



Notice Draft Environmental Assessment Available for Public Review and Public Hearing

STATE HIGHWAY (SH) 121

From Collin County Outer Loop to North of CR 635 (Fannin County Line)

Collin and Fannin Counties, Texas

CSJ: 0549-03-021, 0549-03-024, 0549-03-028, and 0549-02-028

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing improvements to State Highway (SH) 121 by widening the facility from a two-lane facility to a four-lane divided facility from the Collin County Outer Loop to north of County Road (CR) 635 in Collin and Fannin Counties, Texas. Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter E, §2.107 and §2.108 and Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Chapter I, Subchapter H, §771.111 and Title 40, Chapter V, §1506, this notice advises the public that a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and technical reports are available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting a public hearing on the proposed project. The hearing will be held on **Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at the First Baptist Church Melissa, 2101 East Melissa Road, Melissa, TX 75454. 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.

The proposed SH 121 improvements would include reconstructing and widening the existing two-lane undivided roadway facility to a rural four-lane divided highway (two lanes in each direction) consisting of 12-ft wide travel lanes, with a 40-ft wide grass median, with grass-lined ditches, a four-ft. wide inside shoulders, and discontinuous frontage roads. As per the U.S. Department of Transportation's Policy Statement on Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations, Regulations and Recommendations and TxDOT's Guidelines Emphasizing Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations, and based on the proposed project area's location within a predominately rural sector of Collin County, the 10-ft wide outside shoulders would serve as bicycle accommodations for projects. Grade separated intersections are proposed at FM 455 and FM 2862. The length of the SH 121 proposed widening improvement project is approximately 9.52 miles. Approximately 165.075 acres of new right-of-way (ROW) and 2.417 acres of permanent easement would be necessary for the proposed project construction. The proposed project is located within the 100-year floodplain associated with 14 streams identified within the project area. The hydraulic design for the proposed project would be in accordance with current TxDOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) design policies and standards. The proposed project would potentially displace four residences, one commercial building, and one structure (barn) property. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program, benefits and services for displacees, as well as information about the tentative schedules for ROW acquisition and construction, can be obtained from the TxDOT Dallas District Office at the address listed below. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses.

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 TxDOT Dallas District Office located at 4777 East Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150 and online at www.keepitmovingdallas.com under Upcoming Public Hearing/Meeting and at under "Public Hearings/Meetings", at www.txdot.gov under "Hearings and Meetings Schedule". This information also will be available for inspection at the hearing on **Tuesday, August 8, 2017**. 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 Ms. Sandra Williams, Texas Department of Transportation Dallas District Office, 4777 East US Highway 80, Mesquite, TX 75150. Comments must be received on or before **Wednesday, August 23, 2017** 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 **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 Grace Lo, P.E. at (214) 320-6627 or email her at Grace.Lo@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.

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