
US Highway 90 Multi-Use Path Study



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Jackson County Board of Supervisors
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1.0 Introduction and Summary

This report summarizes the findings of a multi-use path study performed by Neel-Schaffer, Inc. as requested by the Jackson County Board of Supervisors to evaluate the proposed construction of a multi-use path within the US Highway 90 right-of-way. The project includes stakeholders from Gulf Regional Planning Commission (GRPC), Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT), City of Gautier, City of Ocean Springs and Jackson County.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this analysis was to identify a conceptual alignment for a proposed multi-use path along the US Highway 90 corridor in Jackson County and to get public input on the conceptual design of the multi-use path from the affected communities. The multi-use path is intended to be part of the MDOT construction project that MDOT currently has under design for widening US Highway 90 between Ocean Springs and Gautier. A cross section for the trail was developed, along with planned connections to recreational features in the adjacent communities, public meetings were held and cost estimates were developed to identify the anticipated project related costs.

Bicycles can play an important role in transportation, if properly accommodated in the design process. All roads and streets that do not prohibit bicyclists should include bicyclists in the design process. The traffic volumes and operating speeds on US Highway 90 make the roadway an unsafe location for bicyclists. A separate multi-use path would provide a much safer alternative to accommodate bicyclists within the study corridor. The development of a multi-use path would provide a means for bicyclists and pedestrians to make recreational, shopping and commuting trips to adjacent residential, school, retail and office land uses.