

RESOLUTION NO. 14-2001

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS, CLEARLY STATING THE CITY'S POSITION CONCERNING IMPROVEMENTS TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE ACCESS TO THE TOWN EAST RETAIL AND RESTAURANT AREA (TERRA) BUSINESSES, SCHOOLS AND ESTABLISHMENTS.

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has determined that improvements are needed to improve traffic flow along Interstate 635; and

WHEREAS, TxDOT has divided these proposed improvements into three sections: the "West Section" being from Luna Road to U.S. Highway 75, the "East Section" being from U.S. Highway 75 to Town East Boulevard and the "Mesquite Section" being from Town East Boulevard to U.S. Highway 80; and

WHEREAS, the East Section in the City of Mesquite is defined as the section of Interstate 635 between La Prada Drive and Town East Boulevard, including the interchange with Interstate 30; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mesquite is proceeding with the evaluation of the East Section within its city limits and has identified potential concerns related to Oates Drive, Gus Thomasson Road, La Prada Drive, North Galloway Avenue and Town East Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mesquite has identified an immediate need to address issues related to the interrelationship between the design of the Interstate 635 and Interstate 30 interchange and the accessibility of Town East Boulevard from both Interstate 635 and Interstate 30 while the City of Mesquite continues to evaluate the other concerns with the East Section; and

WHEREAS, the Town East Retail and Restaurant Area (TERRA) is a tremendous asset and major revenue generator for the City of Mesquite; and

WHEREAS, scores of businesses in TERRA and represented by the Concerned Businesses of TERRA (CBT) have stated their strong opposition to any changes which *negatively impact access along Interstate 635 between Interstate 30 and U.S. Highway 80*; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mesquite and CBT insist TxDOT modify its current interchange design of Interstate 635 and Interstate 30 to accommodate the access objectives at Town East Boulevard as expressed in this resolution; and

WHEREAS, drive time and accessibility are major factors in determining where customers choose to take their business; and

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WHEREAS, the current TxDOT interchange design between Interstate 635 and Interstate 30 does not provide for direct access to and from eastbound and westbound Interstate 30 to Town East Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, the current TxDOT design of the Interstate 635 and Interstate 30 interchange will significantly and adversely affect businesses in TERRA by not allowing direct access from Interstate 30 to Town East Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure the prosperity of businesses in TERRA, the City of Mesquite must be an integral part of the process of said improvements and monitor the effects of such construction on the businesses in TERRA; and

WHEREAS, numerous businesses, public entities, Concerned Businesses of TERRA (CBT) and individuals have expressed great concern over the negative impact of the current TxDOT design for the Interstate 635 and Interstate 30 interchange on numerous businesses and other interests of the City of Mesquite principally caused by the denial of access to and from Town East Boulevard, and aggravated by numerous other concerns including the limitation of the access to Towne Crossing Boulevard by the present interchange design.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That the City of Mesquite hereby adopts this resolution to clearly state the City's position to maintain and improve access to the Town East Retail and Restaurant Area (TERRA) businesses, schools and establishments.

SECTION 2. That the City of Mesquite demands, through this resolution, TxDOT provide direct access to Town East Boulevard from northbound and southbound Interstate 635 and from both eastbound and westbound Interstate 30.

SECTION 3. That the City of Mesquite demands, through this resolution, TxDOT provide direct access from Town East Boulevard to southbound and northbound Interstate 635 and to both eastbound and westbound Interstate 30.

SECTION 4. That the City of Mesquite strongly urges TxDOT to expeditiously consider and adopt the alternative design developed by Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., and funded by the City of Mesquite and the CBT, that will provide direct access between Town East Boulevard and eastbound and westbound Interstate 30 and will provide direct access between Town East Boulevard and northbound and southbound Interstate 635.

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SECTION 5. That the City of Mesquite will actively oppose any plan that does not provide direct access between Town East Boulevard and eastbound and westbound Interstate 30 and between Town East Boulevard and northbound and southbound Interstate 635.

SECTION 6. That the City of Mesquite agrees to aggressively and to proactively work with the Dallas District of TxDOT, the Dallas County Commissioner's Court, Mesquite's legislative and Congressional delegations and all other public and private entities necessary to accomplish these objectives in an expeditious manner.

SECTION 7. That the City of Mesquite will memorialize these positions in an interlocal agreement and any other appropriate document between the City of Mesquite, the Metropolitan Planning Organization and TxDOT.

DULY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mesquite, Texas, on the 16th day of April, 2001.



Mike Anderson
Mayor

ATTEST:



Ellen Williams
City Secretary

APPROVED:



B. J. Smith
City Attorney