



OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Programs Division

200 N.E. 21st Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-3204
www.odot.org

July 7, 2017

Subject: Improvements to SH-82 from the Intersection of SH-82 and SH-100 Extending East and North to just South of the Snake Creek Bridge in Sequoyah County. Job Piece No. 30574(04), Project No. J3-0574(004)

Dear Property Owner/Stakeholder:

We are pleased to inform you the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) is considering improvements to SH-82 from the intersection of SH-82 and SH-100 and extending east and north approximately 2.5 miles to just south of the Snake Creek bridge located in Sequoyah County. An Open House informational meeting was held at the Blackgum Mountain Volunteer Fire Department and Community Building on November 15, 2016. At that meeting, five alternatives were presented based on the results of an engineering alignment study. 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. ODOT received comments from affected residents, the general public, and state and federal agencies. Summary of the public agency comments and responses can be found at https://ok.gov/odot/Programs_and_Projects/Public_Meetings_and_Hearings/20161115.html.

Based on the completed alignment study, public participation, and state and federal agency input, ODOT has selected Alternative 2 as the preferred alignment. The preferred alignment will correct the sharp curves, poor sight distances, steep slopes, and the lack of shoulders. It is also the safest option, with relatively moderate environmental and community impacts, and has the lowest overall cost of construction. Alternative 1 was rejected because it did not fully address safety concerns. Alternatives 3, 4 and 5 were eliminated due to the effects on residential and commercial properties, constructability issues, relatively severe environmental impacts, and economic costs—ranging from 8.4 to 17 million dollars more than Alternative 2. In addition, the option for not improving this segment of SH-82 was rejected because of the high accident rate and overall unsafe driving conditions.

ODOT will move forward with preliminary design and environmental studies for Alternative 2. Currently, ODOT has this project scheduled for right-of-way and utility relocation in year 2020 with projected construction in year 2022. Should you have any questions or specific concerns, please contact our authorized agent Mr. Geoff Canty with CC Environmental at (405) 761-1225 or geoff@ccenviro.net. As always, your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Siv Sundaram, P.E.
Environmental Programs Division Engineer

SS/AM/CC Environmental

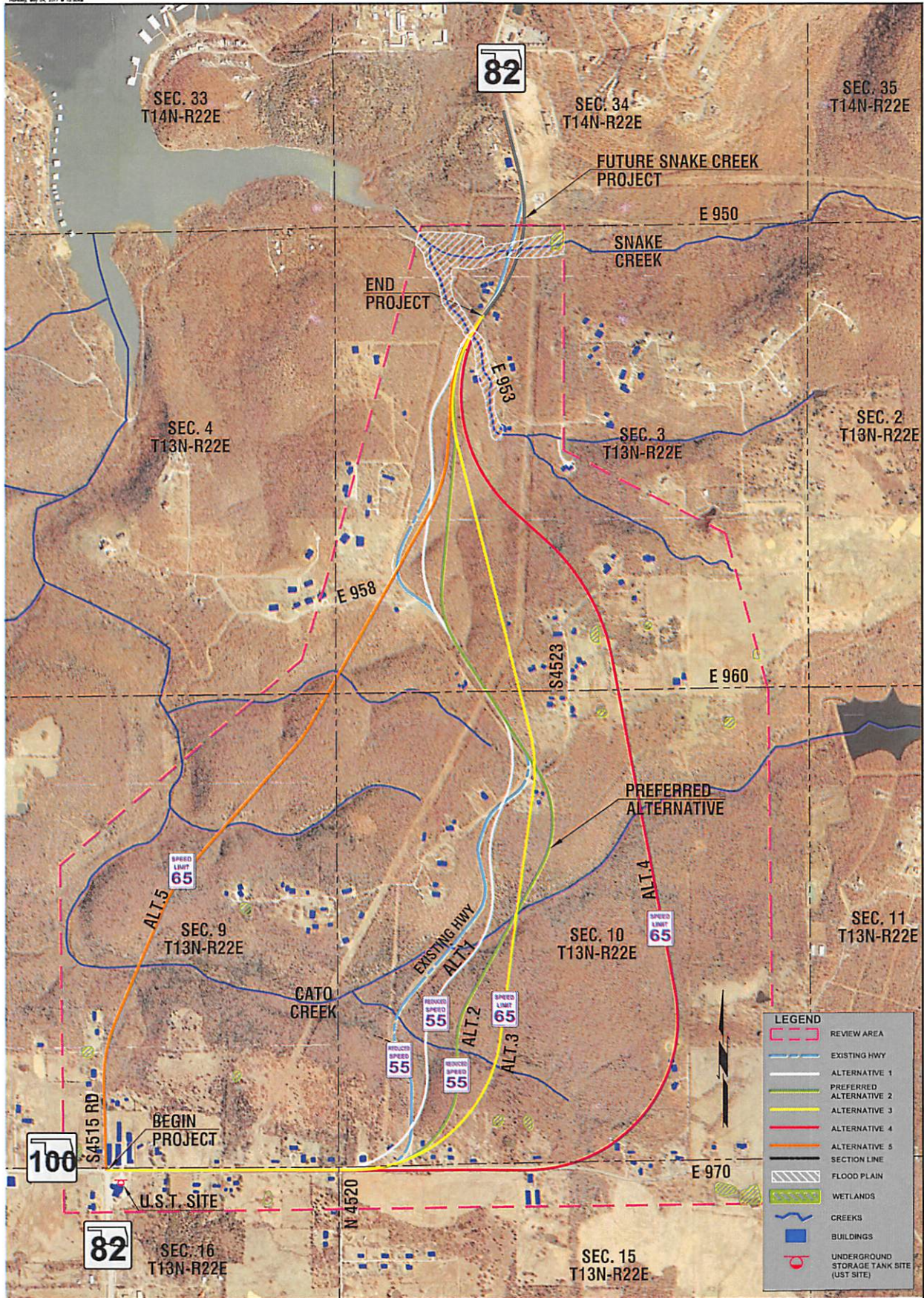
Enclosure: Alternative Alignment Map

Copy to: Project Management Division
Roadway Design Division
Right-of-Way Division

Field Division Engineer
Bridge Division
Survey Division

"The mission of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation is to provide a safe, economical, and effective transportation network for the people, commerce and communities of Oklahoma."

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



**Alternative Alignments
J/P 30574(04) SH-82
Sequoyah County, OK**

