

CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM

DEPARTMENT: Development Services Department
AGENDA DATE: Introduction: September 29, 2009
Public Hearing: October 6, 2009
CONTACT PERSON/PHONE: Christina Ainsworth, 541-4930
DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: District 1

SUBJECT:

An Ordinance amending the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System as detailed in the Map Atlas of The Plan For El Paso and its related documents as originally approved by the El Paso City Council in 1999, and as subsequently amended, by adding the extension of Redd Road, as a collector arterial with bike lanes, across the Rio Grande to connect with Gomez Road.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

On May 19, 2009, the City Council voted to accept the Upper Valley Traffic Study report findings and recommendations to include the extension of Gomez and Redd Roads. The plan recommends the connection of Gomez/Redd as an alternate route to Country Club and Artcraft in order to better distribute traffic in the area.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

June 2004: The 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System was amended to delete Gomez Road and the extension of Redd Road.
May 19, 2009: The Upper Valley Traffic Study and its recommendations were approved.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:

DCC: Approval Recommendation
CPC: Approval Recommendation

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

LEGAL: (if required) _____ **FINANCE:** (if required) _____

DEPARTMENT HEAD: _____
Victor Torres, Director

APPROVED FOR AGENDA:

CITY MANAGER: _____ **DATE:** _____

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2025 PROPOSED THOROUGHFARE SYSTEM AS DETAILED IN THE MAP ATLAS OF THE PLAN FOR EL PASO AND ITS RELATED DOCUMENTS AS ORIGINALLY APPROVED BY THE EL PASO CITY COUNCIL IN 1999, AND AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED, BY ADDING THE EXTENSION OF REDD ROAD, AS A COLLECTOR ARTERIAL WITH BIKE LANES, ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE TO CONNECT WITH GOMEZ ROAD.

WHEREAS, *The Plan for El Paso* was formally adopted by the City Council on April 27, 1999, pursuant to the provisions of Section 213.002 of the Texas Local Government Code as the Comprehensive Plan for the City; and,

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan serves as a general guide for the future growth and development of the City to promote public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, its adoption was based on the recommendation of the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee following numerous public meetings and working sessions; and,

WHEREAS, a well planned transportation system is a key element for improving quality of life, by balancing neighborhood concerns with provision of access for commerce and mobility for personal travel; and,

WHEREAS, the Development Coordinating Committee (“DCC”) has recommended a change to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System Map contained within *The Plan for El Paso* to provide the most beneficial relationship between the uses of land and circulation of traffic throughout the City; and,

WHEREAS, the recommendation of the DCC was submitted to the City Plan Commission for its review, and the City Plan Commission has recommended the adoption of the change to the Year 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System map as herein enumerated; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the adoption of *The Plan for El Paso* and its changes to the thoroughfare alignments as herein enumerated will have no negative impact upon the public health, safety, morals and general welfare of the City,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System, as detailed in the Map Atlas of *The Plan for El Paso*, is herein amended as described below and as more particularly shown in the attached and incorporated Exhibit “A”.

Northwest Planning Area

- Amend the 2025 Major Thoroughfare Plan by adding the extension of Redd Road, as a collector arterial with bike lanes, across the Rio Grande to connect with Gomez Road.

(Signatures continue on following page.)

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, **2009**.

THE CITY OF EL PASO

John F. Cook
Mayor

ATTEST:

Richarda Duffy Momsen, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Lupe Cuellar
Assistant City Attorney

