

UPDATE – July 2024 SH-74 over I-35 Bridge Replacement/Interchange, McClain County, JP #29571(04)

This website posting is to inform you that the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has selected the Preferred Alternative for the SH-74 over I-35 Bridge Replacement/Interchange project in McClain County. A virtual public open house website and an online survey were made available for the public's review from October 10 - 31, 2022. Five alternatives (4 of which had "A" and "B" options) and two slip ramp relocation designs were presented to the public for consideration and input. Links to the materials presented at the meeting can be found at www.odot.org/publicmeetings.

Five (5) primary alternatives were developed with the SH-74 bridge crossing over I-35 at varying angles to I-35, i.e., degrees of "skew". Alternatives 2 through 5 had two options, which differed with respect to whether the new SH-74/I-35 southbound ramps/West Frontage Road intersection would be signalized (Alternatives 2A, 3A, 4A, and 5A) or a roundabout (Alternatives 2B, 3B, 4B, and 5B). Another difference was whether the existing roundabout in the northeast quadrant would remain (Alternatives 2A & 2B, 3B, 4B, and 5B) or become a signalized intersection (3A, 4A, and 5A).

Lastly, an option was developed to relocate the existing I-35 southbound slip ramp further north near W. Burr Oak Road, located approximately 1 mile north of the current slip ramp location. The relocated I-35 southbound slip ramp could be configured as either a roundabout or tapered ramp, i.e., a smooth, lateral transition from one lane to another. Either ramp option could have been combined with the five primary alternatives.

ODOT has selected **Alternative 5B – 53° Skew** with the relocated **tapered slip ramp** based on fewer right-of-way and utility impacts, the ability to utilize the existing roundabout north of I-35, and public input. ODOT has refined the Preferred Alternative design, and it will include the following features (see the **Preferred Alternative Graphic** included in this posting):

- 53° Skew bridge over I-35, offset to the west to keep traffic open during construction and reduce right-of-way impacts to Airport Road
- A new roundabout intersection on the south side of I-35 for SH-74, West Frontage Road, and the I-35 southbound on and off ramps
- The new southern roundabout will include a "bypass lane" for traffic going south on West Frontage Road and continuing south on SH-74
- The existing roundabout on the north side of I-35 will remain
- The existing tapered slip ramp will be removed, and a new tapered slip ramp will be built north near West Burr Oak Road
- West Burr Oak Road will be rebuilt from the new tapered slip ramp location south to the existing slip ramp location to accommodate the exiting southbound I-35 traffic.
- A retaining wall along the south side of I-35 and the west side of SH-74 in the southwest quadrant of I-35 and SH-74 will be built to reduce right-of-way and utility impacts

ODOT will move forward with the design of Alternative $5B - 53^{\circ}$ Skew with the relocated tapered slip ramp. ODOT currently anticipates right-of-way acquisition and utility relocations to begin in 2026 with projected construction in 2028, depending on funding availability.

Should you need any information or have specific concerns, please contact Jason Boomer, ODOT Project Manager, at (405) 693-2291 or JBoomer@odot.org.

