

TxDOT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with Denton County and the City of Fort Worth, will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 22, 2007 in the Northwest Independent School District's Administration Building, 2001 Texan Drive, Justin, TX, 76247. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to discuss the proposed improvements to State Highway (SH) 114 from 0.45 mile west of Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 156 to 0.22 mile east of Interstate Highway 35 West (IH 35W) and the reconstruction of the interchange of SH 114 and FM 156 in Denton County. An Open House will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. prior to the Public Hearing to allow for questions and review of project exhibits. TxDOT personnel will be present to answer questions regarding the proposed project. The formal Public Hearing will begin at 7:00 p.m. followed by a public comment period.

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide transportation improvements that are needed to increase mobility and reduce congestion in southwestern Denton County. The proposed project would widen SH 114's existing two-lane rural-type roadway along the above-described segments for a distance of approximately 3.1 miles, located primarily in the City of Fort Worth, and partially in the Town of Northlake and unincorporated Denton County. The proposed typical cross-section for SH 114 along this route would be a six-lane, divided highway with 12-foot wide travel lanes, ten-foot wide outside shoulders, and 12-foot wide inside shoulders. The frontage roads would consist of three 12-foot wide one-way lanes with 2-foot wide curb and gutter. This expansion would follow along the existing centerline of SH 114. The existing one-quarter diamond-type interchange with FM 156 would be replaced with a "jug handle" configuration. Two railroad bridges and a single-track section for the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe railroad would also be reconstructed.

The existing right-of-way for SH 114 is generally 100 feet wide. The proposed right-of-way would generally be 240 feet wide and would contain the proposed reconstructed roadway. The proposed project would require additional right-of-way of approximately 88.9 acres, and would require approximately 10.6 acres of drainage easements. The proposed project would require the displacement of one single-family residence and one retail business (Chevron Dan-D-Mart). Approximately 0.3 mile of the roadway would be within a floodplain; therefore, the project would be designed not to increase the base flood elevation to a level that would violate applicable floodplain regulations and ordinances.

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 the TxDOT-Denton County Area Office, 2624 West Prairie, Denton, Texas 76201, and at the TxDOT Dallas District Office, 4777 East Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150. These drawings are also on file at the Denton County Department of Public Works-Engineering, 1505 East McKinney Street, Suite 175, Denton, Texas 76209. 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 displacees and affected property owners can be obtained from either of the TxDOT offices.

Persons interested in attending the Public Hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the TxDOT Denton County Area Office public information officer at (940) 387-1414 at least two work days prior to the Public Hearing. Because the Public Hearing will be conducted in English, requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should also be made at least two work days prior to the Public Hearing. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the proposed project may be presented at the Public Hearing. Written comments submitted after the Public Hearing may be presented either in person to the TxDOT Denton County Area Office or by mail to:

Mr. David Morgan
Halff Associates, Inc.
8616 Northwest Plaza Drive
Dallas, Texas, 75225-4292

Written comments submitted after the Public Hearing must be hand-delivered or postmarked on or before Friday, June 1, 2007, in order to be included in the Public Hearing record. For additional information please contact Samantha Snavelly, Halff Associates, (214) 346-6394.