

**NOTICE OF OPEN HOUSE  
RM 1431 (UNIVERSITY BLVD.) IMPROVEMENTS AT I-35**

On Tuesday, September 10, 2013 the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct an Open House to discuss plans to improve Ranch to Market (RM) 1431 (University Blvd.) at Interstate Highway (I) 35 in Round Rock, Williamson County. The Open House will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Allen R. Baca Center, 301 W. Bagdad Avenue, Building 2, Round Rock, Texas 78664. During the Open House, displays of the project area and other project information will be available for review. Project team members will be present to answer questions. The Open House format allows attendees to “come-and-go” at their convenience; no formal presentation will be made.

The project being considered would entail reconstructing the existing (traditional) intersection in a “diverging diamond” configuration and constructing a southbound collector/distributor between the I-35 mainlanes and frontage road. The collector/distributor road would allow “through” frontage road traffic to by-pass the signalized intersection. The northbound collector/distributor road already exists.

A diverging diamond is a type of innovative intersection design that is particularly effective at locations, such as the I-35/RM 1431 intersection, that have high volumes of left turn traffic. It would work by reducing (via collector/distributor roads) the number of vehicles that pass through the intersection and minimizing conflicts between RM 1431 cross-traffic and left-turn movements. The benefits of a diverging diamond intersection include enhanced safety and more effective signal operation (resulting in more “green time”).

It is anticipated that the proposed project would involve 0.35 acres of new right-of-way at the northeast corner of I-35 and RM 1431. The rest of the project would be constructed within existing right-of-way. Acquisition of this anticipated right-of-way would not result in any commercial or residential displacements. Information regarding TxDOT’s Right-of-Way Acquisition and Relocation Assistance Program will be available at the Open House. The project area is within the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone.

Displays will be shown at the Open House and other information concerning the project are available for review at the TxDOT offices located at 7901 North IH 35 Austin, Texas 78753 and at <http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/austin.html>.

The Open House will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the Open House with special communication or physical needs are requested to contact Jon Geiselbrecht at (512) 832-7218 at least five business days prior to the Open House so that appropriate arrangements may be made. Every reasonable effort to accommodate communication or accessibility needs will be made. All interested citizens are encouraged to attend the Open House and provide input on the project. Verbal and written comments may be presented at the Open House. Written comments not submitted at the Open House may be mailed to Environmental Coordinator, Texas Department of Transportation – Austin District, P.O. Drawer 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426 or faxed to (512) 832-7157. All comments received on/or before Friday, September 20, 2013, will be included in the official record of the Open House.

