TxDOT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Proposed SH 31 Relief Route From SH31 West of Corsicana to SH 31 East of Corsicana CSJ: 0162-11-001, 0093-01-093

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 16, 2014, for the proposed construction of the SH 31 Relief Route (from SH 31- 3.2 miles west of FM 2555 to SH 31 - 3.7 miles east of IH 45) and IH 45 Interchange (from FM 739 to 15th Street in Corsicana) in Navarro County, Texas.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to present the anticipated social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed project. The Public Hearing will be held at Navarro College, Cook Center, 3100 W Collin St, Corsicana, TX 75110. Prior to the Public Hearing, an Open House will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., to allow for questions and review of project exhibits. TxDOT staff and project consultants will be available to answer questions during the Open House. The formal Public Hearing presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. followed by a public comment period.

The proposed project would construct a grade-separated, 4-lane freeway with continuous frontage roads around the southern side of Corsicana on new location. The length of the preferred alignment is 14 miles. The main lanes would consist of two 12-foot wide lanes and a 4-foot wide inside shoulder and 10-foot wide outside shoulders. The frontage roads would consist of one 12-foot wide lane and one 14-foot wide lane with a 4-foot-wide inside shoulder. The project would include improvements to IH 45 at its intersection with the Relief Route, including grade separation and converting existing two-way frontage roads to one way. The proposed project would be constructed within a variable right-of-way (ROW) width with typical width of 400 feet. There would be no residential or commercial displacements as a result of the project. Approximately 654 acres of additional ROW would be needed to accommodate the proposed improvements. The proposed project would impact the FEMA-designated 100-year floodplain. The proposed project would permanently impact approximately 14.5 acres of the US and associated wetlands. Approximately 4.95 acres would be temporarily impacted and restored to pre-existing conditions after construction is completed. The project also would propose use of a portion of property eligible for placement on the National Register of Historic Places (NHRP).

Maps showing the project's location and geometric design will be available for viewing at the Public Hearing. This information will also be available for inspection at the TxDOT Dallas District Office (4777 East Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150) and the TxDOT Navarro County Area Office (100 SW County Road 1000, Corsicana, Texas, 75110). Information about the tentative schedules for ROW acquisition and construction may be obtained at the Public Hearing or from the TxDOT offices listed above.

All interested persons are invited to attend this Public Hearing. Persons requiring special communication or accommodation needs should contact the TxDOT Dallas District Public Information Office at (214) 320-4480 at least two working days prior to the Public Hearing so appropriate arrangements can be made. Because the Public Hearing will be conducted in English, any request for language interpretation or other special communication needs should also be made at least two (2) working days prior to the Public Hearing. Every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs will be made.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the proposed project may be presented at the Public Hearing. Written comments submitted after the Public Hearing may be presented either in person or by mail to:

Michael A. Renfrow, P.E. TxDOT Dallas District APD 4777 East Highway 80 Mesquite, Texas 75150

Written comments submitted after the Public Hearing must be postmarked on or before Friday, September 26, 2014, to be included in the Public Hearing record. For additional information please contact Michael A. Renfrow, P.E. at 214 320-4472 or e-mail him at <u>Mike.Renfrow@txdot.gov</u>.