

Virtual Public Meeting – Power Point Narration

FARM TO MARKET 1171 (FM 1171)

DENTON COUNTY

CSJ: 1311-01-055

SLIDE 1 – Title Slide

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the FM 1171 virtual public meeting. We appreciate your interest in the FM 1171 Project and welcome each of you.

Please note you may pause this presentation at any point to allow more time to view the slides.

SLIDE 2 – TxDOT Introduction

[Text from video follows:]

“Howdy, I’m John Hudspeth, Director of Transportation Planning and Development for the TxDOT Dallas District. Thank you for joining us for as we conduct this virtual public event. Understanding how our projects impact communities is important to TxDOT.

The following presentation will provide instruction on how you can connect with us and provide vital input about this project. We will continue to work closely with stakeholders, communities, and the public as we move forward. Thank you for your time and interest in improving our transportation system, and we look forward to receiving your comments.”

SLIDE 3 – Response to Public Health

Given the unique circumstance of the COVID-19 outbreak, along with our commitment to protecting public health during this national emergency, TxDOT is conducting this virtual public meeting to minimize in-person contact.

Details on how to submit a comment and have your questions addressed will be covered later on in this presentation. All project information can be found on the TxDOT website listed on the slide.

SLIDE 4 – Virtual Public Meeting Purpose

The virtual public meeting has been convened by TxDOT and is being held to receive and consider comments from the public regarding the FM 1171 Project. Feedback collected from this public meeting will be used as we proceed with the project design.

The virtual public meeting is being held in compliance with both federal and state laws.

SLIDE 5 – How to Submit Your Comments

Comments will be accepted in a number of ways. You may fill out a Comment Online, submit a written comment via email to Nazrul.Chowdhury@txdot.gov, submit a written comment via mail to TxDOT Dallas District Office, Attention Nazrul Chowdhury, P.E. 4777 E. Highway 80, Mesquite, TX 75150, or leave a verbal comment via voicemail at (833) 933-0441. There is a link for a PDF Comment Form that

can be filled out on the computer and emailed to the address provided, or printed, filled out by hand, and then mailed to the address provided.

Comments must be received or postmarked by July 23, 2021 to be part of the official virtual public meeting record.

Questions on this project may be directed to the TxDOT project manager, Nazrul Chowdhury, P.E. at Nazrul.Chowdhury@txdot.gov.

SLIDE 6 – Project Location, Need and Purpose

TxDOT is proposing the construction of an approximate 3.4-mile new location extension of FM 1171 in Denton County.

The proposed FM 1171 project is needed to address population and economic growth, regional transportation demand, and system linkages in the study area and northern Dallas – Fort Worth Region.

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a facility that would accommodate expanding transportation demands resulting from population growth and economic development in the region; increase mobility and accessibility in the region; and to provide an east to west transportation facility to serve the communities in the project area.

SLIDE 7 – Existing Facility

The proposed FM 1171 project will be a new location roadway and will extend the existing FM 1171 roadway. This project is located in a developing area in Denton County. The area adjacent to the proposed project consists of undeveloped lands, scattered single-family residences, commercial development, and oil/gas well pad sites. The majority of the project area consists of pasture, agricultural fields, disturbed and undisturbed oak-juniper woodlands, and large areas of hardwood riparian zones. Portions of the proposed project would be located within the 100-year flood plain and floodway.

SLIDE 8 – Proposed Roadway

Construction within the project limits would consist of both urban and rural roadway sections.

Within the urbanized sections of the roadway, the new location non-freeway curbed roadway would consist of three 12-foot lanes in each direction, with an 18-foot wide median, 2-foot curb offsets, and 10-foot wide shared use paths with American Disabilities Act curb ramps in both directions. The usual right-of-way (ROW) width for the urban roadway is 200 feet. The design speed in the urban sections is 40 miles per hour.

SLIDE 9 – Proposed Roadway Cont.

