

CHANDLER ROAD EXTENSION PLANNING & PRESERVATION STUDY

FACT SHEET

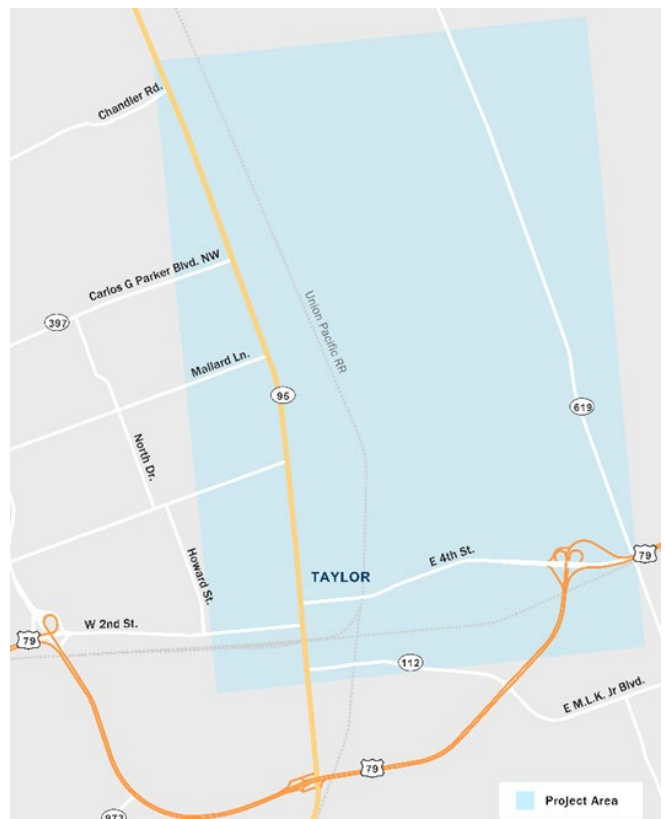
Updated September 2020

County Commissioner: Commissioner Russ Boles, Precinct 4
Study Area: Segment of Chandler Road between SH 95 and FM 619 that includes an extension to US 79. The area is 6 square miles.
Issues to be Addressed: Future mobility and corridor preservation

PROJECT PURPOSE:

Williamson County is conducting the Chandler Road Extension Planning & Preservation Study to plan for future growth and set the right of way (ROW) footprint. The road will be built as growth occurs, improving mobility by creating a connection between SH 95 and US 79. This study is a part of the County's Long-Range Transportation Plan, and has been included in the City of Taylor's [Thoroughfare](#) and [Comprehensive](#) Plans, both adopted in 2004.

STUDY AREA:



WHY THE PROJECT IS NEEDED:

The County has experienced immense growth in recent years and current population projections predict that this growth will continue. It is the County's responsibility to plan for transportation needs in order to keep pace with the increased number of residents and vehicles.

This high level of growth is inevitable and requires extensive planning and development that will ultimately protect the County residents' quality of life. Preserving the corridor for a future road, before development occurs, allows the County to be fiscally responsible by working with willing sellers and developers before the land is developed. This also minimizes impacts to businesses and homes because the corridor is preserved before more structures are built.

2050 POPULATION
ESTIMATE
1,638,796
CURRENT
POPULATION



3X Population Growth

The population of WilCo is estimated to be 1,638,796 by 2050—nearly three times what it is now

WilCo is the **12th fastest growing** large county in the nation, with a **population increase of 29.6%** between 2010 and 2017



10,860



6,590



4,723



10,860 lots in development in 2018, significantly **higher than Travis or Hays**

THE STUDY AND PLANNING PROCESS:

The Chandler Road Extension Planning & Preservation Study is part of the County's Long-Range Transportation Plan, which works as a placeholder for a network of roadways that will foster safety and mobility across the County. The extension has also been included in the City of Taylor's [Thoroughfare](#) and [Comprehensive](#) Plans, both adopted in 2004. The study that is now underway to determine a route, which examines multiple constraints such as environmental and historical factors, home and business displacements, and drainage and waterways. The study also works to develop a route to set the ROW footprint.

Once the ROW footprint is set, the County will work with willing sellers and developers to preserve ROW before property is developed. Additionally, early preservation of ROW allows the County to take a phased approach and build sections of the road as needed.

If the County continues to grow and funding becomes available, the first frontage road, most likely a two to three lane road, one lane in each direction and potentially a center turn lane, would be built. As growth continues to occur and funding is secured, the second frontage road would be built, then finally the main lanes. Building the ultimate Chandler Road Extension will most likely take several decades.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

Eventually, the County would extend Chandler Road by constructing a controlled-access facility to connect SH 95 and US 79, completing the northeast portion of the Taylor Loop. Each phase of the loop has improved mobility and accessibility to and from Taylor and its neighboring cities, increasing regional access and providing an alternative transportation corridor for the community. Chandler Road Phase 3B opened in December of 2012 and extended the road from CR 368/369 to Hwy 95, improving connectivity between eastern and western Williamson County.

The extension enabled drivers to get from anywhere in Taylor to IH-35 in less than 30 minutes, providing connectivity to other nearby cities. This new phase will also provide better access to the City of Taylor by improving mobility. It will allow people to more easily visit places like the Williamson County Expo Center, attend festivals, shop on main street, and enjoy other activities that Taylor has to offer. This final phase of the project will extend Chandler Road east to FM 619 and south to US 79, completing connectivity around the City of Taylor and providing quicker access to schools, businesses, and other major roadways.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about this project, please visit

www.wilco.org/Departments/Infrastructure/Projects/Precinct-4/Chandler-Road-Extension.

To receive updates, please send an email to roads@wilco.org with "Chandler Road Extension" in the subject line or contact the roads phone line at (512) 943-3370.

* Sources: United States Census Bureau, Census Viewer, Williamson County, Texas Demographics Center, Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce, and Jarrell Economic Development Corporation