

Welcome to the Virtual Design Public Hearing for:



Northwest Arkansas
National Airport (XNA)
Access

ARDOT Job 090069

September 26 – November 10,
2021

How do I become involved?

- Please complete the sign-in form to register your participation in this meeting.
- Review all of the materials provided in the virtual meeting.
- Written statements may be submitted anytime between September 26 – November 10, 2021 by using the attached comment form and mailing/emailing it to Garver, Attn: Lindi Miller, 4701 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118; or PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com.
- Your attendance and participation are greatly appreciated!

For more information, please call 501-823-0730 or email

PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com

Garver

Attn: Lindi Miller

4701 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118

Design Public Hearing Information

What is the Purpose of this Hearing?

Through the materials presented in this hearing, we will make you familiar with the proposed project and give you an opportunity to express your opinions. Public participation is needed to identify and discuss any problems or controversial issues. Since we are not meeting in person, it is important to clearly identify your issues and concerns, and if needed, you can call or email us for clarification on any matters related to this project – phone and email contact information is provided in the enclosed meeting materials. We request your cooperation and participation.

The following information has been prepared to provide general information about the proposed project and the proposed design plans. Additional information is available on the hearing project website or by contacting the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT). Garver personnel are also available to answer questions and explain the project and its impacts via email at PublicInvolvement@Garverusa.com.

What is the Purpose of the Northwest Arkansas National Airport (XNA) Access Project?

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide for the reliable and efficient movement of air transportation passengers and property between the Northwest Arkansas National Airport (XNA) and the Springdale Northern Bypass (Hwy. 612).

What is the Preferred Alternative?

As shown in Figure 1 on the following page, the New Location Alternative has been identified as the Preferred Alternative. The input provided during the Location Public Hearing affirmed the Preferred Alternative and provided important information to help the designers mitigate negative impacts as they further developed the design.

The Preferred Alternative would be a fully-controlled access highway approximately 3.4 miles long with a new, grade-separated trumpet-type interchange at Highway 612 (Figure 1).

This alignment would extend north and west from the trumpet interchange on a new alignment to an at-grade intersection at Hwy. 264 at the existing entrance road to XNA.

The trumpet interchange on the southern end would be designed to connect to the future location of Hwy. 612 between Hwy. 112 and Hwy. 412, which is planned to be built prior to the construction of the Preferred Alternative also called the XNA Access Highway. This future interchange location was identified based on interchange spacing requirements by FHWA and consideration of environmental impacts.

Beginning at the trumpet interchange and proceeding north, the XNA Access Highway will be a four-lane divided highway facility for 2.5 miles. The highway will be fully access controlled, meaning there will be no driveway or local road connections, and access will only be allowed at the interchanges serving Hwy. 612 and Hwy. 264.

The XNA Access Highway will have Overpasses would be located at three local roads: Holmes Road, Haden Road, and Wager Drive. Bridges would also be constructed over Little Osage Creek and Osage Creek. These local roads will remain open, but without a connection to the XNA Access Highway. North of Holmes Road, traffic will be reduced to one lane in each direction, and this two-lane road will terminate at a new signaled intersection with Hwy. 264 and Airport Boulevard.

This project will also purchase right-of-way to preserve the area needed for a future diamond interchange with Hwy. 264. When future traffic reaches a certain level, the four-lane divided freeway section of XNA Access Highway will be extended to overpass Hwy. 264 connecting directly with a realigned Airport Boulevard and ramps will be provided for access to and from Hwy. 264. A detailed interactive map is available for review on the project website.

Figure 1: Preferred Alternative



What are the Impacts from the Preferred Alternative?

Regarding the environment, the most important project impacts are shown in the table. While every effort has been made to minimize negative impacts during the alternative studies, and additional efforts have been made during the detailed design, there is not an alternative that avoids all impacts. The new XNA Access Highway best maximizes the benefits from the project while minimizing the negative impacts to the greatest extent possible.

