

Chapter 6

FUTURE ACTIONS, COMMITMENTS, MITIGATION, PERMITS AND CORRIDOR PRESERVATION

6-1 Future Actions:

A final corridor will be identified during the Tier 1 EIS/Section 4(f) Evaluation. During this phase it will be determined what future actions, commitments, mitigation measures/strategies and the potential permits that may need to be done in the Tier 2 phase.

1. In Tier 1 it will be decided what needs to be done in Tier 2 before a final right of way can be determined.
2. Some of these will include environmental impact. Traffic and revenue studies and capital cost estimates, selection of alternative alignments for the right of way and determining residential and commercial displacements.
3. Some other things to be considered will be land use, farmlands, historical structures, air quality, noise assessment and wetlands.
4. Other consideration will be given where appropriate to Floodplain, Wildlife, Mineral resources and soil contents.

6-2 Commitments:

The final right of way will not include the following in the North Unit, Cohn Preserve, James Watson Park, Cohn Arboretum and Live Oak Ball Park

6-3 Mitigation:

At this phase, specific Baton Rouge Loop Project impacts cannot be identified or quantified. However, it is reasonable to identify mitigation strategies and measures that would be used in Tier 2 and subsequent phases. In general, resources would be avoided or impacts minimized where practical and practicable.

Some of things that will be considered will be to minimize traffic noise, construction noise, soil retention, disposal of construction materials and avoidance of wetlands wherever possible.

6-4 Permitting:

Specific permit requirements for the Baton Rouge Loop Project cannot be identified at this point in the process. Nevertheless, certain permits are anticipated and specific permit requirements for the Baton Rouge Loop are to be identified and refined in the Tier 2 phase.

6-5 Corridor Preservation

Actual right-of-way acquisition for this project would not occur until successful completion of the NEPA process and adequate funding is secured. In the mean time, early corridor preservation has been deemed a priority to avoid additional future impacts and cost.

Restrictions to land use in the proposed corridors is not feasible at this time due to the numerous jurisdictions controlling these property rights.

In future phases, as corridors are refined and alignments determined, corridor preservation will be determined.