Within the rural section of the roadway, the new location non-freeway roadway would consist of two 12-foot lanes (ultimate 6-lanes) in each direction, a 60-foot wide depressed median, 4-foot inside shoulders, and 10-foot outside shoulders accommodating bicycles. The usual ROW width for the rural roadway is 200 feet.

12-foot wide turn lanes would be constructed where appropriate at various locations throughout the project corridor. Proposed drainage will be conveyed by curb and gutter, a storm sewer system and crossing culverts. The design speed for the proposed roadway is 70 miles per hour for the rural section.

SLIDE 10 - Proposed Roadway Cont.

The project also proposes the construction of two new bridges:

- The proposed FM 1171 Bridge section spanning FM 156, B.N.S.F. Railroad, the GE Test Track Railroad, and Justin Cemetery Road, a length of approximately 535 feet. The usual right of way width varies from 250 feet to 300 feet.
- The proposed FM 1171 Bridge section spanning Denton Creek, a length of approximately 2,940 feet. This bridge will be constructed in phases interim and ultimate. The interim phase would consist of two 12-foot lanes in each direction with a 22-foot inside shoulder and a 10-foot outside shoulder. The ultimate phase would consist of three 12-foot lanes in each direction with a 10-foot inside and outside shoulder. The usual ROW width for both phases is 200 feet.

SLIDE 11 – Utility Adjustments

Utility adjustments and relocations throughout the corridor would be required prior to construction.

The adjustments and relocation of any utilities would be managed so that no substantial interruptions would occur.

SLIDE 12 – Projected Cost & Schedule

The FM 1171 Project is anticipated to be Ready to Let by Winter 2026 and will take approximately 3 years to construct. “Letting” is when TxDOT notifies the construction community that a project is ready to be bid on. Construction on a project begins after the letting process is complete. The total estimated cost for the entire project is approximately \$83.6 million. There is currently no funding for this project.

This concludes the project information and design portion of the presentation.

SLIDE 13 – Memorandum of Understanding

Prior to December 16, 2014, the Federal Highway Administration, or FHWA, reviewed and approved documents prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act, known as NEPA; however, on December 16, 2014 TxDOT assumed responsibility from FHWA through a Memorandum of Understanding to review and approve certain assigned NEPA environmental documents. This Memorandum of Understanding between TxDOT and FHWA was updated on December 9, 2019. The review and approval process applies to this project.

Environmental studies would be conducted for the proposed FM 1171 Project to support an environmental clearance in accordance with NEPA. These environmental analyses are necessary to identify, avoid, and minimize effects to the Human and Natural Environments.

SLIDE 14 – Right-of-Way

Approximately 98 acres of new ROW and 0.65 acre of permanent drainage easements would be required to complete the proposed improvements. ROW would be acquired from properties along the north and south sides of the project. The proposed project would potentially displace one vacant structure.

All ROW acquisition would be completed in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended. Brochures titled “The Purchase of Right of Way,” and “Relocation Assistance,” are available on the project website. These materials contain detailed information to inform you of your rights and provide information about the TxDOT ROW acquisition process.

SLIDE 15 – Next Steps and Timeline

The public comment period for the proposed project ends July 23, 2021. Following this Virtual Public Meeting, documentation of this public meeting will be reviewed by TxDOT for design changes. The next steps include beginning environmental review, further refining the project design, and identifying funding.

The project has an anticipated Ready to Let Date of Winter 2026.

SLIDE 16 – Public Comments

As mentioned earlier, comments will be accepted in four ways, which are outlined on this slide.

All comments will be fully considered and responded to in the project record and made part of the final environmental document for this proposed project. This document will then be made available for public review online at the project website.

All of your statements, comments and questions will be given careful consideration before final design features are determined. As a reminder, all comments must be received or postmarked by July 23, 2021.

SLIDE 17 – “Thank You for your Interest” / Meeting is now Adjourned

Ladies and gentlemen, we sincerely appreciate your attendance and interest concerning the proposed design of the FM 1171 Project.

Thank you, this concludes the presentation.