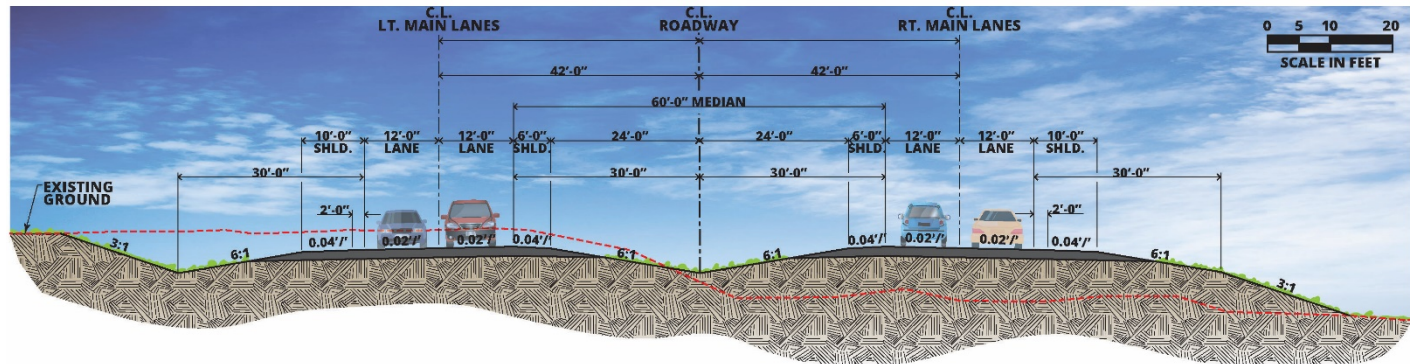
Table 1: Preferred Alternative Impact Table

Impacts Associated with the Preferred Alternative	
Resource Categories	Preferred Alternative
Relocations Required	5
ROW Required	241.8 acres
Known NRHP Sites	1
Stream Impacts	6,509 LF
Wetland Impacts	3.2 acres
Floodplain Impacts	0 acres
Hazardous Materials Sites	6 sites
Farmland Impacts	11 acres
Karst Springs	2
Suitable Bat Habitat	75.5 acres
Roosting Structures	11

What will the roadway look like?

Concerning the roadway and its appearance, the typical section would consist of a four-lane divided highway with a 60-foot-wide depressed grass median, six-foot-wide inner shoulders, and 10-foot-wide outer shoulders. The design speed would be 70 mph. The speed limit will be reduced to 55 mph in the two-lane transition section, nearing Highway 264.

Figure 2: Typical Section



What has been completed on the project since our last meeting?

ARDOT reviewed the comments received from citizens, public officials, and public agencies. ARDOT has confirmed the New Location Alternative as the Preferred Alternative and the project team has been working on more detailed design and environmental studies. Sufficient design has been completed for the Preferred Alternative to determine the proposed right-of-way limits.

What happens after this hearing?

Following the Design Public Hearing, ARDOT will prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) document for review by the Federal Highway Administration. If approved, the FONSI will identify the Selected Alternative and conclude the National Environmental Policy Act process. Right-of-way acquisition can then begin. For additional information, please visit our website at XNAAccess.TransportationPlanroom.com, call 501-823-0730, or email PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com.

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ARDOT)
CITIZEN COMMENT FORM**

**ARDOT JOB NUMBER 090069
NORTHWEST ARKANSAS NATIONAL AIRPORT (XNA) ACCESS
BENTON COUNTY**

LOCATION:
XNAAccess.TransportationPlanroom.com

Make your comments on this form and provide it to Garver personnel by 4:30 p.m. on November 10, 2021. Send by mail to: Lindi Miller, Garver, 4701 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118. Alternatively, email the form to PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com.

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Please Print: _____ **Date:** _____

Name: _____

Address: _____
Street Address *City, State, Zip*

Comments: _____

Use additional sheets if necessary

**Written Comments should be received by 4:30 p.m., November 10, 2021
at the following address:**

Garver
Attn: Lindi Miller
4701 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118
Email: PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com

**Oral Comments should be received on or before November 10, 2021.
Leave a comment by calling:
Telephone: 501-823-0730**

For additional information, please visit our website at: XNAAccess.TransportationPlanroom.com