



RONALD REAGAN WIDENING PROJECT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Updated January 2021

1. What is the Ronald Reagan Widening project?

Williamson County will be widening Ronald Reagan Boulevard between FM 3405 and SH 29. This project will accommodate increased traffic on the roadway and provide safety improvements. The existing roadway will ultimately become northbound only, after a separate two-lane road is built that will serve southbound traffic. The project will include turn lanes, divided roadways and shoulders in both directions to improve safety for the motoring public. The Ronald Reagan Widening project is a part of the County's Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and is being funded through the voter-approved 2019 Williamson County Road Bond.

2. What is the Williamson County LRTP?

The Williamson County Commissioners Court adopted the LRTP in October 2009. The plan is regularly updated based on current needs, population projections, and anticipated future mobility and safety needs. The planning process to develop the LRTP involves working with the public, cities, neighboring counties, and transportation and planning agencies to gather input and coordinate connectivity and mobility. The most recent amendments to the LRTP outline a network of roadways that will improve safety and mobility across the County and includes a map of potential controlled access facilities and arterial roadways. These roadways are conceptual only to show general locations and connections needed. To learn more about the LRTP, visit www.wilco.org/lrtp.

3. Why is this project needed?

County governments are responsible for planning and constructing effective transportation systems. Williamson County, the 9th fastest growing large county in the nation, has experienced tremendous growth and current population projections show that this will continue. Between 2010 and 2019, the number of people in the County increased by 39.8%*. It is estimated that by 2050, the County's population is projected to almost triple and surpass 1.5 million people. This growth necessitates additional roadway lanes to improve safety and better serve the needs of the motoring public.

4. What is the timeline for the Ronald Reagan Widening project?

The engineer, CP&Y, Inc., is working on designing the roadway, and anticipates it will be finalized by summer 2021. Construction is expected to follow and last approximately two years.

5. How much right of way (ROW) will be needed and how will I be compensated for it?

The formal acquisition process involves independent appraisals and a negotiation process between the property owner and the County. Specific characteristics of each parcel are reviewed by an independent, licensed appraiser to determine the fair market value for each parcel along the proposed ROW. Any impacts of the project on the remaining property after acquisition and construction of the proposed roadway will be considered when determining the ROW value.

At this time, the County plans to acquire ROW for the interim project, not the ultimate buildout. If the County continues to grow and funding is secured, additional ROW could be needed in the future if more capacity on the roadway is needed.

* Sources: Census [webpage](#), Texas Demographics Center [webpage](#)

6. Will the County acquire my home/business for the roadway using eminent domain?

Williamson County carefully considers all ROW needs and strives to have the least adverse impact possible to homeowners and businesses. The County is committed to conducting ROW negotiations in a manner that respects the private property rights of landowners and strives to achieve voluntarily negotiated ROW acquisitions, whenever possible. Where ROW is needed, the goal is to come to an agreement with each landowner. Williamson County may acquire some ROW through the condemnation process using its power of eminent domain, but only as a last resort after exhausting all reasonable attempts at negotiation.

7. Where will funding come from for the project?

This project is being funded with road bonds as part of the voter-approved 2019 Williamson County Road Bond. Funding for construction of transportation projects can come from many sources; the most common are road bonds, partnerships between federal, state, county, and city governments, and in some cases tolling.

8. What is the County doing to improve our current roads?

Maintaining our current road and transportation infrastructure is an important priority for the County. Williamson County is responsible for maintaining approximately 1,400 miles of county roads across 1,124 square miles. By evaluating each road, the County evaluates each road and has created a schedule for resurfacing neighborhood roads and county roads, as well as conducting major maintenance, when necessary. All tax revenue designated for Road and Bridge goes to maintaining the County roadway system. If you have questions or maintenance requests for a county road, please email roadadmin@wilco.org or call 512-943-3330.

9. How can I get involved in the Ronald Reagan Widening project?

If you have questions about the project or would like to provide information about your property, please contact the County:

- Phone: 512-943-1195 (leave a message for a call back within 48 hours)
- Email: roads@wilco.org (include “Ronald Reagan Widening” in the subject line)

Please visit www.wilco.org/RonaldReaganWidening for more information.