



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **New Braunfels Outer Loop Study**

#### ***TxDOT Announces Plans for the New Braunfels Outer Loop Study at Press Conference***

NEW BRAUNFELS – Wednesday, May 30, 2007, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) initiated the New Braunfels Outer Loop Study. Local leaders joined TxDOT officials to kick-off the New Braunfels Outer Loop Study and the public involvement campaign designed to get local participation in the planning process. Mayor Bruce Boyer, City of New Braunfels, attended and addressed the growth and development that is taking place in New Braunfels. The Honorable Judge Danny Scheel of Comal County and Honorable Judge Mike Wiggins of Guadalupe County spoke as well regarding growth, accessibility and mobility in their respective counties. They were joined by dozens of local residents and business owners curious to learn more about the proposed outer loop.

“The study was needed for quite some time and I am glad to see that is finally starting,” said Honorable Judge Danny Scheel. “Comal is the 12<sup>th</sup> fastest growing county in the State of Texas and the growth we’re experiencing doesn’t look like it will be slowing down anytime soon.”

Greg Malatek, P.E. with TxDOT said, the study will seek to identify a corridor for land (right of way) preservation, identify and prioritize segments of the outer loop and to follow the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) guidelines to ensure information collected can be used for the development of future environmental documents for the segments of independent utility.

“New Braunfels is seeing significant growth and the identification of a corridor would give the city a tool to preserve the right of way needed before land is developed for residential or commercial use,” said Malatek. “TxDOT initiated the New Braunfels Outer Loop Study to help the City of New Braunfels further refine a route location so they can plan appropriately as properties are developed.”

The study area is approximately a 40-mile band around the City of New Braunfels that would encompass portions of Comal and Guadalupe Counties. The outer loop could require two new crossings over the Guadalupe River and would connect to IH 35 on the north side of New Braunfels and to IH 35 on the south side of New Braunfels. The purpose of the study is to conduct the necessary planning and analysis needed to identify a corridor for the possible development of a New Braunfels Outer Loop.

The public involvement campaign will span a period of approximately 12 months and will include several rounds of public meetings, the first two of which will take place:

**Eastern Public Meeting**  
**Tuesday, June 26, 2007**  
**Canyon High School**  
**1510 IH 35 East**  
**New Braunfels, TX 78130**  
**6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.**

**Western Public Meeting**  
**Wednesday, June 27, 2007**  
**Hoffmann Lane Elementary School**  
**4600 FM 306**  
**New Braunfels, TX 78132**  
**6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.**

The agenda for these two meetings is as follows:

- **Welcome & Introductions**
  - *Greg Malatek, P.E., Texas Department of Transportation*
- **New Braunfels Outer Loop Study Overview**
  - *Clint Ray, P.E., RJ RIVERA Associates, Inc.*
- **Small Group Discussions**
- **Small Group Reports**
- **Question & Answer Session**

Two study groups have also been formed to assist in the study. The Technical Work Group will consist of government and resource agency technical staff to provide feedback on public involvement activities, review citizen input, and provide direction for the study team when necessary. The Community Work Group will provide an opportunity for community members to actively participate in the public involvement process for this study by helping to identify constraints, develop alternatives and evaluate the impacts of the various corridor alternatives developed.

For more information on the press conference or the New Braunfels Outer Loop Study, please call the New Braunfels Outer Loop Study Hotline at (866) 704-1114 or visit the New Braunfels Outer Loop Study website at [www.nbolstudy.com](http://www.nbolstudy.com). Maps and photographs of the study area are available to members of the media upon request.

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