



HISTORY

Project History

[◀ Homepage](#)

[Next: Map ▶](#)

Improving the safety along the State Highway 82 corridor is a top priority for ODOT. This project is located on a particularly dangerous stretch of SH-82. It was originally a county road that was converted to a state highway, but it needs to be upgraded to meet current safety design criteria. There is an elevated collision rate, including multiple severe crashes.

In January 2015, ODOT sponsored a study to evaluate possible alignments for the necessary improvements. Conceptual or initial engineering designs were developed for five alternatives. Factors such as constructability, economic costs, right-of-way & utility impacts, environmental constraints, and the scenic nature of the roadway were all considered. The engineering report was completed some 18 months later in 2016.

Five alternatives were considered.

- Alternative 1 involved roadway rehabilitation with curve corrections of the existing alignment to meet a 55-mph design speed.
- Alternative 2 involved roadway reconstruction with an offset alignment to the east at a 55-mph design speed.
- Alternative 3 involved roadway reconstruction with an offset alignment to the east at a 65-mph design speed.
- Alternative 4 involved roadway reconstruction with an offset alignment further east at a 65-mph design speed.
- Alternative 5 involved roadway reconstruction with an offset alignment to the west at a 65-mph design speed.

An Open House informational meeting was held at the Blackgum Mountain Volunteer Fire Department and Community Building on November 15, 2016. At that meeting, the five alternatives were presented using a looping slideshow presentation and poster boards. ODOT staff and the engineering design team were present to answer questions and take comments from the public. Attendees were encouraged to submit written comments. Several comments were received from affected residents, the general public, and state and federal agencies. Alternative Selection letters were mailed to property owners, agencies and other stakeholders in July 2017.

A summary report and the meeting materials presented at that Open House can be accessed by following the link below:

[https://www.ok.gov/odot/Programs and Projects/Public Meetings and Hearings/20161115.ht](https://www.ok.gov/odot/Programs%20and%20Projects/Public%20Meetings%20and%20Hearings/20161115.ht)