

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a Public Hearing for the proposed tolling of State Highway (SH) 161 mainlanes from Interstate Highway (IH) 20 to SH 183 in the Cities of Grand Prairie and Irving in Dallas County. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to discuss the proposed tolling of SH 161 mainlanes within the 10.8-mile project corridor that is currently under construction. The Hearing will be held on Thursday, September 21, 2006 at the South Grand Prairie 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Campus Cafeteria, 305 West Warrior Trail, Grand Prairie, Texas, 75052. Prior to the Public Hearing an Open House will be held from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., to allow for questions and review of project exhibits. TxDOT staff will be available to answer questions during the open house. The formal Public Hearing will begin at 7 p.m., followed by the public comment period.

There are no proposed changes to the footprint, location, or size of the previously designed ramps and mainlanes. No additional right-of-way, displacement or relocations would be required for the proposed tolling of SH 161. As proposed, the toll facility would consist of four mainlanes from IH 20 to IH 30 and six from IH 30 to SH 183. Three lane discontinuous frontage roads in each direction are also proposed. Frontage roads would not exist between Sunnyvale Road and Oakdale Road and between Rock Island Road and SH 183. The proposed project would encroach into the 100-year floodplain; however, the improvements would not increase the base flood elevation that would violate applicable floodplain regulations or ordinances.

An environmental document has been prepared to research and identify potential changes to the natural, social and economic environment that could occur as a result of implementing the proposed toll facility. The environmental document, maps, and other drawings depicting the proposed project location and geometric design will be displayed at the Public Hearing. This and other information about the project are on file and available for inspection and copying at the TxDOT Dallas District Office located at 4777 East Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150. Other locations where this information is located include: Dallas County Public Works Transportation and Planning Division, 411 Elm Street, Fourth Floor, Dallas, Texas, 75202; City of Grand Prairie, Transportation Engineering Office, 206 West Church, Grand Prairie, Texas, 75050; and the City of Irving Public Works and Transportation Office, 825 West Irving Boulevard, Irving, Texas, 75060.

All interested persons are invited to attend this Public Hearing. Persons requiring special communication or accommodation needs should contact Ms. Jennifer Halstead at HNTB Corporation, (972) 661-5626, at least two (2) working days prior to the Hearing so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Because the Public Hearing will be conducted in English, any request for language interpreters or other special communication needs should also be made at least two (2) working days prior to the Hearing. Every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs will be made.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the proposed tolling can be presented at the Public Hearing. Written comments can also be submitted to the following address: HNTB Corporation, Attn: Jennifer Halstead, 5910 W. Plano Parkway, Suite 200, Plano, Texas 75093. Written comments submitted after the Public Hearing must be hand-delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, October 2, 2006 to be included as part of the official public record.