



Public Hearing
Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1171
From West of FM 156 to Interstate Highway (I)-35W
CSJ: 1311-01-055
Public Hearing Script

SLIDE 1 – Welcome Slide

Hello and welcome to the FM 1171 Public Hearing from West of FM 156 to I-35W presented by the Texas Department of Transportation, or TxDOT. We appreciate your interest in this project and welcome each of you.

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 and 4,480 people lost their lives in 2021. That’s a streak we want to break. Help TxDOT End the Streak of roadway fatalities by buckling up, driving the speed limit, putting down your phone, and never driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

SLIDE 3 – Travis Campbell, P.E. Welcome Video

I’m Travis Campbell, Director of Transportation Planning and Development for the TxDOT Dallas District. Thank you for joining us as we conduct this virtual public event. Understanding how our projects impact communities is important to TxDOT. The following presentation will provide instruction on how you can connect with us and provide vital input about this project. We will continue to work closely with stakeholders, communities, and the public as we move forward. Thank you for your time and interest in improving our transportation system and we look forward to receiving your comments.

SLIDE 4 – Public Hearing Purpose and Changes to Public Hearing Protocol

You may have attended previous public hearings conducted by TxDOT. Due to changes in TxDOT public involvement protocols, we will not have a live speech or take comments from the floor at this public hearing. In lieu of a live speech, we are showing this pre-recorded presentation. Verbal comments will still be accepted on our voicemail line. For the benefit of



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those who have never participated before, I will explain why the Department conducts a public hearing.

A public hearing 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 so those attending can determine the project's potential to affect their lives and property.
3. To provide the public an opportunity to view information and express their views.
4. And finally, to develop a record of public views and participation to accompany recommendations for subsequent decisions.

This public hearing is being held in compliance with both federal and state laws. Documentation of this hearing will be made available for the official record.

Following this hearing, TxDOT will proceed with the preparation of the final environmental documentation. Your statements and comments will be addressed in this document and will be given full consideration in the preparation of the final recommendation and design for the FM 1171 project.

SLIDE 5 – Viewing the Project Information

The design schematic and environmental documentation for the FM 1171 project 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, the design schematic may be viewed at www.keepitmovingdallas.com under “Public Hearings / Meetings” or by visiting www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1171 for a direct link to the posted materials. The information on this website is the same information being shown in this presentation.



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SLIDE 6 – Project Location

The FM 1171 project limits are from West of FM 156 to I-35W. The total project length is approximately 3.5 miles and is located in Denton County, Texas. The project limits are shown on the map on this slide. The orange color indicates the urban sections of the proposed project and the pink color indicates the rural sections.

SLIDE 7 –Project Purpose and Need

The purpose of the FM 1171 project is to accommodate expanding transportation demands, increase mobility and accessibility, and provide an east-to-west transportation connection.

The proposed project is needed to address population and economic growth, regional transportation demand, and system linkages in the project area.

SLIDE 8 – Existing FM 1171

The existing FM 1171 is in a new location and would require extending the existing FM 1171 roadway. The surrounding area consists of undeveloped lands, scattered single-family residences, commercial development, and oil/gas well pad sites.

SLIDE 9 – Proposed FM 1171- Urbanized Section

The urbanized roadway section would provide six 12-foot-wide lanes with a median with curbs. It would also incorporate a 10-foot-wide shared-use path. Additionally, turn lanes would be constructed at various locations. There are two urban sections along the proposed FM 1171 project. One section would connect to the existing FM 1171 and continue west and stop shortly after the Quail Creek Shooting Range. The other section begins approximately 1,100 feet east of FM 156.

SLIDE 10 – Proposed FM 1171- Rural Section

Project improvements would include a rural roadway section, at both interim and ultimate phases. The interim phase would include four 12-foot-wide lanes and a depressed median.



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The ultimate phase would accommodate six 12-foot-wide lanes and a depressed median. The rural section of the proposed project would begin west of the Quail Creek Shooting Range and continue until approximately 1,100 feet east of FM 156.

