



# FM 455

## Public Meeting Script

### **SLIDE 1 – Welcome Slide**

Hello and welcome to the public meeting for Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 455 Feasibility Study from Dallas Parkway to Shady Brook Lane. This public meeting has been convened by the Texas Department of Transportation and is being held to receive and consider comments from the public. We appreciate your interest in this study and thank you for your participation.

Please note, you may pause this presentation at any point to allow more time to review the information.

### **SLIDE 2 – End the Streak**

November 7, 2000 was the last deathless day on Texas roadways. That means for over 22 years, at least one person has died every single day. We all have a part to play to change that. This message is that reminder – to End the Streak of deaths on Texas highways. We need drivers and passengers to act more responsibly and help us reach our goal of zero deaths by 2050. Texans can play a major role in ending fatal crashes with a few simple driving habits: wear seatbelts, drive the speed limit, put away the phone and other distractions, and never drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs. So please do your part and share this message with your friends and family.

### **SLIDE 3 – Public Meeting Purpose**

You may have attended previous public meetings conducted by TxDOT. However, for the benefit of those of you who have never attended one, we 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 study and present the recommendations based on technical analysis performed to date.
2. To describe the study to the public including known and potential impacts to the human and natural environment.
3. To provide the public an opportunity to view information and express their ideas.
4. And finally, to develop a record of public views and participation to accompany recommendations for subsequent decisions.

This public meeting is being held in compliance with both federal and state laws. Following this meeting, the Department will proceed with completing the feasibility study and evaluating the preliminary alternatives. Your statements and comments will be addressed and will be given full consideration in the preparation of the final recommendation for the FM 455 Feasibility Study.



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### **SLIDE 4 – Viewing Study Information**

The preliminary alternatives being evaluated for the FM 455 feasibility study are available for inspection and reproduction at the TxDOT Dallas District Office, located at 4777 East US Highway 80 in Mesquite, Texas 75150. In addition, other study information for FM 455 may be viewed at [www.keepitmovingdallas.com/projects/fm-roads/fm455FS](http://www.keepitmovingdallas.com/projects/fm-roads/fm455FS). The information on this website is the same information being shown in this presentation.

### **Slide 5 – Study Area**

The FM 455 study limits are from Dallas Parkway to east of Shady Brook Lane. The study corridor is approximately 9 miles and is located within the City of Celina in Collin County, Texas. The alignments being shown on the screen are the seven preliminary alternatives being evaluated and presented for public comment. The feasibility study analyzes potential roadway alignment options for the FM 455 corridor, including improving existing alignments and constructing possible new corridor alignment locations.

### **SLIDE 6 – Study Purpose and Need**

The purpose of the study is to identify and evaluate FM 455 roadway options to increase mobility and safety, improve traffic operations, and to enhance local and regional connectivity.

The study is needed because local development and population growth continue to increase, resulting in higher traffic volumes, reduced mobility and safety conditions, and inefficient roadway connections.

### **SLIDE 7 – Existing Typical Section**

The existing FM 455 facility mostly consists of two undivided 12-foot-wide lanes and 2-foot-wide shoulders. No center median, sidewalks, shared-use paths and no grade separated intersections currently exist along the corridor. The existing right of way width within the corridor varies between 80 and 100 feet.

### **SLIDE 8 – Proposed Typical Section**

The proposed project would include widening to an interim 4-lane urban roadway with a wide raised median to accommodate for a future lane in each direction for an ultimate 6-lane roadway.

The interim improvements would consist of two lanes in each direction and the ultimate configuration would consist of three lanes in each direction. Lane widths would vary from 11-foot to 12-foot wide depending on ROW restrictions, 10-foot shared use paths in each direction, and intersection improvements, with turn lanes where applicable, at side and cross streets. The preliminary alternatives would require portions following existing roadways and portions constructing new location roadway. The typical proposed right of way width would range from 125 feet to 140 feet.



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### **SLIDE 9 – Preliminary Alternatives**

There are seven proposed alignments being considered for evaluation. These preliminary alternatives extend from Dallas Parkway to tie back into the existing FM 455 just east of Shady Brook Lane. Many of these preliminary alternatives overlap and run east-west within the northern portion of the City of Celina. Note that once a new roadway alignment is constructed, the existing FM roadway becomes a local road and will be maintained by the local government.

Large scale images of each preliminary alternative are available to be viewed on the project website as well as a link to an interactive map to zoom into specific areas of interest.

### **SLIDE 10 – Preliminary Alternatives and Considerations**

The preliminary alternatives are proposed to accommodate other planned developments, provide a more direct connection through the study limits, consider feedback received through coordination with local governments, and be consistent with existing thoroughfare plans. Thoroughfare plans are produced by local governments to help plan future roads and developments for their cities and counties. These plans were considered in the location of the preliminary alternatives to make sure they align well with the future roadway network anticipated in the area.

### **SLIDE 11 – Celina and Collin County Thoroughfare Plans**

The City of Celina and Collin County have thoroughfare plans that were considered and incorporated in determining the proposed preliminary alignments and locations. Celina made updates to their thoroughfare plan in 2020 and Collin County's latest thoroughfare plan was also updated in 2020. The map on the screen shows the latest potential roadways reflected on the City of Celina and Collin County thoroughfare plans along with the FM 455 preliminary alternatives. This map can be viewed full size on the project website.

### **SLIDE 12 – Evaluation Matrix**

The preliminary alternatives were evaluated using several criteria that fall under the major categories of purpose and need, which is the purpose of the study and why improvements are needed, engineering requirements, potential property impacts and right of way requirements, environmental and natural resource constraints, public stakeholder and agency input. This matrix can be viewed full size on the project website.

### **SLIDE 13 – NEPA Assignment to the TxDOT**

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



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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 study.

Notices for this public meeting were advertised in *The Dallas Morning News*, *Celina Record*, and *Al Dia* and on [www.keepitmovingdallas.com](http://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 preliminary alternatives are available on the project website at [www.keepitmovingdallas.com/projects/fm-roads/fm455FS](http://www.keepitmovingdallas.com/projects/fm-roads/fm455FS).

### **SLIDE 14 – Environmental Constraints**

The Environmental Constraints Map is used to help planners and engineers determine the least impactful method to fulfill the purpose of the study. Representative environmental constraints such as residential structures, businesses, parks, streams, schools, floodplains, wetlands, historical markers, cemeteries, fire stations and other community facilities were evaluated to determine if any sites are located along or near the study corridor. The assessment of adjacent sites and potential impacts is included as part of the overall evaluation of the preliminary alternatives. This map can be viewed at full size on the project website.

### **SLIDE 15 – Study Timeline and Next Steps**

The study timeline is shown on the screen and can also be viewed on the project website. Following this meeting, the Department will proceed with the feasibility study and evaluating the preliminary alternatives. Public comments and additional agency and stakeholder coordination and feedback will be addressed and will be given full consideration in preparing the study recommendations for the FM 455 Feasibility Study. A second public meeting will be held to present a recommended alternative and provide a second opportunity for the public to provide feedback and comments.

### **SLIDE 16 – We Request Your Feedback**

Comments will be accepted in a variety of ways as listed on the screen. Comments must be received or postmarked by Wednesday, July 5, 2023, to be included in the official public meeting record. Following this public meeting, the study team will proceed with the completion of the feasibility study. Your comments will be addressed and will be given full consideration in the preparation of the final recommendations for FM 455.

### **SLIDE 17 – Thank You**

We sincerely appreciate your participation and interest concerning proposed improvements to FM 455. Your questions, comments, and concerns will receive careful consideration. Thank you, this concludes the presentation.