

PHIL KING
State Representative
District 61

COMMITTEES:

Public Safety
Ways & Means

COUNTIES:

Parker • Wise



State of Texas
House of Representatives
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February 19, 2009

Mr. Mark Vickery P.G.
Executive Director
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Mc: 109 P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78753

Subject: Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) - Parker County
MSW No.: 2356
Proposed Brazos Transfer Station
Type V Permit Application

Mr. Vickery,

Over the past several months, my office has received numerous phone calls and office visits concerning the proposed Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station in East Parker County, MSW No. 2356.

I fully understand that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality makes important decisions on these types of applications based on very specific criteria. Furthermore, I recognize the value of solid waste transfer stations for growing communities and their increased need for the proper disposal of municipal waste, however, this particular application for permit concerns me greatly - particularly because there are dozens of other properties within a two mile radius well-suited for this facility.

East Parker County is one of the fastest growing areas of our state due to its close proximity to the Dallas/Fort Worth area. The Aledo and Willow Park area, where this proposed site is located, is experiencing growth in the residential commercial and industrial arenas. However, one of my main concerns with this application is the close proximity to residential developments already in place, developments in the planning stages, and the close distance to several schools within the Aledo ISD system.

I know that you hear citizens constantly complain, "not in my backyard", but I feel strongly that should this application be granted it would have tremendously negative effects on my


constituents. The property values in the area and ability to draw commercial interest would be impacted with this location. Due to this fact, a variety of different groups have asked for my assistance including Aledo ISD, local homeowners, developers, and the cities of Aledo, Hudson Oaks and Willow Park.

The last item of concern is the burden on transportation that a waste transfer station puts on local and state roadways. This particular site is at the center of heavy traffic congestion due to Barnett Shale activity, everyday commuters and the traffic on Interstate 20. I have included a letter from the Texas Department of Transportation that I hope will illustrate my traffic concerns. I fear that additional waste trucks on these roads, passing as 15 minute intervals would cause an additional burden in this area.

At the bottom line, there are other locations available that could be proposed in the area that would not cause such public frustration and disruption.

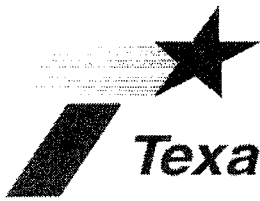
I appreciate your service to the State of Texas and your willingness to assist our community on this important issue.

Sincerely,


Phil King

cc: Mayor Kit Marshall - Aledo
Mayor Marvin Glasgow - Willow Park
Mayor Pat Deen - Hudson Oaks
Mr. Don Daniel - Superintendent, Aledo ISD

Attachments: Letter from TXDOT



Texas Department of Transportation

P.O. BOX 6868 • FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76115-0868 • (817) 370-6500

February 6, 2009

The Honorable Phil King
House of Representatives
2110 Fort Worth Highway
Weatherford, TX 76086

Dear Representative King:

Thank you for your continued interest in Parker County transportation. I appreciate the opportunity to provide you an overview of recent improvements. Over the last few years, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has seen unprecedented growth and need for transportation improvements in Parker County. We have worked closely with the City of Weatherford and Parker County on advancing several projects.

Of course, growth and safety are the main drivers of these actions. Rural sections of highway have increased safety concerns when placing more cars on short ramps and two-way frontage roads. The traffic volumes along I-20 and I-30 near FM 1187/FM 3325 exceeded the 7,500 vehicle-per-day threshold over the last few years. This warranted the conversion from two-way to one-way. Operations, mobility and safety have been improved since we improved the ramps (reversals) and conversion to one-way.

As you are aware, Parker County is growing very rapidly. According to the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), Parker County has experienced a 31.3 percent growth rate in population between 2000 and 2007. With the job market primarily in the Metroplex, there is a large amount of commuter traffic that overloads Parker County highway intersections in the peak hours. Additionally, a large development in this area, Walsh Ranch, has been in the works for several years now. This development will be on 7,000 acres and is expected to contain 17,000 single family residences, housing 38,000 people.

This year, NCTCOG expanded their boundaries to include all of Parker County. Previously only the eastern portion of Parker County was included, but the unprecedented growth has lead to the entire county joining. This also allows for Parker County to have an appointee to the Regional Transportation Council, which evaluates and prioritizes funding for regional transportation projects.

The Honorable Phil King

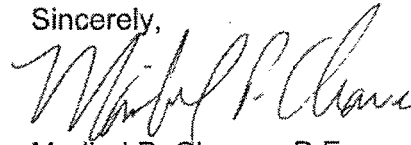
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February 6, 2009

With this growth, the City of Weatherford and Parker County have started seeing extreme congestion on their roadways. TxDOT looks for opportunities to stretch limited gas tax dollars. Our partners the City of Weatherford and Parker County have aggressively pursued innovative funding for much needed road work. The City of Weatherford has entered into a Pass Through Financing agreement with TxDOT. This will allow them to let seven projects years ahead of schedule and TxDOT will pay them back over time. Parker County recently held a transportation bond package that will finance many on-system projects. TxDOT is working closely with the city and county on the implementation of these projects in the coming year.

TxDOT, along with our partners at NCTCOG and Parker County continue to monitor the growth in the area. The transportation needs of this community, as well as other infrastructure needs, will continue to grow along with the population. Our goals are to plan for the future with our local partners and stretch the amount of resources we have to the fullest extent. I look forward to continuing to work with you in these efforts as well. Please contact me anytime that I may be of assistance at (817)370-6511.

Sincerely,



Maribel P. Chavez, P.E.
District Engineer
Fort Worth District