

Notice of Draft Environmental Assessment and Public Hearing US 80 (from FM 460 to Spur 557) and Spur 557 (from US 80 to I-20) CSJs: 0095-03-106, 0095-04-076, 0495-01-081 Kaufman County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing improvements to US 80 (from Farm to Market Road 460 to Spur 557) and Spur 557 (from US 80 to I-20), in Kaufman County, Texas. This notice advises the public that a draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting an in-person and online virtual public hearing on the proposed project. The same information will be available at both the in-person and virtual hearing.

In-Person Hearing Thursday, February 8, 2024, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Rhodes Intermediate School 775 Innovation Blvd. Forney, TX 75126 <u>Virtual Hearing</u> Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. through Friday, February 23, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. www.keepitmovingdallas.com/projects/us-highways/us80-spur557 This is not a live event

The in-person hearing will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will be an open house format where the public may come and go at their convenience. Staff will be available to answer questions and take comments. The virtual hearing can be viewed beginning Thursday, February 8, 2024, starting at 5:30 p.m. through Friday, February 23, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. Materials will be posted to the project website at www.keepitmovingdallas.com/projects/us-highways/US80-Spur557 and will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation that includes both audio and video components, along with other exhibits. The virtual public hearing is not a live event. If you do not have internet access, please call (214) 320-6628 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday to ask questions and access project materials. Please note the materials will not be available until Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

Proposed improvements consist of reconstructing US 80 from FM 460 to Spur 557 from a four-lane divided to a six-lane divided highway with auxiliary lanes and a concrete barrier along the centerline. Proposed improvements along Spur 557 also consist of reconstructing Spur 557 from a four-lane divided to a six-lane divided highway with auxiliary lanes and a concrete barrier along the median. The proposed improvements to both US 80 and Spur 557would include adding continuous two to three-lane, one-way frontage roads in each direction along the proposed project to fill existing frontage road gaps and to remove existing two-way frontage roads. Ramping improvements, bridge reconstruction, shared use paths and sidewalks are proposed for both US 80 and Spur 557. The total project length is approximately 12.1 miles.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require approximately 17 acres of additional right-of-way. No displacements are anticipated from the proposed project. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program and services and benefits for those displaced and other affected property owners, as well as information about the tentative schedule for right-of-way acquisition and construction, can be obtained from the TxDOT ROW office by calling (214) 320-6675 or by visiting the project website.

The proposed project is anticipated to impact the following properties protected under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966: the CR 217 bridge at US 80, the Windmill Farms Boulevard bridge at US 80, and the Landmark Hill property. Proposed right-of-way from the Landmark Hill property and replacement of the bridges are required for the proposed improvements. Adverse impacts to the integrity of the Landmark Hill property are not anticipated based on the amount of proposed ROW needed. Replacement of the bridges is required to improve safety and roadway configurations. The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain.

The draft EA, any maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at TxDOT Dallas District, 4777 E. U.S. Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150. Project materials are also available online at the project website. These materials will also be available in hard copy form for review at the in-person option.

The in-person public hearing option 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 hearing or in-person option, please contact the TxDOT Public Information Office at 214-320-4480 no later than 4 p.m. on February 5, 2024. Advance notice is required as services and accommodations require time to arrange.

Comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Dallas District, c/o Nelson Underwood, P.E., 4777 E. U.S. Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150 or by email to Nelson.Underwood@txdot.gov. Verbal comments may be submitted by leaving a voicemail at (833) 933-0440. All comments must be received on or before Friday, February 23, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. Responses to comments received will be available online at the project website once they have been prepared.