



NOTICE

Opportunity for a Public Hearing

**INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 10 (I-10)
From Farm to Market (FM) 1442 to 0.54 miles east of FM 3247
CSJ: 0028-11-179, etc.
Orange County, Texas**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is the lead agency proposing improvements to I-10 from FM 1442 to east of FM 3247 in Orange County, Texas to improve safety and increase mobility. The project length is approximately 7 miles.

Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, §2.106, this notice advises the public that draft environmental documents are available for public review and that TxDOT is affording an opportunity for a public hearing on the proposed project. The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

The existing interstate highway consists of four 12-foot wide travel lanes (two in each direction) with variable width inside and outside shoulders plus the continuous one-way two-lane frontage roads. A concrete median barrier separates the eastbound and westbound lanes.

The proposed project would widen this section of I-10 from four to six lanes (three lanes in each direction) to provide 12-foot wide travel lanes, 10-foot wide outside shoulder, and 10-foot wide inside shoulder with a concrete median barrier. Other project components include relocating the westbound SH 62 on-ramp approximately 4,500 feet west and reconstructing 3,500 feet of existing westbound frontage road from west of SH 62 to the ramp's new location. The ramp relocation would eliminate the conflict between vehicles exiting the mainlane traffic at the Mimosa Lane off-ramp and the vehicles entering the mainlane traffic flow at the SH 62 on-ramp. The current traffic maneuver is limited by the slow acceleration of trucks because of the existing up-grade of the SH 62 on-ramp and the existing weave distance for the entering and exiting traffic.

The existing right-of-way (ROW) width varies from 290 to 300 feet. All work will occur within the existing ROW. No additional ROW or permanent/temporary easement is required; therefore, no displacements or relocations of residences and businesses are necessary.

The project limits are within a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated 100-year floodplain. The hydraulic design for this project would be in accordance with current Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and TxDOT design policies. The facility would permit the conveyance of the 100-year flood, inundation of the roadway being acceptable, without causing significant damage to the facility, stream, or other property. The proposed project would not increase the base flood elevation to a level that would violate applicable floodplain regulations and ordinances.

Environmental study is ongoing. Maps showing the project location and design, environmental information, tentative construction schedule, and other information regarding the project are on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00AM and 5:00PM at the TxDOT Beaumont District Office, 8350 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas 77708.

Any interested citizen may request a public hearing covering the social, economic and environmental effects of the proposed location and design for this project. Requests for a public hearing must be submitted in writing on or before Tuesday, September 20, 2016, to TxDOT Beaumont District Office, Attn: Scott Ayres, Planning Engineer, 8350 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX 77708 or via email at scott.ayres@txdot.gov.

If you have general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project, you may contact Mr. Ahmed Gaily, P.E., District Design Engineer, at (409) 898-5723 or via email at Ahmed.Gaily@txdot.gov.