



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

for

FM 3380 (Manuel F. Aguilera Highway)
From 0.35 mile south of State Highway 20 (Alameda Avenue)
to Interstate Highway 10 at O.T. Smith Road
El Paso County, Texas
TxDOT CSJ: 0924-06-311

In accordance with 23 CFR Section 771.119 and Section 771.121, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has determined that construction of Phase II and Phase III of FM 3380 (Manuel F. Aguilera Highway), a new major arterial facility located just north of the town of Tornillo, El Paso County, Texas, will not have a significant impact on the human or natural environment. This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Preferred Alternative is based on the final Environmental Assessment dated December 2014, and the entire project record. This decision documents the selection of Alternative A, presented in the final EA as the Preferred Alternative, which is described as follows:

- Alternative A, the Preferred Alternative, is approximately 3.88 miles in length and originates at the terminus of Manuel F. Aguilera Highway – Phase I, approximately 0.35 mile south of State Highway (SH) 20. The alignment would continue in a northeast direction from SH 20 and then traverses to the southeast to intersect with Interstate Highway (IH) 10 at an existing interchange. The 200-foot wide right-of-way would accommodate the roadway (initial two lanes and ultimate four lanes), roadway features, drainage, stormwater detention ponds, and utilities.

The initial phased construction would include two 12-foot lanes with 10-foot shoulders. A grade separation at SH 20 and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks would include a bridge span of approximately 1,818 linear feet. Minimal vertical clearance would be approximately 24 feet at SH 20 and 25 feet at the UPRR tracks. The design includes access roadways and ramps at the SH 20/UPRR grade separation and at O.T. Smith Road at the northern terminus. The roadway would be expanded to four lanes when traffic volumes warrant and additional funding becomes available.

A Notice of Availability of the draft EA was issued on June 29, 2014. A public hearing for this project was held on July 29, 2014. No changes to the draft EA were made as a result of comments received on the draft EA during the posted comment period or from comments made at the public hearing; however, Section 1.4 – Funding, and Section 5.16 – Air Quality, were updated and revised in the final EA (December 2014). A Public Hearing Summary and Analysis report and certification that the required hearing was held have been prepared and are available for review on request.

The final EA, the Public Hearing Summary and Analysis report, and reports contained in the file of record have been independently evaluated by TxDOT and determined to adequately and accurately discuss the need, purpose, alternatives, environmental issues, impacts of the proposed project, and appropriate mitigation measures. These documents provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. These documents are incorporated by reference into this decisional document.

Based upon TxDOT's review and consideration of the analysis and evaluation contained in the EA for this project, and after careful consideration of all social, economic, and environmental factors, including input from the public involvement process, TxDOT hereby issues this Finding of No Significant Impact for Phase II and Phase III of the FM 3380 (Manuel F. Aguilera Highway)

project from 0.35 mile south of State Highway 20 (Alameda Avenue) to Interstate Highway 10 at O.T. Smith Road, El Paso County, Texas.

TxDOT will ensure completion and adherence to all project commitments as described in the final EA (December 2014), Section 9.0. TxDOT will ensure that any and all local, state, or federal permit requirements and conditions are met and otherwise complied with.

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 the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

12/29/14
Date


TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division Director