



FM 1385 Reconstruction Project

Virtual Public Meeting Script

SLIDE 1 – Welcome Slide

Hello and welcome to the FM 1385 virtual public meeting. We appreciate your interest in the FM 1385 Project and thank each of you for your participation.

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

SLIDE 2 – Virtual Public Meeting Response to Public Health

Given the unique circumstances of the COVID-19 outbreak, along with our commitment to protecting our public health during this pandemic, the Texas Department of Transportation is conducting virtual public meetings until further notice to avoid in-person contact. At this time, the virtual format is being held in lieu of an in-person public meeting.

This presentation will cover the same information that the Dallas District would have shared at the in-person public meeting. However, the comment process will be different. Details on how to submit a comment and how to have your questions addressed will be covered later in this presentation. All project information can be found on the project website at www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1385.

SLIDE 3 – Virtual Public Meeting Purpose

This virtual public meeting has been convened by TxDOT and is being held to receive and consider comments from the public regarding the FM 1385 Project.

You may have attended previous public meetings conducted by TxDOT. However, for the benefit of those who have never attended one, I will explain why and how the Department conducts a public meeting.

A public meeting has four essential purposes:

1. To inform the public of the status of planning efforts on the project and to present the recommendations based on studies performed to date.
2. To describe the project to the public including known potential project impacts to the human and natural environment.
3. To provide the public an opportunity to view information and express their ideas and concerns at this stage in the planning process when flexibility to respond to comments exists and before location and design decisions are finalized.



FM 1385 Reconstruction Project

Virtual Public Meeting Script

4. And finally, to develop a record of public views and participation to accompany recommendations for subsequent decisions.

This virtual public meeting is being held in compliance with both federal and state laws. Documentation of this meeting will be made available for the official record.

SLIDE 4 – How to Submit Your Comments

Following this virtual public meeting, the Department will proceed with the preparation of the final environmental documentation. Your comments will be addressed in this document and will be given full consideration in the preparation of the final recommendations and design for the FM 1385 Project.

Comments will be accepted in several ways. You may fill out an online comment form, submit a written comment via email to Edra.Brashear@txdot.gov, submit a written comment via US mail to TxDOT Dallas District Office, Attention Edra Brashear, P.E., 4777 E. Highway 80, Mesquite, TX 75150, or leave a verbal comment via voicemail at (833) 933-0432.

Comments must be received or postmarked within 15 days of the meeting date, which is September 30, 2020, to be part of the official virtual public meeting record.

Questions on this project may be directed to the TxDOT Project Manager, Edra Brashear, P.E. at edra.brashear@txdot.gov.

SLIDE 5 – Viewing Design Schematic and Project Information

I will now explain the design aspects of the FM 1385 project. The design schematic and other project information for the FM 1385 Project may be viewed at www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1385. The information on this website is the same information being presented in this presentation.

Slide 6 – Project Location

FM 1385 is a 12.03-mile connection between US 380 and FM 455 in Denton County. The proposed project is located within the Cities of Little Elm, Aubrey, Pilot Point, Celina, and the Town of Prosper.



FM 1385 Reconstruction Project

Virtual Public Meeting Script

SLIDE 7 – Project Details

TxDOT is proposing to reconstruct and widen FM 1385 from US 380 to FM 455 in Denton County. The project would include construction of a 6-lane divided urban roadway from US 380 to Mustang Road and a 4-lane interim (6-lane ultimate) divided urban roadway from Mustang Road to FM 455. A new location realignment of the central portion of FM 1385 at Mustang Road is proposed to directly connect FM 1385 to the north and south without requiring vehicles to travel along the Mustang Road portion of the existing FM 1385. Additionally, a new-location realignment of the southern portion of FM 1385 at Gee Road is also proposed. This would flatten out the existing “S” curve at Gee Road and improve mobility along FM 423 at the intersection with FM 1385. These proposed new-alignment locations will be discussed and graphically illustrated later in this presentation.

SLIDE 8 – Project Purpose and Need

The proposed project is needed to meet future travel demands stemming from projected population growth and traffic volumes. The overall goal is to provide a facility that will accommodate future traffic and improve safety with additional lanes and reconstructed intersections at FM 1385 and Mustang Road and at FM 1385 and Gee Road.

SLIDE 9 – Existing Roadway Typical Sections

Within the project limits, the current FM 1385 facility varies between a two-lane rural undivided roadway and a two-lane divided roadway with a center turn lane. The existing roadway has 12-foot wide shoulders. The existing right-of-way varies from 80 to 120 feet wide and the central portion of the existing FM 1385 roadway within the project area ties into Mustang Road. This Mustang Road portion of the existing roadway consists of a sharp curve in the roadway as well as a three-way-intersection. FM 1385 at Gee Road includes an existing S-curve roadway alignment.

