

## Public Hearing Notice

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in cooperation with the Cities of Frisco and Little Elm and Denton County will conduct a Public Hearing on **Thursday, February 23, 2006** at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria at Pioneer Heritage Middle School, 1649 High Shoals Drive, Frisco, Texas 75034. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to discuss the proposed reconstruction and widening of FM 423 from US 380 to Stewarts Creek Road for a length of 6.9 miles in the Cities of Frisco and Little Elm in Denton County, Texas. The hearing will begin with an Open House from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Project personnel will be present to answer questions regarding the proposed project at the Open House. The formal Public Hearing will begin at 7:00 p.m. followed by a public comment period.

The proposed project would convert the existing two-lane, undivided, rural roadway into a six-lane, divided, urban, concrete paved roadway with curb and gutter. The proposed roadway would consist of three 12-foot travel lanes in each direction separated by a raised median with a varying width of 16 to 32 feet. In addition, the project would include improvements to the various major intersections throughout the project corridor. Also included are the reconstruction and/or widening of three bridges: Cottonwood Branch South, Cottonwood Branch North, and Panther Creek.

The FM 423 proposed project crosses the floodplains associated with Cottonwood Branch and Panther Creek. Reconstruction of the bridges along the proposed project would be designed to ensure compliance with applicable floodplain regulations or ordinances. A wetland investigation identified five wetlands within the proposed right-of-way.

The existing right-of-way width for FM 423 is typically 90 feet. The proposed minimum right-of-way width for the proposed FM 423 project is 140 feet. The right-of-way requirements for the reconstruction would result in the conversion of approximately 38 acres to a transportation use. The additional right-of-way needed is mainly comprised of narrow slivers of land adjacent to the existing facility throughout the length of the proposed project. Potential right-of-way displacements would include one residential structure, four commercial properties, and one vacant building. In addition, one business would need to relocate a structure on their property. Information concerning the benefits and services for displacees and the Relocation and Assistance Program will be discussed at the Public Hearing.

The environmental document, maps and other drawings showing the project's location and geometric design will be displayed at the Public Hearing. This and other information about the project are on file and available for inspection and copying at TxDOT Dallas District Office located at 4777 E. Highway 80, Mesquite, TX, 75150. These drawings are also on file with the City of Frisco, 6891 Main Street, Frisco, Texas 75034. A tentative construction schedule, right-of-way acquisition schedule, and information concerning the Relocation and Assistance Program as well as services and benefits available to affected property owners may be obtained from the TxDOT Office.

All interested persons are invited to attend the Public Hearing. Persons interested in attending this hearing that have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact Lynn Pipkin, P.E., at (214) 638-0145 at least two working days prior to the Public Hearing. Because the Public Hearing will be conducted in English, any requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should also be made at least two days prior to the Public Hearing. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding this project are requested. Comments may be presented either at the Public Hearing or in writing after the Public Hearing. Written statements and other exhibits may be mailed to Lynn Pipkin, P.E., Project Manager at: Carter & Burgess, 7950 Elmbrook Drive, Dallas, TX 75247. Written comments submitted after the Public Hearing must be hand-delivered or postmarked on or before **Monday, March 6, 2006**. For additional information concerning this project, please contact Lynn Pipkin, P.E. at (214) 638-0145.