



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
I-35 NORTHEAST SAN ANTONIO EXPANSION PROJECT**

From I-410 South to FM 1103
CSJs: 0016-05-111, 0016-06-047, 0016-07-113, and 0017-10-168
Bexar, Comal, and Guadalupe Counties

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 26, 2015 on the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed transportation improvements to I-35 from the I-35/I-410 South interchange in San Antonio to FM 1103 in Schertz, Texas, a distance of approximately 15.4 miles. The purpose of the public hearing is to present the proposed improvements in this area, and to receive public comment. 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 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and TxDOT.

The proposed Build Alternative would add four elevated managed lanes (two lanes in each direction) to the existing 6 to 10-lane facility between I-410 South and FM 1103. A managed lane is a travel lane that operates separately from the mainlanes. Travel on these lanes is managed through a combination of pricing, vehicle eligibility, and access control strategies to achieve faster, more reliable speeds. Direct connectors at the I-35/I-410 South, I-35/I-410 West, and I-35/Loop 1604 interchanges and operational improvements are also proposed, as well as interim access to the proposed managed lanes facility between Loop 1604 and FM 1103. The purpose of the proposed project is to implement transportation alternatives that improve mobility in the I-35 corridor in a manner that will manage vehicle congestion, promote efficient use of existing transportation facilities, minimize impacts to the natural and built environment, and complement other modes of transportation and economic development initiatives in the region.

South of FM 3009, the proposed elevated managed lanes would generally be constructed between the existing mainlanes and frontage roads; however, north of FM 3009, the managed lanes would cross over the I-35 general purpose mainlanes and drop down into the middle of the northbound and southbound general purpose mainlanes, going from elevated to at-grade and continuing down the middle of I-35 until they tie into the I-35 mainlanes and end just north of FM 1103.

The proposed project would require reconstruction of the bridges and intersections at FM 2252, Old Wiederstein Road, and FM 1103. North of FM 3009, the existing mainlanes would also need to be moved farther out to make room for the at-grade section of the managed lanes in the middle. This widening would require relocating the existing I-35 entrance and exit ramps in this area, but would also allow for reconfiguration of the interchange ramps to an X-pattern, which is consistent with the ramp reversal pattern already being implemented through separate projects south of FM 2252.

The proposed project would require approximately 26 acres of additional right-of-way (ROW). The typical existing ROW width ranges from approximately 300 to 400 feet (ft) throughout the proposed project corridor. The actual ROW footprint varies substantially, ranging from approximately 300 ft up to 1,100 ft near intersections and interchanges where additional space is needed to accommodate turn lanes and frontage roads that form interchange boundaries. The proposed project does not change the typical ROW widths. Approximately 68 parcels would be associated with ROW acquisitions for the proposed project. A total of 1 residence, 2 businesses, portions of 2 parking facilities, 2 signs, 11 billboards, and 1 sewage lift station are anticipated to be displaced by the proposed project. Information about the TxDOT Relocation



Assistance Program, benefits and services for displacements, as well as information about the tentative schedule for ROW acquisition and construction may be obtained from the TxDOT San Antonio District Office. Relocation assistance is available for any displaced persons and businesses. The proposed project would require the development of approximately 46 acres of 100-year floodplain. It would not encroach on a wetland or sole-source aquifer recharge zone.

The I-35 Northeast San Antonio Expansion Project public hearing will be held as follows:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2015

Morgan's Wonderland
Event Center / Conference Room
5223 David Edwards Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78233

Agenda:

Open House Session - Come and go any time from 5-6 p.m.

Formal Presentation - 6:00 p.m.

Public Hearing Comment Period - Following Presentation

The first part of the event will be an open house session for the public to view displays and handouts, speak to project staff, and provide verbal or written comments. The formal presentation will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m. Public comments about the project will be received immediately following the presentation.

A virtual public hearing will also be available for those wishing to view the same presentation, displays and handouts provided at the public hearing and provide comments online. The online version will be available from Thursday, February 26 – Monday, March 9, 2015 at www.txdot.gov (key word search "I-35 Northeast San Antonio"). Hard copies of the maps, drawings, environmental reports, and documents concerning the project will also be available for viewing at the TxDOT – San Antonio District Office; 4615 NW Loop 410; San Antonio, TX 78229 from 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

All interested persons are invited to attend the public hearing and to provide comments. Written and verbal comments from the public are requested and may be presented for a period of 10 calendar days following the hearing. Written comments may be submitted in person, through the online public hearing, emailed to info@i35northeast.com, or mailed to the following address:

I-35 Northeast San Antonio Expansion Project
130 East Travis Street, Ste. 200
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Online and/or mailed comments must be postmarked on or before March 9, 2015 to be included in the official public hearing record.

Persons requiring special communication or accommodation needs should contact Melissa Bernal at 210-615-5811 at least two (2) working days prior to the hearings. Because it will be conducted in English, any request for language interpreters or other special communication needs should also be made at least two (2) working days prior to the public hearing. TxDOT will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate these needs.

Please visit the web page at www.txdot.gov (key word search "I-35 Northeast San Antonio") or contact Laura Lopez at 210-615-5839 for additional information about the public hearing, project documentation, or for any other project-related questions.

