



TxDOT NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT & NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in conjunction with Rockwall County, will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at Jones Elementary School, 2051 Trail Glen, Rockwall, Texas 75032. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements for State Highway (SH) 276 from State Highway (SH) 205 to east of Farm-to-Market (FM) 549 / Corporate Crossing in Rockwall County, Texas, and to receive public comment. Displays will be available for viewing at 6:00 P.M. with the formal hearing commencing at 7:00 P.M.

The existing facility consists of a two-lane, east-west, asphalt-paved roadway with shoulders. Within the proposed project limits, the existing roadway consists of an overall pavement width of 44 feet. The overall width accommodates two 13-foot-wide travel lanes (one in each direction) with 9-foot shoulders on each side. Stormwater is drained from this facility via open drainage ditches into nearby creeks. The existing right-of-way width (ROW) is 120 feet.

The proposed project would widen this section of SH 276 from SH 205 to Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 549 to include one 11-foot-wide travel lane and one 14-foot-wide shared use lane in each direction, a 40-foot-wide median, and five-foot sidewalks with two-foot buffers on each side of the roadway. SH 276 would be realigned between SH 205 and Wildrose Drive through an existing reserved roadway corridor. Intersections would be constructed at Faircrest Drive and Graystone Drive, and the SH 276/SH 205 intersection would be relocated south to connect to Sids Road. The existing SH 276/SH 205 intersection would remain but would not connect to the realigned SH 276. The proposed typical ROW varies between 120 and 150 feet. The proposed section would also accommodate an ultimate six-lane facility. This future section would consist of two 11-foot-wide travel lanes and one 14-foot-wide shared use lane in each direction, and an 18-foot-wide raised median. Five-foot-wide sidewalks with two-foot buffers between the sidewalk and curb would remain on both sides of the roadway between SH 205 and FM 549. At various cross streets, a 10-foot-wide left-turn bay would be provided in the median. Drainage improvements include replacing the existing side ditches with a curb and gutter section providing curb inlets and storm sewers to collect and convey stormwater runoff to nearby creeks and streams. The purpose of the project is to address an expected increase in traffic, to conform to local planning efforts, and to provide safer operating conditions between two major intersections (SH 205 with SH 276 and I-30). Approximately 16.49 acres of additional right-of-way (ROW) and 0.86 acres of easements would be needed to accommodate the proposed roadway and drainage improvements. No residential or commercial property displacements or relocations would be required. The proposed project would permanently fill less than 0.1 acre of wetlands and 17.9 linear feet of Waters of the U.S would be permanently impacted.

Maps and other drawings showing the project location and design, environmental document, and other information relative to the project are on file and available for public inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Dallas District Office located at 4777 E. Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150 and on-line at www.keepitmovingdallas.com under Upcoming Public Hearing/Meeting. This information will also be available for inspection at the hearing.

All interested citizens are invited to attend this public hearing. Verbal and written comments from the public regarding this project are requested and may be presented for a period of 10 calendar days following the hearing. Written comments may be submitted either in person or by mail to the TxDOT Dallas District Office, Mr. Jim Dobbins, 4777 East US Highway 80 Mesquite, Texas, 75150. Comments must be received on or before Friday, January 22, 2016 in order to become part of the official hearing record.

The Public Hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs, or need an interpreter, are encouraged to contact the TxDOT Dallas District public information officer at (214) 320-6100. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the public hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs. If you have general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project, you may contact Ms. Nancy Peron, P.E., TxDOT Dallas District, at (214) 320-6245.



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.