



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

An important part of the Lafayette Regional Xpressway (LRX) toll facility Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process is public outreach and involvement. The LRX team has received many comments and questions about the LRX project. This “FAQs” page has been created so those of you with similar comments and questions may be able to get the information you need. Your interest in the LRX project is appreciated!

WHERE EXACTLY WILL THE LRX BE LOCATED?

To date, the specific corridor location of the LRX has not been determined. The LRX team is currently studying two (2) northern corridor alternatives and three (3) southern corridor alternatives. The objective of the Tier 1 EIS is to determine which of the northern and southern corridor alternatives will be further evaluated and studied in the Tier 2 EIS phase. The corridor alternatives range in width from ½ to 1 mile (2600 feet to 5200 feet). The final location of the LRX toll facility will only require a right-of-way width ranging from 300 feet to 400 feet.

WHEN WILL THE LRX BE BUILT?

At this point in the project development, no construction date has been set due to pending studies, public meetings and hearings, and funding. Should studies continue without delay and financing identified, a portion of the LRX could begin construction as early as 2011 or 2012.

HOW MUCH WILL THE LRX COST?

The Feasibility Study performed in 2005 showed the LRX would cost around 760 million dollars. The Tier 1 EIS study is re-evaluating that preliminary opinion of the estimated project cost and will have an update in the completed Draft Tier 1 EIS report. The Draft Tier 1 EIS report will be available for review in the late spring or early summer of 2008.

HOW AND AT WHAT POINT WILL THOSE INDIVIDUALS DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY THE LRX BE CONTACTED?

First a preferred corridor alternative will be selected as a result of the Tier 1 EIS study. The selected corridor alternative will then move into the Tier 2 EIS phase so that alignment alternatives within that corridor can be studied and evaluated. At this time, property owners potentially affected by the alignment alternatives will be identified. The project will move into design following the completion of the Tier 2 EIS phase of the project and selection of a single

preferred alignment. Right-of-way needs will be finalized during design. Following design, and prior to construction, right-of-way acquisition will begin. During this time, property owners within the right-of-way will be identified and contacted by the agency (to be determined) contracted to facilitate property acquisition.

IF I OWNED PROPERTY ADJACENT TO THE LRX, HOW WILL THIS AFFECT MY PROPERTY VALUE?

Property values adjacent to access controlled freeway, interstate facilities are affected more by ingress and egress than the facility itself. If there is not an alternative means to access the property, via interchanges, service roads and / or the local road system, then the value of the property could be diminished. However, if alternative access is provided, property values tend to increase due to the economic development occurring along a toll facility located near a metropolitan area.

HOW WILL OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS PAY TOLLS?

There will be several places established throughout the Lafayette region where individuals can purchase their Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) passes or they may order a pass via the internet. The toll collection points will have a high-technology, sophisticated system of still cameras and video cameras that will identify all vehicles that pass through the toll collection point. If an out-of-town visitor is not aware of the ETC and was to pass through a toll collection point, they might be excused or they might be contacted with a toll balance due. The toll authority would determine at a later date how this would be handled.

HOW WILL SERVICE ROADS FUNCTION ALONG THE LRX?

The proposed LRX right-of-way width of 300 feet to 400 feet will allow service roads to be constructed at any time or place along the facility. At this time, it is anticipated that only partial service roads will be constructed initially. Issues such as local roads linkage and mobility may affect the location of the initial location of the partial service roads.

HOW WILL DRAINAGE FUNCTION AROUND THE LRX?

The LRX project is still in its planning phase and has not yet reached its design phase. Design issues, such as drainage, will be considered as an integral part of the design and will be further studied and evaluated in the Tier 2 EIS phase and subsequently in the preliminary engineering design phase.

HOW WILL CONTRACTORS BE SELECTED TO BUILD THE LRX?

At this time, it has not been determined what delivery system will be used to construct the LRX. The traditional delivery system of receiving bids and qualifications to select a contractor is an option as well as using a design-build or public private partnership delivery system.

THERE ARE SEVERAL NEW ROADWAY PROJECTS IN LAFAYETTE RIGHT NOW. COULDN'T THESE ROADWAYS BE USED INSTEAD OF THE LRX?

The roadway projects being constructed and identified for future construction in the fiscally constrained Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)'s Transportation Improvement Plan are being considered as part of the No-Build alternative in the Tier 1 EIS study. It will be evaluated whether the No-Build alternative will satisfy the purpose and need of the project more effectively than the LRX toll facility Build alternatives.

WHEN CAN I ATTEND A PUBLIC MEETING?

Meeting dates, locations, and times are posted on the project web site, <http://www.lrxpressway.com> on the "Community Involvement" page. Meetings are also advertised in local newspapers and on local news stations. A round of public hearings to receive input and comment on the Tier 1 Draft EIS is tentatively scheduled for the summer of 2008 at a location(s) / date(s) / time to be determined.

I WAS UNABLE TO MAKE ONE OF THE PUBLIC MEETINGS. HOW CAN I SEE THE INFORMATION THAT WAS ON DISPLAY AT THE MEETINGS?

The information that was on display at the March 2008 public information meetings is on the project web site, <http://www.lrxpressway.com>. C. H. Fenstermaker & Associates, a member of the LRX team, will have the exhibits on display at their main office in Lafayette, Louisiana. Please note that the public information meeting exhibits are scheduled to be on display as follows:

Exhibits Display Location:

C. H. Fenstermaker & Associates
135 Regency Square
Lafayette , LA 70508
337.237.2200

Exhibits Display Dates /Times:

March 27, 2008: 9AM to 10AM
April 3, 2008: 9AM to 10AM
April 10, 2008: 9AM to 10AM
April 17, 2008: 9AM to 10AM