SLIDE 10 – Proposed Roadway Typical Sections

The proposed FM 1385 would be reconstructed and widened from an existing two-lane rural highway to ultimately a six-lane divided urban roadway. FM 1385 from US 380 to Mustang Road is proposed to be constructed as a 6-lane facility while the roadway from Mustang Road to FM 455 is proposed to be constructed as a 4-lane interim facility.



FM 1385 Reconstruction Project

Virtual Public Meeting Script

The majority of the project area follows the existing FM 1385 roadway alignment. However, two areas are being proposed for new location roadway realignments to address mobility and safety concerns.

SLIDE 11 – Proposed Roadway Realignment at Mustang Road

This figure illustrates the proposed new location realignment of the central portion of FM 1385 at Mustang Road. The 0.9-mile-long realignment is located south of Mustang Road and would directly connect FM 1385 to the north and to the south without requiring vehicles to travel along the Mustang Road portion of the existing FM 1385.

SLIDE 12 – Proposed Roadway Realignment at Gee Road

This figure illustrates the proposed new location realignment of FM 1385 within the Southern portion of the project area at Gee Road. This 0.45-mile realignment is located southeast of the current alignment. This would flatten out the existing “S” curve at Gee Road and improve mobility at this intersection with FM 1385.

SLIDE 13 – Projected Cost and Schedule

The FM 1385 Project is anticipated to be Ready to Let by Spring 2024 and would 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 construction cost for the project is approximately \$154.8 million. The project is currently unfunded.

This concludes the project information and design portion of the presentation. The next few slides will provide an overview of the environmental evaluation for the proposed FM 1385 Project.

SLIDE 14 – National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Assignment to the Texas Department of Transportation

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 the Texas Department of Transportation assumed responsibility from FHWA through a Memorandum of Understanding to review and approve certain assigned NEPA environmental documents.



FM 1385 Reconstruction Project

Virtual Public Meeting Script

This Memorandum of Understanding between TxDOT and FHWA was updated on December 9, 2019. The review and approval process apply to this project.

Environmental studies are being conducted for the proposed FM 1385 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.

The technical environmental documentation will be approved for further processing by TxDOT and would be coordinated with other public agencies. Notices for this public meeting were advertised in the *Denton Record-Chronicle*, *Al Día*, and *380 News*, on the TxDOT.gov website under "Hearings and Meetings Schedule" and on www.keepitmovingdallas.com under "Public Hearings and Meetings." The TxDOT Public Information Office also prepared a news media release to advertise the public meeting. The TxDOT roadway design schematics are available on the project website at www.keepitmovingdallas.com.

SLIDE 15 – Environmental Constraints Map

The project Environmental Constraints Map is used to help planners and engineers determine the least impactful method to fulfill the Purpose of the project. The full map can be viewed on the project website. In the case of FM 1385, some of the major known constraints are Bold Cross Cowboy Church, Iglesia Bautista Hispana de Mustang and Peachtree Park. Environmental studies for this project are ongoing.

SLIDE 16 – Environmental Review – Right-of-Way

This project is currently determining potential right-of-way needs which could include displacements to residential, non-residential, and other secondary structures.

All right-of-way 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 to provide information about the TxDOT right-of-way acquisition process.

SLIDE 17 – Project Timeline

The public comment period for the proposed project ends on September 30, 2020. Following this virtual public meeting, the project design will be refined per public input, a public hearing will occur, and environmental studies will be developed. If there are no major issues arising from the environmental analysis



FM 1385 Reconstruction Project

Virtual Public Meeting Script

that cannot be addressed in a reasonable time frame, final environmental clearance is expected in Late 2021.

The project has an anticipated Ready to Let Date of Spring 2024. Construction will begin once the project is let.

SLIDE 18 – We Request Your Feedback

As mentioned earlier, comments will be accepted in four ways, which are outlined here. 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 www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1385.

All statements, comments and questions will be given careful consideration before final design features are determined. All information developed for the proposed design is available for public inspection and copying at www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1385. As a reminder, all comments must be received or postmarked by September 30, 2020.

SLIDE 19 – “Thank You”

We sincerely appreciate your participation and interest concerning the proposed design of the FM 1385 Project. Your questions, comments, and concerns will receive careful consideration.

Thank you, this concludes the presentation.