Mathew McElroy, Deputy Director
Development Services Department

Exhibit A



Figure 1 (above): Existing Major Thoroughfare Plan

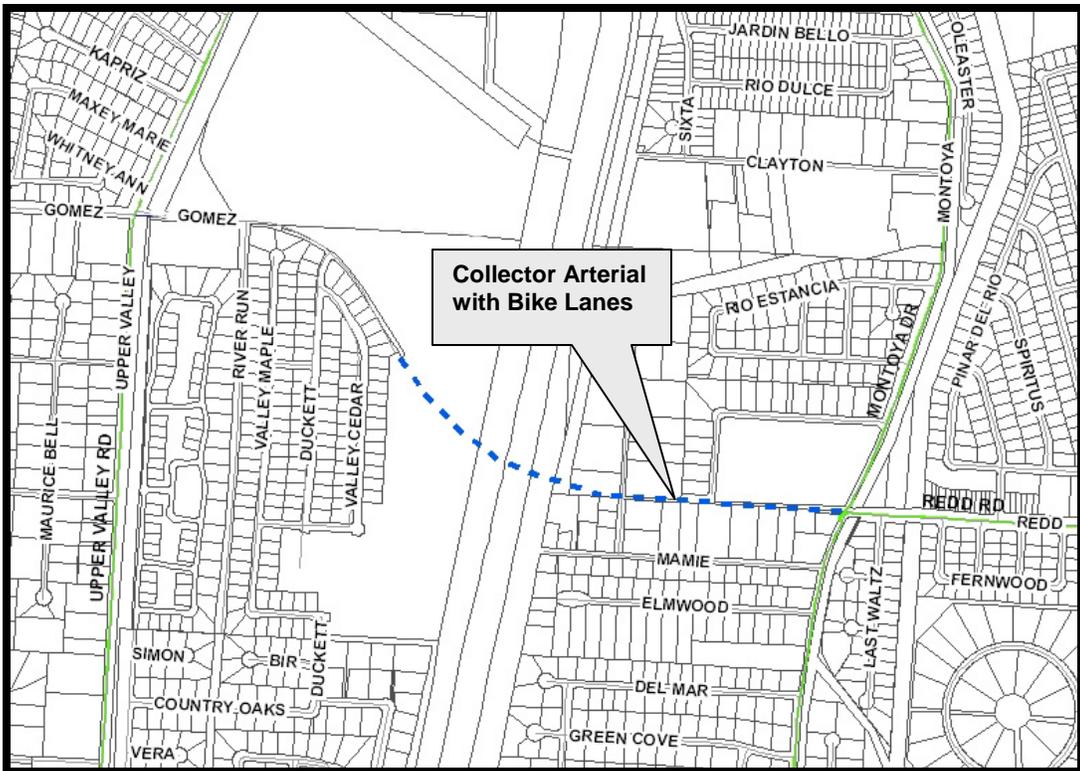


Figure 2 (above): Proposed Amendment to Major Thoroughfare Plan

Dedicated to Outstanding Customer Service for a Better Community

S E R V I C E S O L U T I O N S S U C C E S S

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT
PLANNING DIVISION**



TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council
Joyce A. Wilson, City Manager

FROM: Christina Ainsworth, Lead Planner

DATE: September 21, 2009

RE: Redd Road Extension

Mayor
John F. Cook

City Council

District 1
Ann Morgan Lilly

District 2
Susie Byrd

District 3
Emma Acosta

District 4
Carl L. Robinson

District 5
Rachel Quintana

District 6
Eddie Holguin Jr.

District 7
Steve Ortega

District 8
Beto O'Rourke

City Manager
Joyce A. Wilson

The City Plan Commission (CPC), on August 13, 2009, voted **4-0** to recommend **APPROVAL** amending the MTP to include the future extension of Redd Road across the Rio Grande to connect with Gomez Road.

The CPC found that this MTP amendment is in conformance with The Plan for El Paso. The CPC also determined that this MTP amendment protects the best interest, health, safety and welfare of the public in general; and the MTP amendment will have no effect on the natural environment, social economic conditions, and property values in the vicinity and the city as a whole.

There is a petition with 1969 letters in opposition on file with the City Clerk.

Attachments

1. Staff Report
2. Example letter in opposition

Development Services Department

Victor Q. Torres – Director

2 Civic Center Plaza – 5th Floor · El Paso, Texas 79901 · (915) 541-4622 · Fax (915) 541-4799



City of El Paso – City Plan Commission Staff Report

Application Type: Amendment to the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System
CPC Hearing Date: August 13, 2009
Staff Planner: Christina Ainsworth, 915-541-4930, ainsworthmc@elpasotexas.gov

Location: Redd Road between Montoya Road and Upper Valley Road.
Representative District: 1
Existing Zoning: R-2 and R-3A/sc
Present Use: Residential, Undeveloped Land
Proposed Use: None proposed.

