Public meeting set on road project

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Short part of Hausman near UTSA to be under construction 2 years.

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The traffic headaches are still many months away, but Bexar County and San Antonio officials next week will brace Northwest Side neighborhoods for the impending two-year construction on a heavily used road just south of the University of Texas at San Antonio.

A short, two-lane stretch of West Hausman Road from Babcock to Huntsman roads will be under construction for 24 months beginning in October to allow bridge building over three low spots. The crossings are over prongs of Huesta Creek, which feeds into flood-prone Leon Creek.

The project is part of the county's 10-year, $500 million flood-control initiative that began after deadly storms in 1998 and 2002. On Hausman, the goal is unflooded access during a 100-year storm.

“Is it a painful process? Absolutely,” Precinct 3 Commissioner Kevin Wolff said Thursday, “but I don't think anyone can legitimately argue that it doesn't need to be done.”
The $8.7 million effort, planned since 2008, already has resulted in 30 home buyouts downstream in the Valley View subdivision, officials said. The homes — most of them manufactured — were marked for buyout because after the construction they still could be cut off during major flooding.

Tentative designs and timetables for the work will be discussed in a community meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday at the John Igo Library. It's the first community meeting since August, and concerns and questions continue to be registered with the city and county about the project's impact.

District 8 Councilman Reed Williams is planning to attend. Officials from the county's Infrastructure Services Department and other entities will field questions that are expected to center on traffic consequences of the road construction, including detours.

West Hausman is a major feeder into UTSA from areas south and west of the campus. It's also a popular shortcut from Loop 1604 to Interstate 10, as well as a vital link to numerous subdivisions, including Hunters Chase, Hunters Brook, Woller Creek, Cambridge and Maverick Creek.

Besides bridge building, the project involves downstream improvements to the Huesta Creek channel.

**More Information**

**Hausman Road Drainage Project Phase I meeting**

6:30 p.m. Monday

John Igo Library

13330 Kyle Seale Parkway
Bexar County Flood Control