



Public Information Meeting

US-259 South of Idabel, OK

November 17th, 2015 @ 6:00pm

Idabel Public Library

103 E. Main Street

Idabel, OK 74745

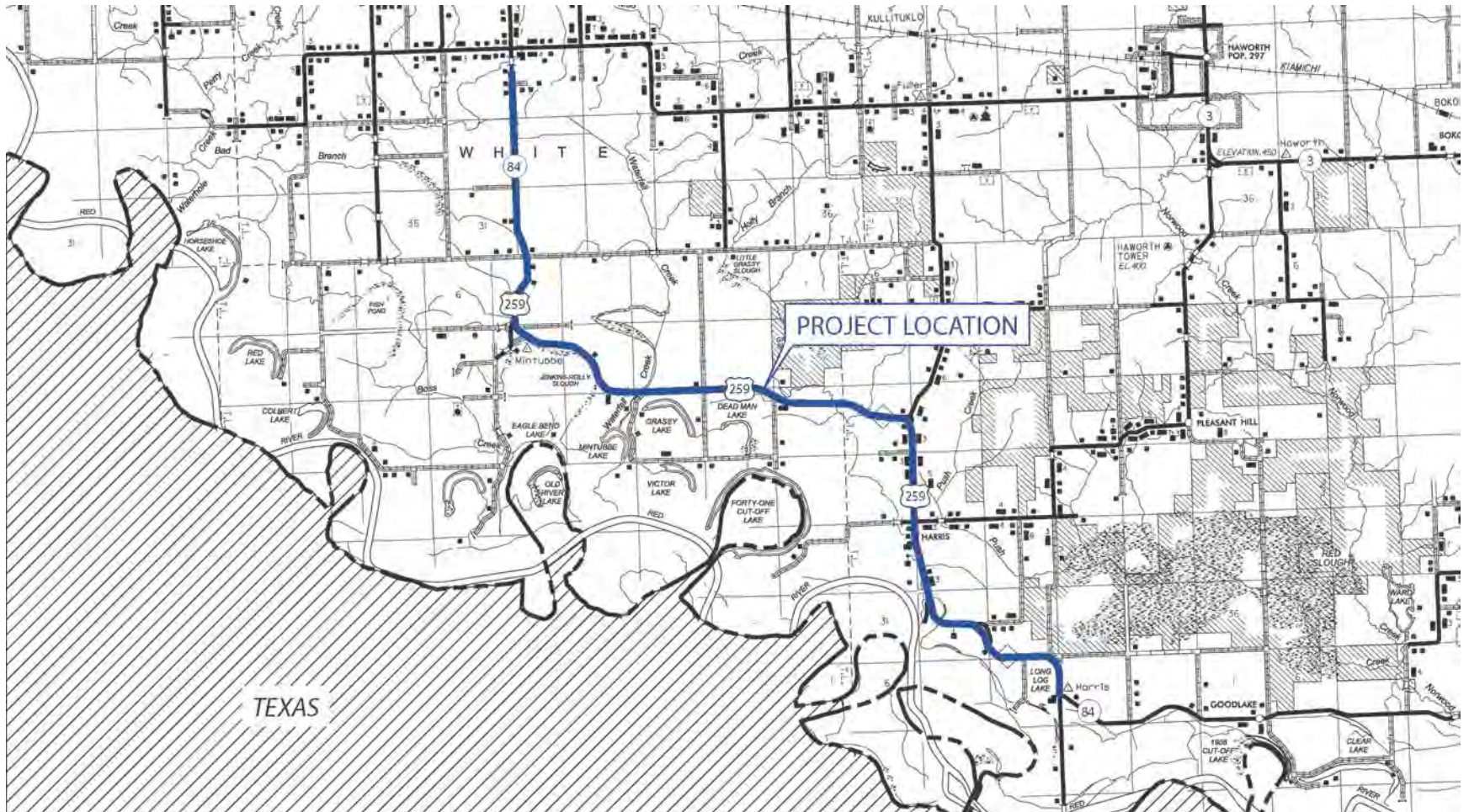
Before we get started...

...Please turn off or mute any electronic devices, and make sure you have a Handout and Comment Form available. Please hold your questions till after the presentation has ended.

Presentation Outline

- Meeting and Project Purpose
- Project History
- Old Project Findings
- New Project Scope
- General Questions & Comments
- Meeting Conclusion

Project Location



Purpose of the Meeting

...is to inform the public & solicit comments about the Department's decision to make improvements along the existing US-259 corridor.

