



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Proposed Improvements to SH 161 From South of SH 183 to north of Belt Line Road Dallas County CSJ: 2964-01-048

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a Public Meeting for the purpose of soliciting public comment on the proposed improvements to State Highway (SH) 161 from south of SH 183 approximately 0.90 mile to approximately 1.02 miles north of Belt Line Road in Irving, Dallas County, Texas. The meeting will be held at the **MacArthur High School Cafeteria, 3700 North MacArthur, Irving, Texas on November 15, 2016**. The Public Meeting will be an Open House format from **6:00 pm to 8:00 pm** with no formal presentation.

The existing SH 161 roadway facility is a four-lane freeway (two lanes in each direction) with two Peak Hour Travel Lanes used during the morning and evening travel times. The proposed project would modify SH 161 by reconstructing the freeway and interim lanes to accommodate an eight-lane freeway (four freeway lanes in each direction). The extent of the proposed project would be approximately 5.5 miles; construction of the additional lanes would occur within the existing right-of-way for 3.3 miles. Approximately 1.3 miles of re-striping would occur on the southern end of the project area and 0.43 mile of re-striping on the northern extent of the project area. The reconstructed portion of SH 161 would have freeway lanes 12-foot-wide with a ten-foot-wide outside shoulder and a ten-foot-wide inside shoulder. Eleven ramps would provide access between the frontage road lanes and the freeway lanes. The proposed ramp lanes would be 14-foot-wide with an eight-foot-wide outside shoulder, and a four-foot-wide inside shoulder.

Three of the four existing direct connector bridges that provide access to and from the SH 183 and SH 161 Interchange would be reconstructed up to the structure approach slab. In addition, two Managed Lane Direct Connectors are proposed as part of the project; an East to North Managed Lane Direct Connector extending across the SH 183/SH 161 Interchange and a South to West Managed Lane Direct Connector. These two Managed Lane Direct Connectors would be constructed to accommodate two, 12-foot-wide lanes. Due to the proposed SH 161 improvements occurring within existing right-of-way, no displacement or relocation of residential or commercial properties would be required.

Maps showing the proposed project's location and geometric design will be available for viewing at the public meeting. This and other public information is also on file and available for public inspection at the TxDOT Dallas District Office located at 4777 East Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150. This information will also be available online at www.keepitmovingdallas.com under Upcoming Public Hearing/Meeting.

All interested persons are invited to attend the Public Meeting and express their views on the proposed project. Written comments from the public regarding this project are requested and will be accepted for a period of 10 calendar days following the meeting. Written comments may be submitted either in person, or by mail to: Mr. Nelson Underwood, P.E., Texas Department of Transportation, Dallas District Office, 4777 East US Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150.

Written comments must be postmarked by Friday, November 25, 2016 to be included in the Public Meeting Summary. Persons interested in attending the Public Meeting who have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the TxDOT Dallas District Public Information Office at (214) 320-6100 at least two working days prior to the meeting. Because the Public Meeting will be conducted in English, any requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should also be made at least two (2) days prior to the Public Meeting. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

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.