



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 22, 2016**

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## **TCEQ Issues Permit for Construction Vehicle Road in Veramendi**

**New Braunfels, TX** - A difficult safety problem facing a New Braunfels neighborhood was solved today with the help of Texas State Representative Doug Miller, New Braunfels ISD and City leadership.

The problem arose after the New Braunfels Independent School District purchased land in the Veramendi Planned Community to build a new elementary school and the construction contract was set to begin on May 2nd. But residents of the nearby Oak Run subdivision were worried about the over-use of Oak Run Parkway by construction vehicles in an area currently used by neighbors, pedestrians and children on bicycles.

“Our neighborhood streets would be damaged and covered with dirt if this problem were not solved,” said resident Ivy Evans. “Huge trucks do not mix well with families and children. It was a serious safety and quality of life issue for people here in Oak Run.”

Residents contacted New Braunfels Councilmember, Mayor Pro-Tem Ron Reaves, who brought the issue before the entire City Council. Mayor Barron Casteel and Reaves worked with the School District Superintendent Randy Moczygamba to develop a plan to build a special construction vehicle road around the subdivision.

But plans to build such a road over the sensitive Edwards Aquifer recharge zone and to connect to Loop 337, required both the approval of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). No construction was allowed to begin without the approvals and permits from the State.

TxDOT was quick to approve the permit but TCEQ was delayed. Unfortunately for residents, this delay would force heavy construction vehicles to drive through the subdivision for 60 days or more while school officials awaited approval. City leaders and residents contacted State Legislator Doug Miller and asked to him to help break the log jam that would put the Oak Run residents at risk.

“I impressed upon TCEQ that I have serious concerns for the safety of the residents with large, heavy trucks traveling in their neighborhood where people walk, children play and ride their bicycles,” said Rep. Doug Miller. “The risk would be too high to let construction traffic rumble through the area for two months.”

After Miller’s request, TCEQ looked into and found that it all could be expedited with some edits to the application. That action was taken this week and TCEQ gave final approval today.

“We are fortunate to have a legislator right here in New Braunfels who understands how things work in Austin,” said Mayor Casteel. “Having construction trucks traveling through the neighborhood for more than 60 days was a concern we have attempted to answer. Miller was a great help.”

“I am very proud of the plan we developed,” said Superintendent Moczygamba. “However, unless we could get it in front of the right person to expedite the approval, the plan would not help. This is a huge win for the area. The NBISD will have a new school built without making life miserable for neighbors. Thank you Doug Miller!”

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