

Farm-to-Market (FM) 6 From SH 78 to Hunt County Line CSJ: 0619-01-027

Public Meeting Script

SLIDE 1 - Welcome Slide

The Texas Department of Transportation, or TxDOT, welcomes you to the FM 6 virtual public meeting. We appreciate your interest in the project and thank you for your participation.

Please note, for the virtual public meeting you can pause this presentation at any point to allow more time to view the slides or get a more detailed view of project information and other exhibits on the website.

SLIDE 2 - 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 6 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 while the ability to respond to comments is still flexible and before location and design decisions are finalized.
- 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.



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SLIDE 3 - Viewing Design Schematic and Project Information

I will now explain the design aspects of the FM 6 Project. The design schematic under consideration and other project information for the Project may be viewed at www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM6. The information on this website is the same information being shown in this presentation.

SLIDE 4 - Project Location

Within the project limits, the existing FM 6 intersects with SH 78 in Collin County, then continues east to the end of the project limits at Hunt County line. The project limits are shown on the map. A larger, more detailed version of this location map is also available online.

SLIDE 5 - Project Purpose and Need

The purpose of the proposed project is to meet local and regional future travel demand by increasing capacity of FM 6; upgrade the transportation infrastructure to meet current FHWA and TxDOT design standards; and improve the safety of the roadway by correcting access conflicts.

The proposed action is needed because the existing two-lane FM 6 roadway between SH 78 and Hunt County Line is inadequate to meet future traffic volumes, resulting in congestion and reduced mobility, and is a risk to motorist safety because of roadway design deficiencies.

SLIDE 6 - Existing Roadway Typical Section

The existing roadway from SH 78 to Hunt County Line in Collin County has two 11.5-foot main lanes, an intermittent center left-turn lane, 1-foot-wide outside shoulders, and grass-lined drainage easements. No sidewalks currently exist along the roadway. The existing FM 6 ROW width ranges from 60-ft to 100-ft throughout the length of the project.

A safety improvement job is currently under construction along the FM 6 project limits. The construction involves updating FM 6 to two 11-foot travel lanes, 3-ft wide shoulders, and rumble strips. The existing driveway culverts are also being replaced. The current work will be completed in Winter 2023.

<u>SLIDE 7 - Proposed Roadway Typical Sections</u>

For the interim project, the proposed reconstruction of FM 6 will include two 12-foot traffic lanes in each direction, continuous 10-foot-wide shared-use paths in each direction, and an 18-foot raised median. The ultimate project would add a third lane in each direction, for a total of six travel lanes.



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The existing roadside ditches will be filled and replaced with a closed storm sewer system. The proposed ROW width would vary between 140-ft and 160-ft.

SLIDE 8 - Projected Cost and Schedule

The FM 6 Project is anticipated to be ready to let in late 2026 and would take approximately 3 years to construct. The total estimated project cost is \$130 million. The construction phase of 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 6 Project.

<u>SLIDE 9 - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Assignment to the Texas Department of Transportation</u>

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. 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 6 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 Dallas Morning News, Al Día, McKinney Courier Gazette*, and on theTxDOT.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/FM6

SLIDE 10 - 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



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website. In the case of FM 6, some of the major known constraints include stream crossings, several gas stations and auto salvage yards near the project limits, and crossings of the 100-year floodplain. Environmental studies for this project are ongoing.

SLIDE 11 - Environmental Review - Right-of-Way

Approximately 45 acres of new right-of-way would be required for the proposed improvements. The proposed project would potentially displace 21 structures on commercial, residential, and non-residential properties. 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 12 - Project Timeline

The public comment period for the proposed project ends on Friday, November 4, 2022. Following this public meeting, the project design will be refined per public input, environmental studies will be developed, and additional public involvement will be held. If there are no major issues from the environmental analysis that cannot be addressed in a reasonable time frame, final environmental clearance is expected in late 2023.

SLIDE 13 – We Request Your Feedback

Comments will be accepted in five 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/FM6. All 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 Friday, November 4, 2022 to be included in the official public meeting documentation.

SLIDE 14 - "Thank You"

We sincerely appreciate your participation and interest concerning the proposed design of the FM 6 Project. Thank you, this concludes the presentation.