Applicant: City of El Paso

SURROUNDING ZONING AND LAND USE

North: R-2, R-3A/sc / Residential, Vacant

South: R-2, R-3A/sc / Residential, Vacant

East: R-2 / Residential

West: R-3A/sc / Residential, Vacant

THE PLAN FOR EL PASO DESIGNATION: Open Space/Residential.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS: Save the Valley, Coronado Neighborhood Association, Upper Mesa Hills Neighborhood Association, Upper Valley Improvement Association, Upper Valley Neighborhood Association, Mountain Arroyos Neighborhood Association

APPLICATION DESCRIPTION

The City proposes to amend the 2025 Projected Thoroughfare System (MTP) to include the future extension of Redd Road across the Rio Grande to connect with Gomez Road as a collector arterial with bike lanes.

The Redd Road extension and Gomez Road were originally included as major arterials in the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System as adopted 1999.

The Redd Road extension and Gomez Road were deleted from the MTP in June of 2004.

On May 19, 2009, the City Council voted to accept the Upper Valley Traffic Study report findings and recommendations to include the extension of Gomez and Redd Roads in the MTP.

The plan recommends the connection of Gomez/Redd as an alternate route to Country Club Road and Artcraft Drive in order to better distribute traffic in the area.

NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT

There is a petition with 1969 letters in opposition to the extension of Redd/Gomez Roads on file with the City Clerk's office.

The Plan for El Paso – Transportation Goals:

All applications to amend the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System must demonstrate compliance with the following criteria:

- a. Goal: meet the current and future mobility needs of residents, businesses, and visitors with a safe, efficient, and multimodal transportation system.

b. Goal: develop a bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure that functions as part of the urban transportation system.

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Development Coordinating Committee provides the following comments:

Recommends **approval** of the request to amend the MTP to add the future extension of Redd Road across the Rio Grande to connect with Gomez Road.

Engineering Department - Traffic Division:

Traffic recommends approval of the MTP amendment to add the Redd Road extension and connection to Gomez Road as a collector arterial roadway, in accordance with the Upper Valley Traffic Study which states:

- In 2025, continued traffic growth results in decreasing levels of service at several locations and increased delays along the corridors.
- Specifically, the area bounded by the Rio Grande and the Texas state border must utilize either Aircraft or Country Club to access points eastward.
- Providing an alternative route which better distributes the traffic for this area can be accomplished by extending Redd Road across the Rio Grande to connect with Gomez Road.
- In keeping with the principals of CSS and existing land uses in the area, this corridor is recommended to have a minimal cross section with 2 through lanes, a continuous center left-turn lane, and bike and hike paths in the parkways.

Street Department

No objection.

El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

No comments received.

Development Services Department - Planning Division:

Recommends approval based on the approved Upper Valley Traffic Study.

CITY PLAN COMMISSION OPTIONS

The City Plan Commission may consider the following options and additional options that it identifies when reviewing the request to amend the 2025 Proposed Thoroughfare System.

