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Notice Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact Available for Public Review INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 35 EAST (I-35E) AND U.S. HIGHWAY 67 (US 67) PROJECT Project Limits: I-35E from US 67 to I-30; and, US 67 from I-20 to I-35E CSJs: 0442-02-088, 0196-03-269, 0261-03-030 Dallas County, Texas

Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, §2.108, this notice advises the public that a final environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has issued a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for the proposed I-35E/US 67 Project from I-35E from US 67 to I-30; and, US 67 from I-20 to I-35E in Dallas County, Texas.

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.

TxDOT proposes improvements to I-35E and US 67 within the City of Dallas, in Dallas County, Texas. The project is approximately 11 miles in length. The proposed project would generally follow the existing alignment and would require approximately 3.63 acres of additional right-of-way (ROW) and 1.56 acres for a permanent drainage easement. The proposed project would result in relocation of 1 residence, 24 businesses, and 3 billboards. The proposed project would include the following improvements.

- I-35E between Colorado Blvd. and Reunion Blvd.: Convert two reversible HOV lanes under construction to two reversible non-tolled express lanes.
- I-35E between the US 67 and Colorado Blvd.: Full reconstruction of the freeway and frontage roads and associated ramp modifications and intersection improvements to increase the mainlanes from eight to 10 lanes, include two reversible non-tolled express lanes, and increase the number of frontage road lanes from four to four to six lanes.
- US 67 from I-20 to I-35E: Partial reconstruction to widen the mainlanes from four to six lanes and ramp modifications, change the existing two concurrent HOV lanes to one reversible non-tolled express lane within the existing median, and ramp modifications.
- Sidewalks and shared use lanes to accommodate vehicles and bicyclists would be implemented along those frontage roads where reconstruction is proposed.
- Dedicated bicycle lanes and sidewalks would be implemented at cross-streets proposed for reconstruction. Due to the lack of recommendations from stakeholders, guidance from trail master plans, as well as safety and operational concerns, pedestrian and bicycle accommodations are not proposed along mainlanes or ramps.

To avoid noise impacts that may result from future development adjacent to a proposed highway project, a traffic noise analysis is included in the final EA, which includes predicted noise impact contours for currently undeveloped areas. These impact contours are intended as a general guide to assist local planning officials and developers plan and construct new activities in locations that would not result in traffic noise impacts. On the date of approval/clearance of an EA/FONSI (including the traffic noise analysis) for a proposed highway project, TxDOT is no longer responsible for providing noise abatement for new development.

Copies of the approved, final combined EA and FONSI, certification of public involvement, and supporting documentation are available for public inspection at TxDOT Dallas District Office, 4777 E. Highway 80, Mesquite, TX 75150-6643. The project materials are available online at <u>www.thesoutherngateway.org</u> under "Stay Involved". For further information, please contact Ms. Sandra Williams, Environmental Specialist, at (214) 320-6686 or by email at Sandra.williams2@txdot.gov.

OUR VALUES: People • Accountability • Trust • Honesty

OUR MISSION: Through collaboration and leadership, we deliver a safe, reliable, and integrated transportation system that enables the movement of people and goods.