Welcome to the Virtual Location and Design Public Hearing for:



Bryant Pkwy. Extension (S)

City of Bryant ARDOT Job 061705 March 21 – May 9, 2021

How do I become involved?

- Please complete the sign-in form to register your participation in this meeting.
- Review all of the materials provided in the virtual meeting.
- Written statements may be submitted anytime between March 21 May 9, 2021 by using the attached comment form and mailing/emailing it to Garver, Attn: Lindi Miller, 4701 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118; or <u>PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com</u>.
- Your attendance and participation are greatly appreciated!

For more information, please call 501-823-0730 or email <u>PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com</u>

> Garver Attn: Lindi Miller 4701 Northshore Drive North Little Rock, AR 72118

Location and Design Public Hearing Information

What is the purpose of this hearing?

The primary objective of this hearing is to present the Preferred Alternative for the Bryant Parkway (Pkwy.) extension project in Bryant, Arkansas, and provide an opportunity for you to voice your opinion on this project. Through the materials presented in this hearing, we hope to make you familiar with the proposed project and give you an opportunity to express your opinions, which will become part of the formal record. In order to meet this objective, public participation is needed to identify and discuss any problems or controversial issues. Since we are not meeting in person, it is important to clearly identify your issues and concerns, and if needed you can call or email us for clarification on any matters related to this project – phone and email contact information is provided in the enclosed meeting materials. This hearing offers a medium for free and open discussions, which hopefully will result in the resolution of any problems or controversial issues. To accomplish this goal, we request your cooperation and participation.

The following information has been prepared to provide an overview and general information about the proposed project. Information has been included pertaining to the roadway's design (60% plans presented) and environmental impacts. Additional information on each of these topics is available in the Environmental Assessment (EA) document, and on the hearing project website or by contacting the City of Bryant. Garver personnel are also available to answer questions and explain the project and its impacts via email at <u>PublicInvolvement@Garverusa.com</u>.

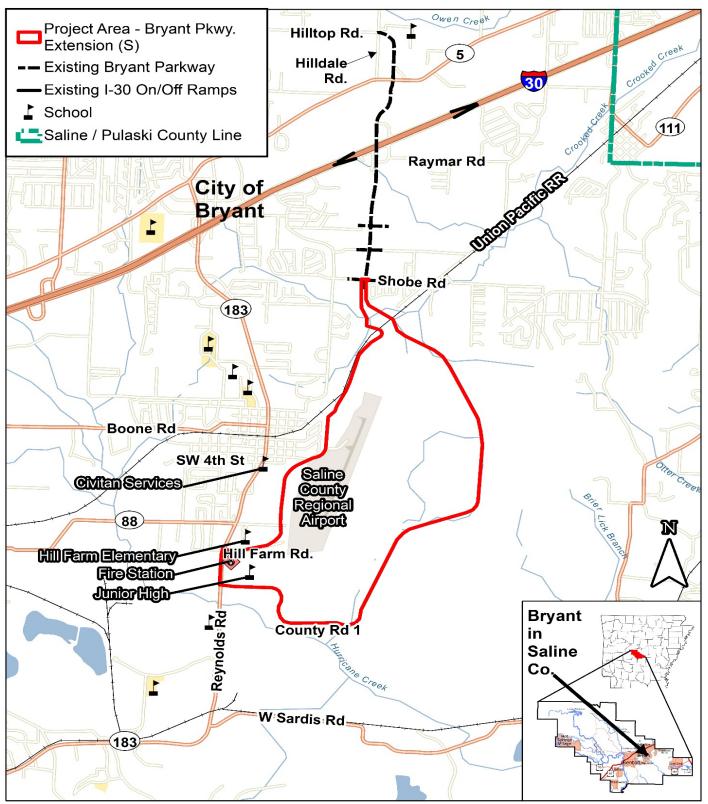
What is the Bryant Pkwy. Extension project?

The City of Bryant, Arkansas, in cooperation with Metroplan and the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT), are proposing to extend Bryant Pkwy. from Shobe Road to Hwy. 183 to enhance mobility, connectivity, and to support economic growth for the City of Bryant and the Airport. The proposed roadway will consist of a curb and gutter two-lane roadway north of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) bridge, and a two-lane open shoulder roadway south of the UPRR bridge. **Figure 1** shows the project extent and general location of Bryant within Saline County. **Figure 2** shows the alignment for the Preferred Alternative. As identified in the Bryant Parkway traffic study, the population of Bryant is growing rapidly. The significant population increase has caused the city to outgrow its current infrastructure, including Highway (Hwy.) 183, which is the City's only north/south arterial corridor, resulting in a need for an alternate north/south route to provide enhanced connectivity and mobility to the eastern and southern areas of the City of Bryant. The purpose of the proposed project is to:

- > increase vehicular and pedestrian connectivity from existing Bryant Pkwy. to Hwy. 183
- provide greater mobility and connectivity to schools, parks, residences, and industries in the southern and eastern parts of the city
- reduce traffic congestion and travel delays on Hwy. 183

- provide a public road giving access to the north end of the Saline County Regional Airport to allow for future development opportunities
- reduce emergency vehicle response time to the eastern half of the city by providing a second grade separated crossing over UPRR
- > provide a critical component of the City of Bryant Master Bike and Pedestrian Plan