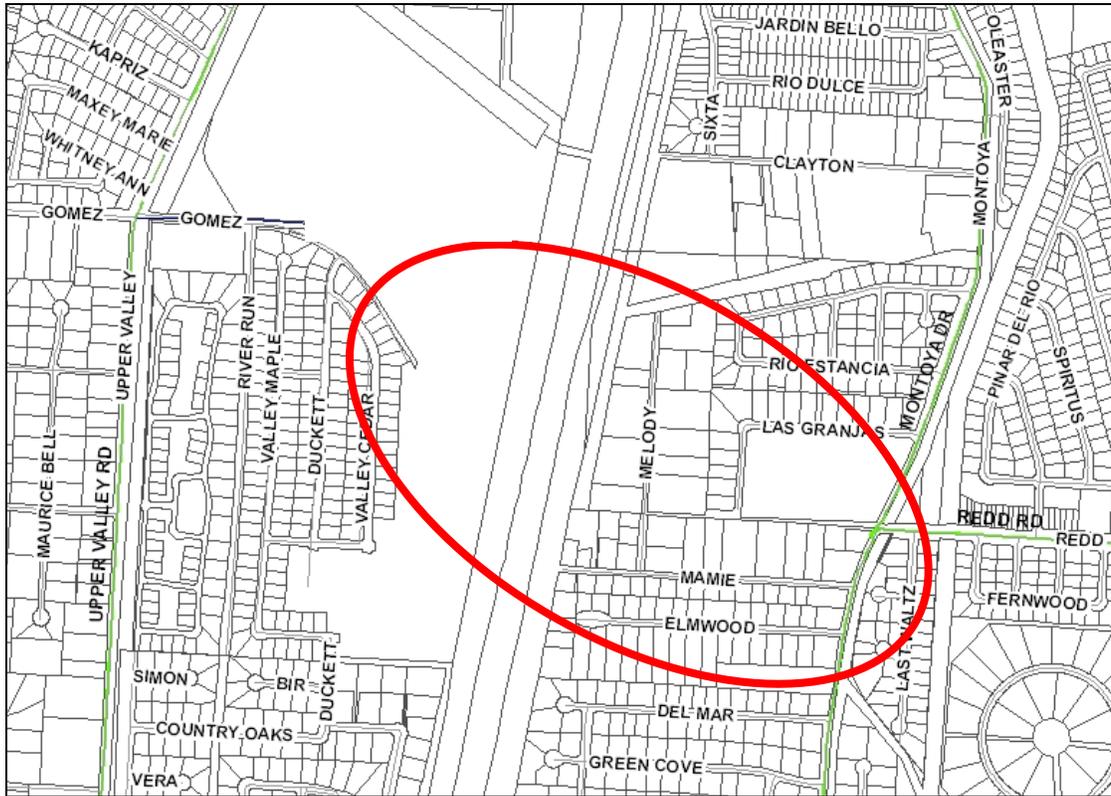
1. Recommend approval of the application finding that the amendment to the MTP is in conformance with the review criteria of The Plan for El Paso as reflected in CPC report or other criteria that the CPC identifies from the Plan
2. Recommend approval of the application with modifications to bring the amendment of the MTP into conformance with the review criteria in The Plan for El Paso as reflected in CPC report or other criteria from the Plan as identified by the CPC.
3. Deny the application finding that the amendment to the MTP does not conform to the review criteria in The Plan for El Paso as reflected in CPC report or other criteria identified from the Plan by the CPC.

