](#) shows the statements and their ratings.

Table 4. Average Ratings of Workshop Sessions and Topics.

Session or Topic	Overall Average Rating for Workshop (on a scale of 1 to 5)
Course covered training objectives.	4.30
Course properly covered subject matter.	4.33
Course advanced knowledge or skill in subject area.	4.29
Course provided knowledge or skills to apply in workplace.	4.16
Course met my expectations.	4.20
I would recommend this course to others.	4.23

5.0. CONCLUSION

The implementation project, upon which this report is based, was successful in the objectives of developing workshop materials and providing nine workshops to selected TxDOT districts to promote TxDOT involvement in the local development review process. The nine workshops were well received, and they provided valuable insights to the instructors as well as

attendees. They created valuable dialog between TxDOT and local agency personnel (cities, counties, and MPOs) that allowed attendees to review and evaluate their local development processes. Evaluation form responses indicate that the workshops were well-received, timely, and on-target with TxDOT issues and concerns related to local development review. As a result of this success, the workshops will be provided to 10 additional districts in the upcoming fiscal year.