SLIDE 11 – Projected Cost and Schedule

The FM 1171 project’s anticipated Ready to Let Date is 2026. “Letting” is when TxDOT notifies the construction community that a project is ready to be bid on. Construction on a project begins after the letting process is complete. The total estimated construction cost for the project is approximately \$118 million. The project is currently unfunded for construction and cannot let until funding is identified; however right of way acquisition can proceed even if the project is not funded for construction.

SLIDE 12 – Review and Approval of Environmental Document

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 TxDOT 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.

Environmental studies were conducted for the proposed FM 1171 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.

Technical environmental documentation was approved for further processing by TxDOT and was coordinated with other public agencies. Notices for this public hearing were advertised in the *Denton Record-Chronicle*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Al Dia*, *Fort Worth Star Telegram*, on the TxDOT.gov website under “Hearings and Meetings Schedule” and on



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www.keepitmovingdallas.com under “Public Hearings/ Meetings”. The TxDOT Public Information Office also prepared a news media release to advertise the public hearing. The TxDOT technical reports are available for your review on the project website.

SLIDE 13 – Environmental Review / Impacts Addressed

The technical documentation for this project addresses the potential environmental impacts identified during the preliminary engineering of the proposed project. These areas of potential impacts included natural, social, and cultural resources. This slide shows a list of all resources that were evaluated during the environmental analyses. The following slides include a summary of those findings.

SLIDE 14 – Right of Way

Approximately 98 acres of new right of way would be required for the proposed project. There are no residential or commercial displacements, however, three non-residential structures are anticipated to be displaced. All of the right of way acquisition would be completed in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, amended. Brochures, including two booklets titled “The Purchase of Right of Way” and “Relocation Assistance”, are also available on the project website. These booklets contain detailed information to inform you of your rights and provide information about TxDOT’s right-of-way acquisition process.

SLIDE 15 – Environmental Review

Concerning the environmental review of the project, no oil or gas well sites would be impacted by the project.

The proposed project has five crossings comprising of the tributaries to Trail Creek, Trail Creek, Denton Creek, tributaries to Denton Creek, and wetlands. Impacts to waters of the U.S. associated with project construction would likely be covered under Nationwide Permit



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14 and due to anticipated impacts to streams and wetlands, pre-construction notification to the USACE would be required.

On November 3, 2022, TxDOT historians determined that there are no historic, non-archeological properties. Individual project coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office is not required.

FHWA Traffic Noise Model was used to estimate existing and predicted traffic noise levels. Modeled noise-sensitive locations were primarily residential (single- and multi-family), but also included a park (basketball court). The traffic noise analysis determined that out of seven receptors, none were predicted to have noise levels that approach or exceed the FHWA noise abatement criteria. Based on the analysis, noise barriers were determined to not be reasonable or feasible. Therefore, no traffic noise mitigation is proposed for the project.

In conclusion, the studies, analyses, and evaluations performed indicate the proposed project would cause no significant environmental impacts.

SLIDE 16 – Project Timeline

Looking at the Project Timeline, we are currently conducting a Public Hearing for the FM 1171 Project. The public comment period for the proposed project ends on Friday, April 21, 2023. Following this public hearing, documentation of this public hearing will be reviewed by TxDOT for final environmental clearance and design approval. If there are no major issues arising from this hearing that cannot be addressed in a reasonable time frame, final environmental clearance is anticipated in Summer 2023. After clearance, Right of Way Acquisition would begin. Construction of the project would not occur until funding has been allocated to the project. Please note the listed dates are subject to change.

This concludes the environmental portion of the presentation.



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SLIDE 17 – We Request Your Feedback

Comments will be accepted in a variety of ways as shown on the screen. If you would like to leave a verbal comment, please call the number listed. Comments must be received or postmarked by **Friday, April 21, 2023**, to be part of the official public hearing record.

All substantive comments and questions 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 the project website.

SLIDE 19 – Thank You

We sincerely appreciate your participation and interest in the FM 1171 project. Your questions, comments, and concerns will receive careful consideration. Thank you, this concludes the presentation.