Project History

Background of the project up to this point.

Purpose of the Project

...is to improve the safety and functionality of the US-259 corridor, south of the City of Idabel, in McCurtain County, OK.

Project History...

- Preliminary Engineering Study using Reconnaissance Level Data:
 - Completed by consultant in 2012.
- Identified a Preferred Alternative:
 - Alternative (3A).
- Estimated Construction, Right-of-way, and Utility Relocation Cost for Alternative 3A:
 - \$44.6million.



Project History...

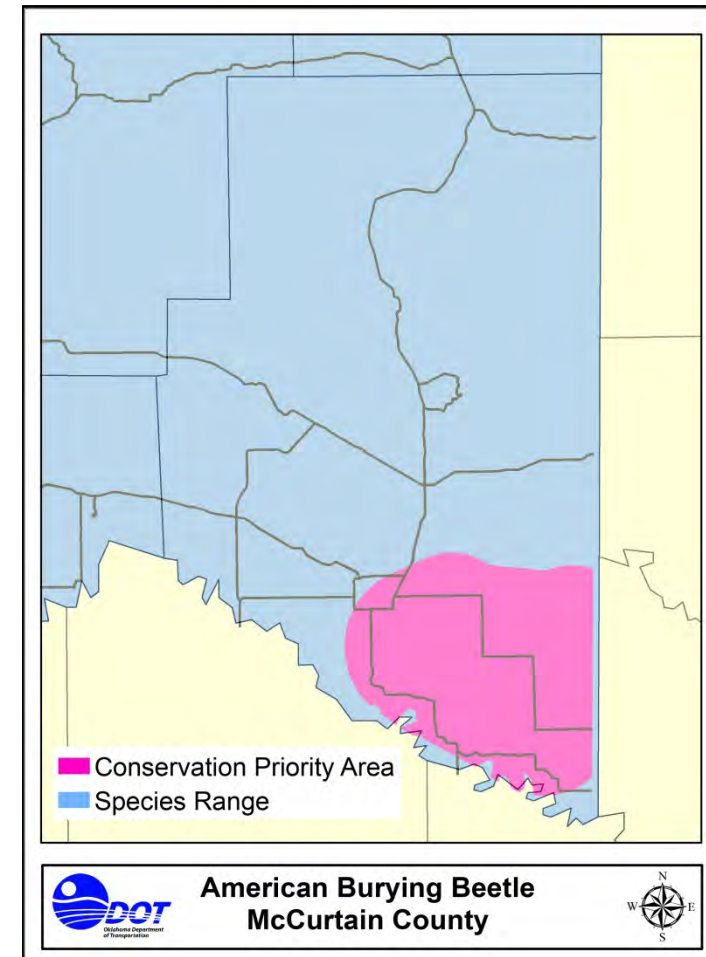
- Roadway design and right-of-way acquisition:
 - Pending on detailed environmental studies.
- Two (2) Public Meetings were previously conducted:
 - Initial Public Information Meeting:
 - ***July 8th, 2010.***
 - Present recommendations from the Preliminary Engineering Study:
 - ***January 17th, 2013***

Old Project Findings

Information on the detailed studies performed.

Environmental studies showed...

- Project located in a Conservation Priority Area for the American Burying Beetle (ABB) which would require the purchase of approx. 15 credits
 - An additional cost of approx. \$150,000.00



Environmental studies showed...

- Extensive mitigation required for wetlands.
 - An additional cost of approximately \$7.15 Million.
- 34 Archeological sites were documented, and may require additional investigations and costs associated with those studies.

