

## Notice

## Draft Environmental Assessment Available for Public Review and Public Hearing INTERSTATE HIGHWAY (IH) 20

From Lawson Road to east of County Road (CR) 138 (Wilson Road)

CSJs: 0095-14-027, 0095-13-038 & 0495-01-071

## **Dallas and Kaufman Counties, Texas**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), as the lead agency, is proposing improvements to IH 20 from Lawson Road in Dallas County to east of CR 138 (Wilson Road) in Kaufman County, Texas. This notice advises the public that a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting a public hearing on the proposed project. **The hearing will be held on Thursday, November 21, 2019 in the Forney High School cafeteria, 1800 College Avenue, Forney, Texas 75126.** Displays will be available for viewing at 6:00 p.m. with the formal hearing starting at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements and to receive public comment on the proposed project.

Within the project limits, the existing IH 20 is a divided, four- to six-lane highway. There are no frontage roads, bike lanes, or sidewalks within most of the project limits, as the existing frontage road ends just east of Lawson Road. The proposed project would include constructing continuous one-way frontage roads in each direction, reconfiguring the ramps from a "diamond" configuration to an "X" configuration at each interchange, and adding auxiliary lanes on the mainlanes. The total length of the proposed project is 20.39 miles. The proposed frontage roads would consist of a 12-foot wide inside lane, a 14-foot wide shared outside lane, a 4-foot wide inside shoulder and a 2-foot wide outside shoulder. A minimum 5-foot wide sidewalk would be included along the eastbound and westbound frontage roads behind the back of curb. Proposed auxiliary lanes on the mainlanes would be 12 feet wide. The proposed project would also include the reconstruction of the mainlanes to accommodate cross street improvements, and the construction, relocation or modification of 43 ramps. The project proposes to replace, remove, or widen/extend 36 bridges and bridge class culverts.

The existing right-of-way (ROW) is 350 to 550 feet wide. The proposed ROW would be 370 to 565 feet wide. The proposed project would require approximately 85.9 acres of additional ROW and approximately 3.8 acres of permanent easement (drainage easement). The additional ROW required for the project displaces four single-family residences, one commercial property, and a community meeting center for the Heartland subdivision. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program, benefits and services for displacees, as well as information about the tentative schedule for ROW acquisition and construction can be obtained from the TxDOT district office at the address listed below and will be available at the public hearing. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses.

Portions of the proposed project area and construction work would occur in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated 100-year floodplains of East Fork Trinity River, Mustang Creek, Buffalo Creek, Big Brushy Creek, Terry Creek, Little Brushy Creek, Bachelor Creek, Kings Creek, and Eagans Creek. The hydraulic design for this project would be in accordance with current Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and TxDOT design policies. Approximately 0.62 acre of streams, 0.08 acre of impoundments, and 1.12 acre of wetlands associated with Waters of the United States would be

permanently filled and authorized under a United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 Nationwide Permit 14 and 25 with pre-construction notification to the USACE.

The draft EA, maps showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the project are on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Dallas District Office located at 4777 East Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150 and are available online at www.keepitmovingdallas.com under Upcoming Public Hearings/Meetings and at www.txdot.gov. This information also will be available for inspection at the hearing.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the project are requested and may be presented at the hearing, or submitted in person or by mail to the TxDOT Dallas District Office, Attention Mr. Stephen Endres, P.E., 4777 East Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150. Comments must be received on or before Friday, December 6, 2019 to be part of the official hearing record.

The hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs, such as the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact the TxDOT Dallas District Public Information Office at (214) 320-4480. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the hearing, please contact TxDOT Project Manager, Mr. Stephen Endres, P.E. at (214) 320-4469 or by email at Stephen.Endres@txdot.gov.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.