

Notice Virtual Public Meetings with In-Person Option

INTERSTATE 345 (I-345) CONNECTS PROJECT From I-30 to Woodall Rodgers Freeway (Spur 366) CSJ: 0092-14-094 Dallas County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing to reconstruct I-345 from I-30 to Woodall Rodgers Freeway (Spur 366) in Dallas County, a distance of 2.8 miles. This notice advises the public that TxDOT will be conducting an online virtual public meeting on the proposed project with two in-person options. **The same information will be available at the in-person and virtual meetings.**

In-Person Meeting 1

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (Open House) Presentation at 6 p.m. St. Philip's School and Community Center Gymnasium 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Dallas, Texas 75215 Served by DART bus route 13 or the South Dallas GoLink

In-Person Meeting 2

Thursday, March 21, 2024 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (Open House) Presentation at 6 p.m. Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church Gymnasium (Third Floor) 1819 N. Washington Avenue Dallas, Texas 75204 Served by DART bus routes 003, 023, 105, 207

Virtual Meeting*

Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. through Friday, April 5, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. <u>www.345connects.com</u> *This is not a live event. The presentation provided at in-person meetings will be posted online.

The in-person meetings will be held in an open house format with one formal presentation at 6 p.m. Representatives from TxDOT and project consultants will be available to answer questions about the project. The virtual meeting can be viewed Tuesday, March 19, 2024, starting at 5:30 p.m. through the end of the comment deadline on Friday, April 5, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. Materials will be posted to the project website at <u>www.345connects.com</u> and will include the pre-recorded presentation provided at the in-person meetings with audio and video components, along with exhibits and other information. **Please note, the virtual public meeting is not a live event. The materials can be viewed at your convenience**. If you do not have internet access, you may call (214) 320-6100 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, to ask questions and access project materials. **Please note meeting materials will not be available until Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.**

The existing I-345 facility is an elevated, urban highway that consists of six 12-foot-wide mainlanes (three in each direction) with 10-foot-wide shoulders on each side. The existing facility is an elevated steel structure over all cross streets south of Woodall Rodgers Freeway (Spur 366). Existing frontage road lanes are 12-foot-wide with two and three lanes in each direction. Discontinuous sidewalks are located within the project limits.

The project proposes the reconstruction of I-345 according to the recommended alternative determined during the feasibility study in 2022. The proposed project includes the reconstruction of I-345 to include three 12-foot-wide mainlines in each direction that would be below ground with city street connections over the top. Discontinuous frontage roads would be constructed along the highway between Bryan Street and Hall Street to I-30. The project would include 10-foot-wide sidewalks at cross streets (both sides) and 6-foot-wide sidewalks along frontage roads, where reasonable and feasible. The design maintains the South, Southern, and North Dallas roadway connections. Additional cross/side streets would be realigned and reconstructed to accommodate the reconstruction of I-345 and its interchanges with Woodall Rodgers Freeway (Spur 366) and I-30.

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve multimodal mobility, meet current design standards, and reduce highway maintenance cost. The proposed project is needed because the existing I-345 from I-30 to Woodall Rodgers

Freeway (Spur 366) (a) provides limited direct pedestrian and bicyclist amenities (or accommodation) to connect communities to achieve multimodal mobility (b) does not meet current design standards, and (c) is reaching its useful design life resulting in an increase in maintenance cost.

All improvements would occur within existing right of way (ROW) which varies in width from approximately 280 to 635 feet. No additional ROW is anticipated to be required.

Preliminary environmental constraints information, maps showing the project location as well as design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are on file and available for public inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the TxDOT Dallas District Office located at 4777 E. Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150. These materials will also be available for review electronically at the virtual public meeting and in hard copy form at the in-person meetings.

The virtual public meeting and in-person options will be conducted in English. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English is not your primary language or you have difficulty communicating effectively in English, one will be provided to you. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation services or you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend and participate in the virtual public meeting or in-person option, please contact TxDOT Dallas District Public Information Office at (214) 320-4480 no later than 4 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2024. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange.

Comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Dallas District Office, Attention: Grace Lo, P.E., 4777 E. Highway 80, Mesquite, TX 75150; by email to <u>345connects@txdot.gov</u>; or by calling (903) 329-9307 to record a verbal comment. **All comments must be received on or before Friday, April 5, 2024**, to be included in the official public meeting record. Responses to comments received will be available online at <u>www.345connects.com</u> once they have been prepared.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project please contact Grace Lo, P.E., TxDOT Project Manager, by phone at (214) 320-6100, or by email at <u>345connects@txdot.gov</u>.

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 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.