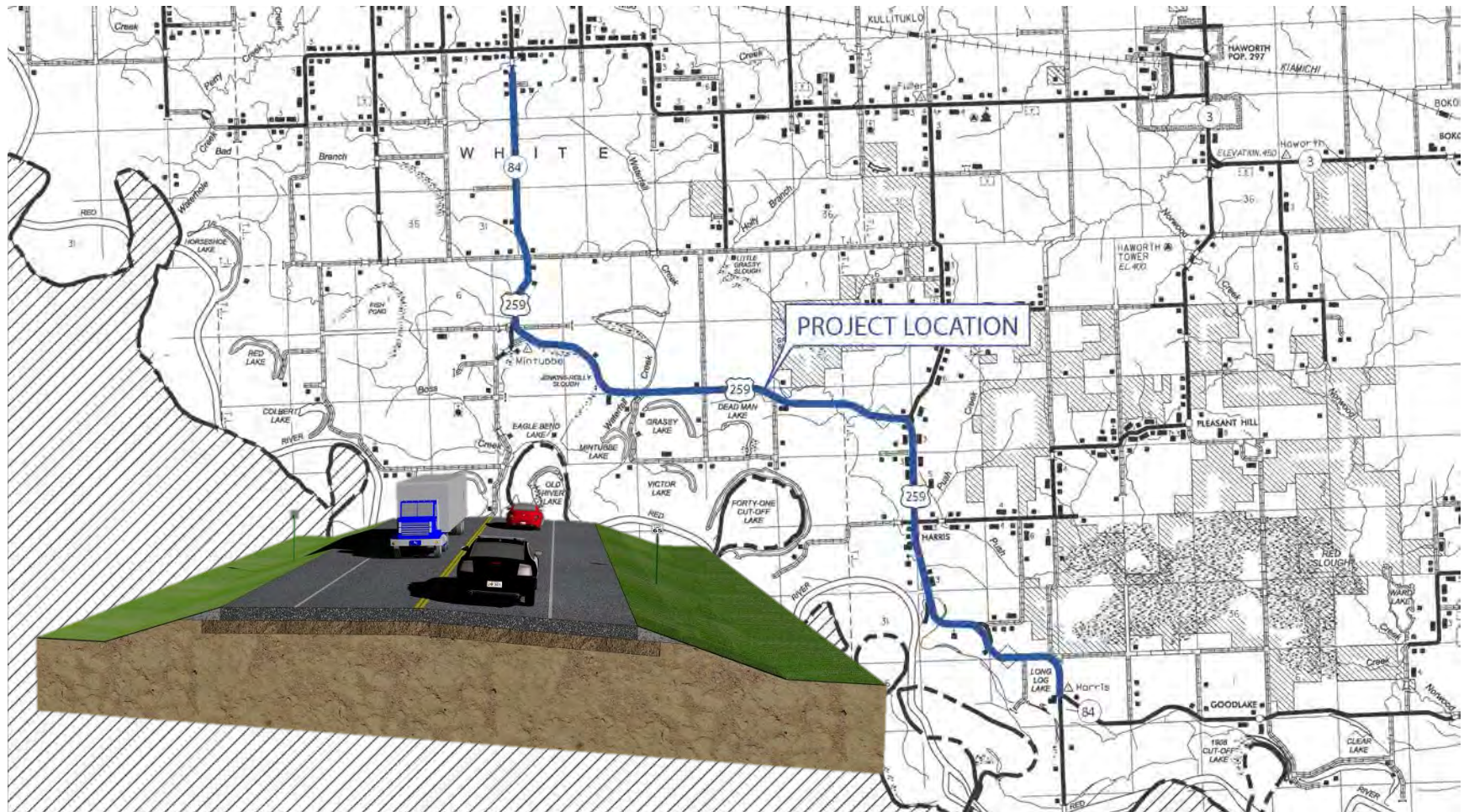
Because of this information...

...the Department is no longer constructing a new alignment for US-259 and will be considering the best ways to improve the existing alignment while keeping Right-of-Way, Environmental Impacts, and costs to a minimum.

New Project Scope

Information about the new project.

Project Information...



New Project Scope...

- Adding shoulders to the existing highway with minor curve corrections.
- Lower construction cost:
 - Estimated Construction, Right-of-way, and Utility Relocation Cost:
 - *Reduced to \$34 M (with minimal mitigation costs).*
- Improvements to the existing curves.
- New project has a greater chance of staying on schedule.
- To be signed at 65 MPH.

New Project Timeline...

- 8-Year Construction Work Program Dates:
 - Right-of-Way & Utility Relocation:
 - *Projected to start in 2017*
 - Construction:
 - *Projected to start in 2020*

General Questions & Comments

Do you have any general questions or comments about the proposed project?

Submit your comments...

- Leave your written comments with us tonight.
- Download and submit a comment form at:
 - www.odot.org/publicmeetings
- Submit your written comments by mail to:
 - Oklahoma Department of Transportation
 - Environmental Programs Division
 - 200 N.E. 21st Street
 - Oklahoma City, OK 73105
- Fax your written comments to:
 - (405) 522-5193
- Email your comments to:
 - odot-environment@odot.org
- **Please submit your comments by December 1st, 2015.**