



# FM 1385 Project Public Meeting Script

## **SLIDE 1 – Welcome Slide**

Hello and welcome to the FM 1385 public meeting. We appreciate your interest in the FM 1385 Project and thank each of you for your participation. This is the second public meeting for the proposed FM 1385 project, and we will provide you with an update on the project, including what's changed.

## **SLIDE 2 – Public Meeting Purpose**

This public meeting has been convened by TxDOT and is being held to receive and consider comments from the public regarding the FM 1385 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 offer the public an opportunity to view information and express their ideas and concerns at this stage in the planning process when flexibility to respond to comments exists 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 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.

## **SLIDE 3 – Viewing Design Schematic and Project Information**

I will now explain the design aspects of the FM 1385 project. The design schematic and other project information for the project may be viewed at [www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1385](http://www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1385). The information on this website is the same information being presented in this presentation.



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### Slide 4 – Project Location

FM 1385 is an approximately 12-mile connection between US 380 and FM 455 in Denton County. The proposed project is located within the cities of Little Elm, Aubrey, Pilot Point, Celina, and the Town of Prosper.

### SLIDE 5 – Project Purpose and Need

The proposed project is needed to meet future travel demands stemming from projected population growth and traffic volumes. The overall goal is to provide a facility that will accommodate future traffic and improve safety with additional lanes and reconstructed intersections at FM 1385 and Mustang Road and at FM 1385 and Gee Road/Fishtrap Road.

### SLIDE 6 – Existing Roadway Typical Sections

Within the project limits, the current FM 1385 facility varies between a 2-lane rural undivided roadway and a 2-lane divided roadway with a center turn lane. The existing roadway has 12-foot-wide shoulders. The existing right of way varies from 80 to 120 feet wide and the central portion of the existing FM 1385 roadway within the project area ties into Mustang Road. This Mustang Road portion of the existing roadway consists of a sharp curve in the roadway as well as a three-way-intersection. FM 1385 at Gee Road/Fishtrap Road includes an existing S-curve roadway alignment.

### SLIDE 7 – Project Details

TxDOT is proposing to reconstruct and widen FM 1385 from US 380 to FM 455 in Denton County. The project would include construction of a 6-lane divided urban roadway from US 380 to Mustang Road and a 4-lane interim (6-lane ultimate) divided urban roadway from Mustang Road to FM 455. A new location realignment of the central portion of FM 1385 at Mustang Road is proposed to directly connect FM 1385 to the north and south without requiring vehicles to travel along the Mustang Road portion of the existing FM 1385. Additionally, a new-location realignment of the southern portion of FM 1385 at Gee Road/Fishtrap Road is also proposed. This would flatten out the existing “S” curve at Gee Road/Fishtrap Road and improve mobility along FM 423 at the intersection with FM 1385. These proposed new-alignment locations will be discussed and graphically illustrated later in this presentation.

### SLIDE 8 – Changes to Project Design

TxDOT held the first public meeting for this project in Sept. 2020. A few changes have been made to the proposed improvements since the project was last presented to the public. The right-of-way acquisition requirements on FM 1385 were reduced at the following intersections: Gee Road/Fishtrap Road, Mustang Road, Friendship Road, Lights Ranch Road, Strittmatter Road, and FM 455. The right-of-way requirements were also revised at the FM 1385 and Crutchfield Road/Sandbrock Parkway intersection to accommodate a recently built right-turn bay. And lastly, a noise analysis is complete and sound barriers are proposed at various locations pending the outcome of noise workshops after the public hearing.



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### **SLIDE 9 – Proposed Roadway Typical Sections**

The proposed FM 1385 would be reconstructed and widened from an existing 2-lane rural highway to ultimately a 6-lane divided urban roadway with sidewalks/shared use paths. FM 1385 from US 380 to Mustang Road is proposed to be constructed as a 6-lane facility, while the roadway from Mustang Road to FM 455 is proposed to be constructed as a 4-lane interim facility.

The majority of the project area follows the existing FM 1385 roadway alignment. However, two areas are being proposed for new location roadway realignments to address mobility and safety concerns.

### **SLIDE 10 – Proposed Roadway Realignment at Mustang Road**

This figure illustrates the proposed new location realignment of the central portion of FM 1385 at Mustang Road. The 0.9-mile-long realignment is located south of Mustang Road and would directly connect FM 1385 to the north and to the south without requiring vehicles to travel along the Mustang Road portion of the existing FM 1385. Residential and commercial access will remain.

### **SLIDE 11 – Proposed Roadway Realignment at Gee Road/Fishtrap Road**

This figure illustrates the proposed new location realignment of FM 1385 within the southern portion of the project area at Gee Road/Fishtrap Road. This 0.45-mile realignment is located southeast of the current alignment. This would flatten out the existing “S” curve at Gee Road/Fishtrap Road and improve mobility at this intersection with FM 1385.

### **SLIDE 12 – Projected Cost and Schedule**

The FM 1385 Project is anticipated to be Ready to Let by Fall 2025 and would take approximately 3 years to construct. “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 \$178 million. Please note that the project is not yet funded and cannot be let until funding is identified.

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 1385 Project.

### **SLIDE 13 – National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Assignment to the Texas Department of Transportation**

Prior to Dec. 16, 2014, the Federal Highway Administration, or FHWA, reviewed and approved documents prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act, known as NEPA; however, on Dec.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



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Understanding between TxDOT and FHWA was updated on Dec. 9, 2019. The review and approval process apply to this project.

Environmental studies are being conducted for the proposed FM 1385 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 will be coordinated with other public agencies.

Notices for this public meeting were advertised in the *Denton Record-Chronicle* and *Al Día Dallas*, on the [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) website under "Hearings and Meetings Schedule" 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 roadway design schematics are available on the project website at [www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1385](http://www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1385).

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

The project's 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 website. In the case of FM 1385, some of the major known constraints are Bold Cross Cowboy Church, Iglesia Bautista Hispana de Mustang, and Peachtree Park. Environmental studies for this project are ongoing.

## **SLIDE 15 – Environmental Review – Right of Way**

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require approximately 124.41 acres of new right of way and potentially displace two residences, one billboard, one utility, and one commercial structure. 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 16 – Project Timeline**

Following this public meeting, the project design will be refined per public input, environmental studies will continue to be developed, and a public hearing will occur. If there are no major issues arising from the environmental analysis that cannot be addressed in a reasonable time frame, an environmental decision for the project to move forward is anticipated in late 2022.

The project has an anticipated Ready to Let Date of Fall 2025. Construction will begin once the project is let.



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## **SLIDE 17 – We Request Your Feedback**

Comments will be accepted in four 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 the proposed project. This document will then be made available for public review online at [www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1385](http://www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1385).

All statements, comments, and questions will be given careful consideration before final design features are determined. All information developed for the proposed design is available for public inspection and copying at [www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1385](http://www.keepitmovingdallas.com/FM1385). As a reminder, all comments must be received on or before Friday, July 1, 2022.

## **SLIDE 18 – “Thank You”**

We sincerely appreciate your participation and interest concerning the proposed design of the FM 1385 Project. Your questions, comments, and concerns will receive careful consideration.

Thank you, this concludes the presentation.