

Position statement: TxDOT should not extend Broadmoor to I-35, or should pay for traffic mitigation if they do

Background

As part of the I-35 Capital Express Central project in Austin, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) proposes extending Broadmoor Drive west of Cameron Road to create a frontage road access point to serve 51st Street. This extension potentially drives heavy volumes of traffic down two narrow residential streets, Broadmoor and Westmoor Drives in the Windsor Park neighborhood. This plan appeared at the end of the design process, with no notification to or consultation with neighborhood residents.

Our position

The Windsor Park Neighborhood Association (WPNA) opposes the proposed Broadmoor extension plan. Unmitigated, we believe this design would dramatically increase traffic volumes along Broadmoor and Westmoor, creating a safety hazard and a hostile environment for neighborhood motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, and residents.

If TxDOT will not amend their design, we call for mitigations along Broadmoor, Westmoor and Cameron to reduce or eliminate these traffic impacts.

- Our priority is to prevent through traffic eastbound and westbound at the Broadmoor and Cameron intersection, while preserving access in and out of Broadmoor east of Cameron.
- Failing that, we request the construction of improvements at the Cameron intersection and along both Broadmoor and Westmoor to discourage increased traffic volume and reduce traffic speeds.

These mitigations should be funded by TxDOT, constructed in coordination with the city of Austin Transportation and Public Works Department (ATPW), and completed concurrently with the Broadmoor extension.

ATPW should use their expertise in traffic engineering to develop options to reduce the traffic impacts and present them to the neighborhood by June 30. Then, ATPW should work with the WPNA to engage impacted residents and select solutions that mitigate harm while preserving local access.