Figure 1: Project Location within City of Bryant, Saline County, Arkansas



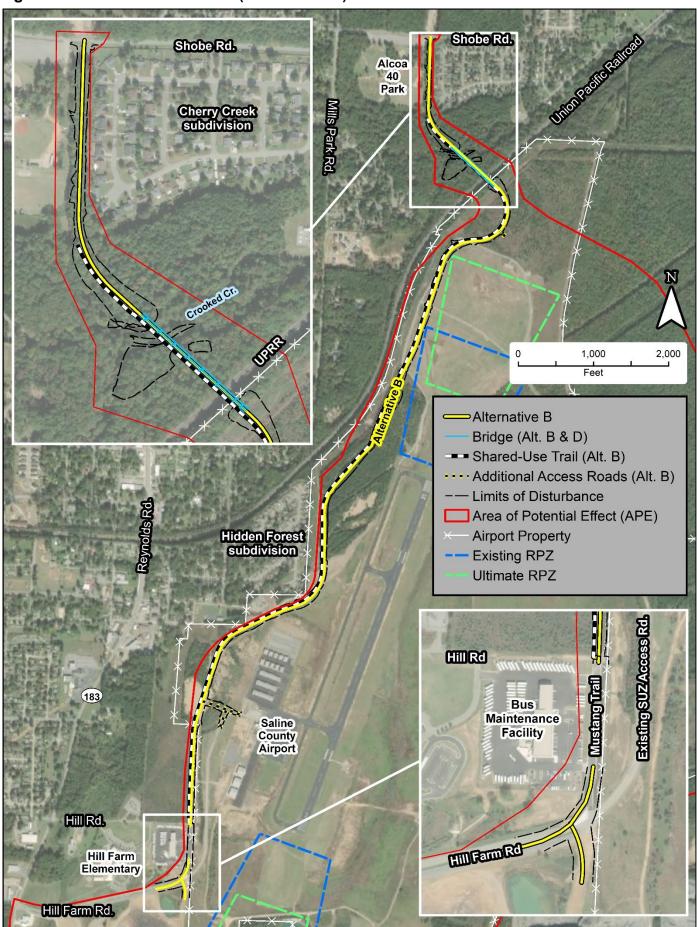


Figure 2: Preferred Alternative (Alternative B)

What has been completed on the project?

Five original Bryant Pkwy. Extension project alternative alignments (Alternatives A-E) were developed and presented to the public in 2018. A No Action Alternative was also evaluated. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires including a "No Action" alternative in environmental analysis. Although it does not meet the project's purpose and need, the No Action Alternative provides a baseline against which the other alternatives can be compared. The EA document carried three alternatives forward for detailed review: Alternative B, Alternative D, and the No Action Alternative.

The EA describes potential social, economic, and environmental impacts of the project alternatives. As detailed in the EA document, Alternative B was identified as the Preferred Alternative and is shown in Figure 2. The complete EA document is available for review on the public hearing website under Project Documents. Additionally, design details have been prepared and the proposed ROW limits identified. Roadway design (at the 60% level), the proposed right of way (ROW) limits, and typical sections of the roadway and proposed bridge over Crooked Creek and the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) are shown in the interactive project map and the "60% Design – Line and Grade" PDF available on the public hearing website under Project Documents.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approved the EA for public review and comment in February 2021 and this hearing is the opportunity for the public to provide comments.

How would the completed project affect surrounding areas?

The environmental analysis of the proposed project did not identify any significant impacts to the natural and social environment as a result of the No Action Alternative or the Preferred Alternative. The recommended Preferred Alternative meets the project's purpose and need while minimizing adverse impacts. A summary of the impacts of these alternatives can be found in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Summary of Impacts

Resource Category	No Action	Preferred Alternative (Alternative B)	Alternative D
Protected Species	"No Effect"	"May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect" for 3 bird species	"May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect" for 3 bird species
Section 6(f)	None	0.3 acre of temporary ground disturbances (ADPHT approval obtained)	0.3 acre of temporary ground disturbances (ADPHT approval obtained)
Section 4(f)	No impacts	<i>de minimis</i> impacts to Alcoa 40 Park	<i>de minimis</i> impacts to Alcoa 40 Park
REC Sites Encountered*	0 sites	1 site	8 sites
Approx. ROW Acquisition	0 acres	29.3 acres	58.4 acres
Noise Impact	None	None	None
Visual Quality	No changes	Changes visible by 2 subdivisions	Changes visible by 1 subdivision
Water Quality Impact	None	Minor and temporary during construction	Minor and temporary during construction
Wetlands	0 acres	1.9 acres	2.2 acres
Streams	0 linear feet	1,688 linear feet total	1,688 linear feet total
Floodplains	0 acres	3.6 acres	14.6 acres
Cost**	\$0	\$18.2 million	\$23.5 million

* Count of only those Recognized Environmental Conditions (REC) with a Moderate or High Risk.

** Total estimated planning, engineering, and construction cost

What happens after this hearing?

After a review of comments received from citizens, public officials, and public agencies, the next step in the environmental process will be to prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) document for review by the FHWA. The approved FONSI will identify the Selected Alternative and concludes the NEPA process. ROW acquisition can then begin.

For additional information, please visit our website at

https://bryantpkwyext.transportationplanroom.com/, call us 501-376-3633, or email us at <u>PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com.</u>

Thank you for your attendance and participation in this hearing!

CITY OF BRYANT, ARKANSAS CITIZEN COMMENT FORM

ARDOT JOB NUMBER 061705 BRYANT PKWY. EXTENSION (S) SALINE COUNTY

LOCATION:

BryantPkwyExt.TransportationPlanRoom.com

Make your comments on this form and provide it to Garver personnel by 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 9, 2021. Send by mail to: Lindi Miller, Garver, 4701 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118. Alternatively, send the form via email to PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com.

Please Print: ______ Name:______ Address: ______ *Street Address City, State, Zip*Comments: ______

Use additional sheets if necessary

Written comments should be received by 4:30 p.m., Sunday, May 9, 2021 at the following address: Garver Attn: Lindi Miller 4701 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118 Telephone: 501-823-0758

Email: PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com

For additional information, please visit our website at: <u>BryantPkwyExt.TransportationPlanRoom.com</u>