

## **Pleasant Ridge Road Project Status Update as of August 20, 2009**

Pleasant Ridge Road from Kelly Elliott Road and Bowen Road is scheduled to be widened to a 4-lane divided boulevard. Park Springs Boulevard from Pleasant Ridge Road to I.H. 20 will also be widened to a 4-lane divided boulevard during the construction of Pleasant Ridge Road. The project will also consist of drainage improvements, bridge work, landscaping, street lights, pavement markings and an 8-foot wide hike and bike trail on the south side from Park Springs Boulevard to Rush Creek.

The proposed realignment of Pleasant Ridge Road at Kelly Elliott Road will be just south of Tate Cemetery and go straight through the current wooded area. The proposed alignment will tie into the old alignment at Park Springs Boulevard. The cemetery will not be disturbed and will have driveway access from Pleasant Ridge Road upon completion of construction. The Old Pleasant Ridge road alignment will remain in place as a county type road but it will be reclaimed and resurfaced with asphalt in a water utility upgrade project which is currently in construction.

**The Rush Creek Bridge on Pleasant Ridge Road has been closed since May 2008 due to construction. This is notification that the Rush Creek Bridge and the rest of Pleasant Ridge Road from Kelly Elliott Road to Bowen Road will be open to traffic on Saturday, August 22, 2009. All four lanes will not be open to traffic so that construction can continue, but two-way traffic will be allowed across the bridge and through out the project. Electronic message signs will be posted at both ends of the project notifying the traveling public of the road opening.**

### Median Opening Issues for the Glen Springs Subdivision

Our Traffic Engineering Department took a very careful look at the Median Opening issues. One of the issues was also the concern for access for the residents in the Glen Springs West subdivision. The reason a median opening was installed at Glen Gate Drive is because those residents, if heading north on Park Springs Blvd. from IH-20, didn't even have a U-turn option to get into their neighborhood. They would have to take Park Springs Blvd to the new Pleasant Ridge Road and go all the way to Kelly Elliott Road and then take Old Pleasant Ridge Road back to their neighborhood or take the IH-20 frontage road all the way to Pleasantview Drive to get to their neighborhood. Also we had to try and accommodate the residents of the Autumn Hills subdivision at Glen Gate Drive who now can not make a left or a right into their subdivision onto Old Pleasant Ridge Road from Park Springs Blvd. Old Pleasant Ridge Road is now a right turn "exit only" to southbound Park Springs Blvd. Therefore the median opening at Glen Gate Drive serves two subdivisions which would otherwise not even have a U-turn option to get into their subdivision on Park Springs Blvd.

Therefore, due to the close proximity of the median of opening at Glen Gate Drive, a median opening at Fort Hunt Drive was not possible. A median opening at Fort Hunt Drive would interfere with the transition and storage lane for that left turn at Glen Gate Drive. Median openings are normally a minimum distance of 400 feet apart.

On Pleasant Ridge Road, the median opening at Kelly Perkins Drive is also too close to Glen Springs Drive, so a median opening at Glen Springs Drive was not possible there either.

There is a median opening at Rush Springs Drive that will allow you to make a left onto Pleasant Ridge Road and a left turn into the subdivision. We understand that this is very inconvenient, but our goal was to make sure that every resident had at least some kind of access.

The entire project is scheduled to be complete by April 2010 assuming no major delays.

Construction updates will be posted periodically on the Department of Public Works & Transportation website. Please contact Keith Brooks, Project Engineer, at (817) 459-6535 if you have any questions regarding the Pleasant Ridge Road project.