

# Old Settlers Boulevard Extension

## Frequently Asked Questions



### **Why is an extension of Old Settlers Boulevard needed?**

The project is part of the City's long-range planning to address existing and projected growth through a network of arterials that connect neighborhoods to larger regional roadways and points of interest within the City. The extension of Old Settlers Boulevard has been in discussion for many years and was included in both the City's Transportation Master Plan Update in 2017 and the Williamson County Transportation Plan in 2016.

Traffic projections indicate a four-lane extension is needed to support expected growth in the area, and the roadway is expected to primarily serve local traffic. As development continues to occur in this part of the City, the Old Settlers Boulevard Extension will provide an additional alternative for local traffic to reach nearby destinations and connect to larger roadways for regional and local travel.

### **Can other roads be considered as an alternative to extending Old Settlers Boulevard?**

Old Settlers Boulevard is one of many arterials in Round Rock that need to be upgraded to meet the evolving needs of the community. This project is being developed in addition to upgrades to other roads in the area and is intended to contribute to an overall improved system that keeps pace with the growth in this community.

Constructing the new segment within the existing utility easement adjacent to the Siena subdivision reduces the need to purchase private property for right of way. It also connects with the existing Old Settlers Boulevard and will connect with a future plan to extend Old Settlers Boulevard to SH 130, which is identified in both the City's and the County's transportation plans but has not been scheduled or funded.

### **Will this extension be safe for the community?**

Designing a safe roadway is the City's top priority for this project. The layout and design consider proximity to homes and other structures, accessibility for vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic, sight distance, turning safety, and speed. The design will meet or exceed all design standards and will be consistent with the design of other arterials in the City and region.

### **Will there be a barrier wall for noise and safety?**

The City is proposing to replace existing fencing along the new extension with a composite material fencing product as part of this project. While the fence is primarily a safety feature, the composite material may also help with sound dampening. Fences would be constructed along Old Settlers Boulevard adjacent to the Siena subdivision.

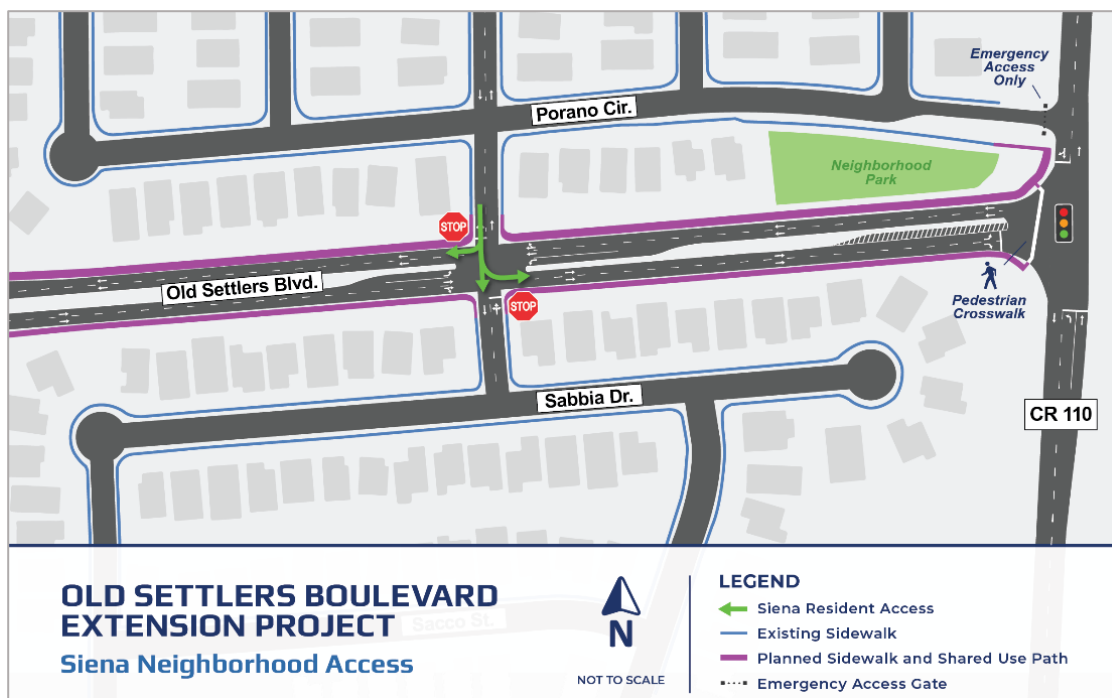
### **Will pedestrians be able to safely cross Old Settlers Boulevard to access amenities within Siena?**

The Old Settlers Boulevard Extension includes improvements for pedestrians and cyclists for the full length of the project. A 10-foot shared use path and a 6-foot sidewalk will be constructed on

either side of the roadway connecting to existing sidewalks within Siena and along Old Settlers Boulevard to the west, as well as planned sidewalks and paths along Red Bud Lane. Once construction is complete, local neighborhoods will have dedicated walking and biking paths that connect to existing sidewalks within the subdivision and new direct connections to Old Settlers Park. A traffic signal and crosswalk will be installed at the intersection of Old Settlers Boulevard and CR 110.

### Why is the City closing the intersection of Porano Circle and CR 110? How will residents of the northern section of the Siena subdivision enter and exit the neighborhood?

The existing intersection will be closed to through traffic and converted to emergency access only to eliminate a potential safety hazard and minimize congestion once the new intersection at Old Settlers Boulevard and CR 110 is constructed. Residents of the northern section of the Siena subdivision west of CR 110 will be able enter and exit the neighborhood at the new intersection of Porano Circle and Old Settlers Boulevard as illustrated in the diagram below.



### I am concerned about impacts to the quality of life in our neighborhood.

We recognize this project will bring changes to the neighborhood, particularly for those residents who will be adjacent to the new road. Our transportation planners and engineers are working to balance impacts to individual property owners with the overall efficiency and safety of the City’s transportation network as we try to keep pace with the tremendous growth in the City of Round Rock and Williamson County. The City’s transportation projects and planning initiatives are intended to promote quality of life as the area grows by providing convenient and safe ways for residents to stay connected to businesses, destinations, and community members that contribute to the vibrant character of the Round Rock area.

