

TxDOT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CSJ: 2681-01-012

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in cooperation with the Cities of Denton and Corinth will conduct a Public Hearing for the proposed extension of Farm to Market (FM) Road 2499 from FM 2181 to Interstate Highway (IH) 35E in Denton, Texas in Denton County. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to discuss the social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed roadway improvements within this approximate three-mile section of FM 2499. The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday, January 17, 2008 at John H. Guyer High School, 7501 Teasley Lane, Denton, Texas 76210. Prior to the Public Hearing, an Open House will be held from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., to allow for questions and review of project exhibits. TxDOT staff will be available to answer questions during the Open House. The Public Hearing will begin with a formal presentation at 7:00 p.m., followed by a public comment period.

The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance the regional transportation system by improving mobility, reducing congestion, and by improving the connectivity of roadways within Denton County. The proposed project is located within the Cities of Denton and Corinth and in Denton County. Roadway improvements would be built along existing road alignment and on new location. The proposed project would incorporate two existing two-lane roadways: approximately 950 feet of Barrel Strap Lane and approximately 2,950 feet of State School Road. These roadways would be reconstructed as a six-lane divided urban thoroughfare and would not require alignment changes. The remaining portion of the proposed project would be on new location and would be constructed as a six-lane divided urban thoroughfare. The proposed typical cross-section would be curb and gutter with three travel lanes in each direction and a raised median. The proposed road design would include left turn bays for cross streets, and would allow sufficient distance between the curb and edge of right-of-way to allow for future construction of sidewalks.

The existing right-of-way width for Barrel Strap Lane is 120 feet and the existing right-of-way width for State School Road is 100 feet. The proposed right-of-way width along the proposed project alignment is 120 feet. This would require the acquisition of approximately 27.85 acres of new right-of-way for the road and an additional 2.10 acres for drainage easements outside this right-of-way. Despite right-of-way acquisition required for the proposed project, no residential or commercial displacements or relocations are anticipated.

Some proposed improvements would occur within the floodplain; however, the proposed improvements would not increase the base flood elevation to a level which would violate applicable floodplain regulations or ordinances. In addition, the proposed project crosses and impacts a wetland area adjacent to Bryant Branch below the Lake Sharon Dam. Appropriate mitigation would be developed for this wetland impact prior to construction of the proposed project.

The environmental document, maps, and drawings reflecting the project's location and geometric design will be displayed at the Public Hearing. This and other information about the proposed project are available for public inspection and duplication at the following locations: TxDOT Dallas District Office located at 4777 East Highway 80, Mesquite, Texas 75150; and TxDOT Denton County Area Office located at 2624 West Prairie, Denton, Texas 76201. These items are also on file at the Denton County Department of Public Works-Engineering, 1505 East McKinney Street, Suite 175, Denton, Texas 76209. Information about the tentative schedules for right-of-way acquisition and construction may be obtained from the TxDOT Dallas District Office.

All interested persons are invited to attend this Public Hearing. Persons interested in attending the Public Hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the TxDOT Dallas District public information officer at (214) 320-6100 at least two (2) 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:

Ms. Samantha Snavelly
Half Associates, Inc.
1201 North Bowser Road
Richardson, Texas, 75081

Written comments submitted after the Public Hearing must be hand-delivered or postmarked on or before Monday, January 28, 2008, in order to be included in the Public Hearing record. For additional information please contact Samantha Snavelly, Half Associates, (214) 346-6394.