

TOWN OF FLOWER MOUND, TEXAS

RESOLUTION NO. 20-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FLOWER MOUND, TEXAS, APPROVING THE MORRISS ROAD/GERAULT ROAD CAPACITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WITH CERTAIN DESIGN, ENGINEERING AND IMPLEMENTATION ELEMENTS, AND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS, AS NOTED HEREIN; MAKING FINDINGS RELATIVE THERETO; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town's 1981 Master Thoroughfare Plan, which is a component of the Town's Master Plan, indicated that Morriss Road/Gerault Road ("Morriss/Gerault") should be a major arterial, or 6-lane divided roadway; and

WHEREAS, the Master Thoroughfare Plan was adopted again in 1985, as a component of the "Land Use and Thoroughfare Plan Flower Mound," in 1994 as a component of the "Flower Mound Comprehensive Master Plan," and again in 2000, 2004 and most recently in 2009 as part of the "Master Plan," with no changes to the designation of Morriss/Gerault as a major arterial; and

WHEREAS, during the 2008-2009 Town budget process, the widening of Morriss/Gerault was approved, with design to occur during Fiscal Year 2008-2009 and construction to begin in Fiscal Year 2009-2010, or as soon as design is complete; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of Morriss/Gerault was also included in the Denton County Roadway bond election held in November 2008, which was approved by Denton County voters on November 4, 2008; and

WHEREAS, plans to expand Morriss/Gerault are proceeding in conjunction with The River Walk at Central Park project, to-wit: the Transportation Impact Analysis ("TIA") for The River Walk at Central Park project indicated that the level of service on Morriss/Gerault would be negatively impacted once the project was constructed and therefore, as a condition of the approval of this large-scale project, the developer was required to contribute toward the expansion of the roadway; and

WHEREAS, Morriss/Gerault was the subject of a work session of the Town's Transportation Commission on April 21, 2009, at which time Commissioners were allowed the opportunity to ask detailed questions of the Town's staff and the Town's consultants for the Morriss/Gerault project; and

WHEREAS, on May 26, 2009, after an extensive staff/consultant presentation, a public hearing was conducted by the Town's Transportation Commission at which time numerous citizens asked questions and voiced their support or opposition to the Morriss/Gerault project; and

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WHEREAS, at that meeting of the Town's Transportation Commission, the following information was provided by the Town and/or Town consultants to attendees about the Morriss/Gerault project:

- This roadway capacity expansion project includes the addition of two lanes within the existing median;
- Improvements to various intersections will be examined during project design;
- The project is needed to serve the short-term and long-term traffic demands projected for the Morriss Road/Gerault Road corridor and that even with the increased capacity provided by the two new lanes, long-range traffic volumes will exceed capacity on Morris Road/Gerault Road, FM 2499, and Garden Ridge;
- The addition of two lanes to Morriss Road and Gerault Road will provide necessary near-term capacity to accommodate planned growth in the corridor and to serve as an alternate north-south corridor for Flower Mound residents;
- Planned improvements to the intersection of Gerault Road at FM 2499 will improve access to the scheduled improvements on FM 2499 associated with the DFW Connector project;
- Improvements to the interchanges of SH 121 at Freeport Parkway and Grapevine Mills Parkway will result in the Gerault Road-to-Lakeside Parkway-to-SH 121 route becoming a viable alternative to FM 2499 for Flower Mound commuters;
- It has been determined that if the capacity improvements are not made, the same north-to-south traffic demands will exist in these corridors, resulting in higher congestion levels, undesirable cut-through traffic in neighborhoods, increased commute times and delays, and higher vehicle emissions; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the May 26, 2009, meeting of the Transportation Commission, the Commission voted to recommend to the Town Council approval of the Morriss/Gerault Capacity Improvement Project with certain design, engineering, and implementation elements, as noted in this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FLOWER MOUND, TEXAS, THAT:

SECTION 1

All of the above premises are hereby found to be true and correct legislative and factual findings of the Town of Flower Mound and they are hereby approved and incorporated into the body of this Resolution as if copied in their entirety.

SECTION 2

The Town of Flower Mound sincerely appreciates the efforts undertaken by the Transportation Commission to inform citizens of the details associated with the Morriss/Gerault project and after consideration of the presentations and comments made at the Town Council meeting on June 15, 2009, and after a detailed review of all pertinent documentation, the Town Council generally endorses the recommendation of the Transportation Commission and adopts this Resolution in support of the Morriss/Gerault Capacity Improvement Project as follows:

The Town Council hereby approves the Morriss/Gerault Capacity Improvement Project with the following design, engineering, and implementation elements as follows:

- The project shall be designed in one phase in its entirety; and construction shall occur in two phases, as follows:
 - Phase 1 will begin after design is complete and shall include construction improvements to Gerault Road and the flyover at FM2499, and Phase 1 shall include the landscaping, fencing, safety, and intersection improvements for the entire Morriss/Gerault corridor; further, trees, sod, irrigation, and decorative plantings and living sound walls, where applicable, shall be installed in the medians and rights-of-way, with the focus being on the full-width median sections, and eight foot (8') fences, where possible, shall be utilized.
 - Phase 2 will begin in Fiscal Year 2014-2015 or after completion of the River Walk Amenity, whichever occurs first.

SECTION 3

This Resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its date of passage.

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PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 15TH DAY OF JUNE, 2009.



Jody A. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:



Paula Paschal, Town Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:



Terrence S. Welch, Town Attorney