



**Notice Draft Environmental Assessment Available for Public Review
and
Public Hearing**

I-35E/ US 67 Project

I-35E from US 67 to I-30 and US 67 from I-20 to I-35E

CSJs: 0442-02-088, 0196-03-269, 0261-03-030

Dallas County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing improvements to Interstate Highway (I) 35 East (E) from United States Highway (US) 67 to I-30 and US 67 from I-20 to I-35E in Dallas County, Texas. Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter E, §2.107 and §2.108 and Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Chapter I, Subchapter H, §771.111 and Title 40, Chapter V, §1506, this notice advises the public that a draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting a public hearing on the proposed project. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at the Freda Lindsay World Missions Building at Christ for the Nations Institute, 444 Fawn Ridge Drive, Dallas, TX 75224. Displays will be available for viewing at 6 p.m. with the formal hearing starting at 7 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements and to receive public comment on the proposed project.

The proposed project collectively referred to as the “I-35E/US 67 Project” and previously referred to as “The Southern Gateway Managed Lanes Project” consists of improvements within the City of Dallas, in Dallas County, Texas, a distance of approximately 11 miles. The proposed improvements include the conversion of the two existing reversible high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes to two reversible non-tolled express lanes from Colorado Boulevard to I-30, full reconstruction of the section of I-35E between US 67 and Colorado Boulevard to include two reversible non-tolled express lanes, widening of the mainlanes from 8 to 10, and reconstruction of the frontage roads. Improvements to US 67 from I-20 to I-35E include partial construction to change the existing concurrent HOV lanes to one reversible non-tolled express lane within the existing median and widening of the mainlanes from 4 to 6. The proposed project would include sidewalks and 14-foot shared use lanes to accommodate vehicles and bicyclists along those frontage roads where full reconstruction is proposed. Dedicated bike lanes and sidewalks are proposed at cross-streets where full reconstruction of the cross-streets is proposed.

The existing right-of-way (ROW) along I-35E, south of Colorado Boulevard, varies from approximately 244 feet to 435 feet, and the proposed ROW varies from 313 feet to 472 feet. The existing ROW along US 67 varies from 305 feet to 469 feet. Approximately 3.63 acres of additional ROW and approximately 1.56 acre of permanent easement along I-35E would be necessary for the proposed project. The proposed project would displace 1 residence, 3 billboards, and 12 commercial structures. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program, benefits and services for displacees, as well as information about the tentative schedules for ROW acquisition and construction can be obtained from the TxDOT district office at the address listed below. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Staff from the Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas will be present at the public hearing to answer questions and present services information.

The proposed project is located within the 100-year floodplain associated with Woody Branch, Fivemile Creek, Cedar Creek, South Branch of Cedar Creek, and Trinity River. The hydraulic design for the proposed project would be in accordance with current TxDOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) design policies and standards.

The draft EA, maps showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the project are on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at TxDOT Dallas District Office located at 4777 East Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150 and online at www.keepitmovingdallas.com under Upcoming Public Hearing/Meeting and www.thesoutherngateway.org. This information also will be available for inspection at the hearing. Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the project are requested and may be presented at the hearing, or submitted in person or by mail to Mr. Jim Dobbins, Texas Department of Transportation Dallas District Office, 4777 East US Highway 80, Mesquite, TX 57150. Comments must be received on or before Wednesday, September 21, 2016 to be part of the official hearing record.

The hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs, such as the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact TxDOT Dallas District Public Information Office at (214) 320-4480. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the hearing, please contact Mr. John Nguyen, P.E. at (214) 320-6696 or email him at John.Nguyen@txdot.gov.

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.