



Finding of No Significant Impact for a FHWA Project

Proposed Action: Farm-to-Market (FM) Road 2854

Project Limits: From Loop 336 to Interstate Highway 45

City: Conroe **County:** Montgomery **State:** Texas

TxDOT CSJ(s): 2744-01-011

In accordance with 23 CFR Section 771.119 and Section 771.121, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has determined that FM 2854 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 July 2016 and the entire project record. This decision documents the selection of the Build Alternative presented in the Final EA as the Preferred Alternative, which is described as:

The proposed improvements would reconstruct the existing two-lane, undivided facility to a four-lane roadway with a curb and gutter and a flush median. The improvements include the addition of one 12-foot-wide travel lane and one 15-foot-wide shared use lane in each direction with a 14-foot-wide flush median. Along the north side of the right-of-way, a 6-foot-wide sidewalk would be constructed. The proposed drainage system consists of storm sewers, an open, shared ditch with the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railroad and two detention ponds. The proposed detention ponds are located along Alligator Creek near the eastern project terminus and west of Sgt. Ed Holcomb Boulevard, both north of the existing right-of-way.

A Notice of Availability of the Draft EA was issued on June 3, 2016.

A Notice Affording Opportunity for a Public Hearing was published on June 3 and June 8, 2016.

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 (if applicable). A reduction in the additional proposed right-of-way did occur. This reduction was due to additional existing right-of-way information becoming available within the project limits, in particular near the intersection of Loop 336 and FM 2854.

A Notice Affording Opportunity for a Public Hearing and certification that a hearing opportunity was offered has been prepared and is available for review on request.

The Final EA 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 the FM 2854 project from Loop 336 to Interstate Highway 45.

TxDOT will ensure adherence and completion of all project commitments described in the Final EA July



Finding of No Significant Impact for a FHWA Project

2016, 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.

TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division Director

Date