Attachments

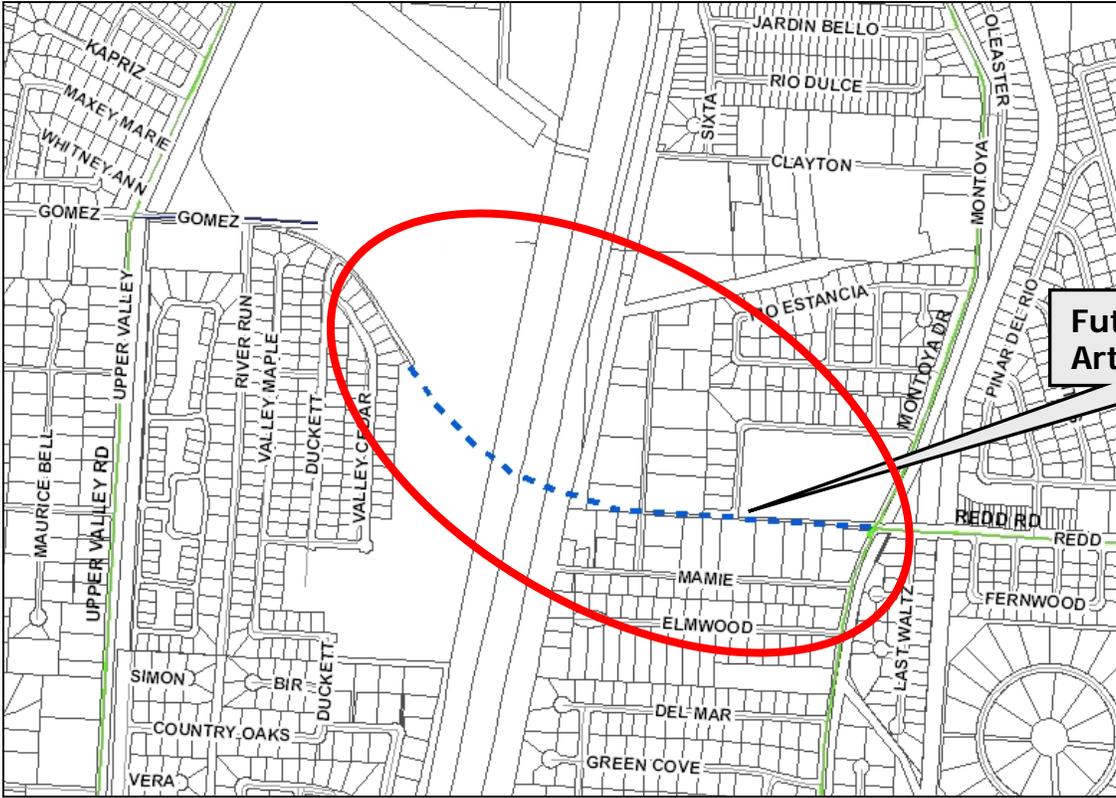
1. Current MTP

2. Proposed MTP

Attachment 1- Current MTP



Attachment 2- Proposed MTP



**Future Collector
Arterial**

July 16, 2007

Dear Mayor and City Council:

I strongly support City Ordinance 15827 of June 29, 2004, which amends the Major Thoroughfare Plan "to delete Gomez Road and the extension of Redd Road across the Rio Grande." I also support the Metropolitan Planning Organization Resolution of November 19, 2004, "to delete Gomez Road and the extension of Redd Road across the Rio Grande."

I believe that an expansion is not necessary and is not in the best interest of most Valley residents. Such a drastic and expensive effort is not needed to manage Upper Valley traffic. Artcraft Road was built at great expense to handle the increased traffic in the Upper Valley and Santa Teresa due to the additional planned development. Artcraft is less than a mile from Redd Road and is still under-utilized. The new roundabout planned for Upper Valley Road and Country Club is designed to aid in traffic management. The new bridge and widened road at Sunland Park, and the widening of McNutt Road will also help alleviate Upper Valley traffic.

We love the rural nature of our neighborhoods. If such an expansion were to occur, it would destroy established neighborhoods and homes and would forever ruin the ambiance of the Upper Valley, and many of our neighbors would lose their homes through condemnation. Our neighborhoods are quiet and somewhat rural, and we live in the Upper Valley because of these characteristics. Also, this area is a gem for all El Pasoans who are bicyclists, bird-watchers, walkers, joggers and equestrians. It would also open quiet neighborhoods to excessive commercial traffic from New Mexico and Mexico.

I respectfully urge you to leave City Council Ordinance #15827 in its current status.

Sincerely,

Jose Rogue

Name:

Address:

6336 Westside Dr. El Paso Tex.

11:2 AM 14 MAY 2007
CITY CLERK DEPT.

Dear Mayor and City Council:

I strongly support City Ordinance 15827 of June 29, 2004, which amends the Major Thoroughfare Plan "to delete Gomez Road and the extension of Redd Road across the Rio Grande." I also support the Metropolitan Planning Organization Resolution of November 19, 2004, "to delete Gomez Road and the extension of Redd Road across the Rio Grande."

I believe that an expansion is not necessary and is not in the best interest of most Valley residents. Such a drastic and expensive effort is not needed to manage Upper Valley traffic. Artcraft Road was built at great expense to handle the increased traffic in the Upper Valley and Santa Teresa due to the additional planned development. Artcraft is less than a mile from Redd Road and is still under-utilized. The new roundabout planned for Upper Valley Road and Country Club is designed to aid in traffic management. The new bridge and widened road at Sunland Park, and the widening of McNutt Road, will also help alleviate Upper Valley traffic.

We love the rural nature of our neighborhoods. If such an expansion were to occur, it would destroy established neighborhoods and homes and would forever ruin the ambiance of the Upper Valley, and many of our neighbors would lose their homes through condemnation. It would also open quiet neighborhoods to excessive commercial traffic from New Mexico and Mexico. Our neighborhoods are quiet and somewhat rural, and we live in the Upper Valley because of these characteristics. Also, this area is a gem for all El Pasoans who are bicyclists, bird-watchers, walkers, joggers and equestrians.

I respectfully urge you to leave City Council Ordinance #15827 in its current status.

Sincerely,

Name:

Leo Spradling

Address:

5212 W. N. Oak

Phone:

915 833-1503

Email:

lpspradling30@yahoo.com

Signature:

