



Memorandum

Date: July 17, 2017

To: Bruce D. Glasscock
City Manager

Via: B. Caleb Thornhill, P.E.
Director of Engineering

From: Lloyd Neal, P.E., P.T.O.E.
Transportation Engineering Manager

Subject: Support for Collin County Transportation Priorities

The Collin County Commissioners Court recently announced that the population growth in Collin County is expected to increase 65% by year 2050. During this time Plano's population is expected to increase by 50,000 residents. As roads near their traffic carrying capacity, alternative routes of travel become increasingly valuable to drivers. Collin County has few alternative high speed roads for use by regional commuters and this produces excess traffic congestion and delay as drivers utilize a limited number of roads to reach their destination.

To address future traffic levels Collin County is finalizing a regional transportation plan that includes the creation of Limited Access Roads (LAR) that expedites travel through areas without having to utilize congested city roads, decreases traffic loads on city intersections, and permits road users to reach their destinations safely and in a reasonable amount of time. The plan, developed and prioritized with input and support from Plano Transportation Engineering, considers the goals and priority elements contained in Plano Tomorrow, Collin County Strategic Roadway Action Plan, and the North Central Texas Council of Governments Mobility 2040 Plan, in assuring future mobility in Collin County.

The Plano Transportation Engineering Division strongly supports the development of the Collin County LAR network, and encourages your and Plano City Council support for this effort. The planned road improvements will provide needed relief to regional traffic congestion, reduce the amount of pass-through traffic in Plano, and foster continued regional economic growth.