

FM 973 Realignment – Project Update

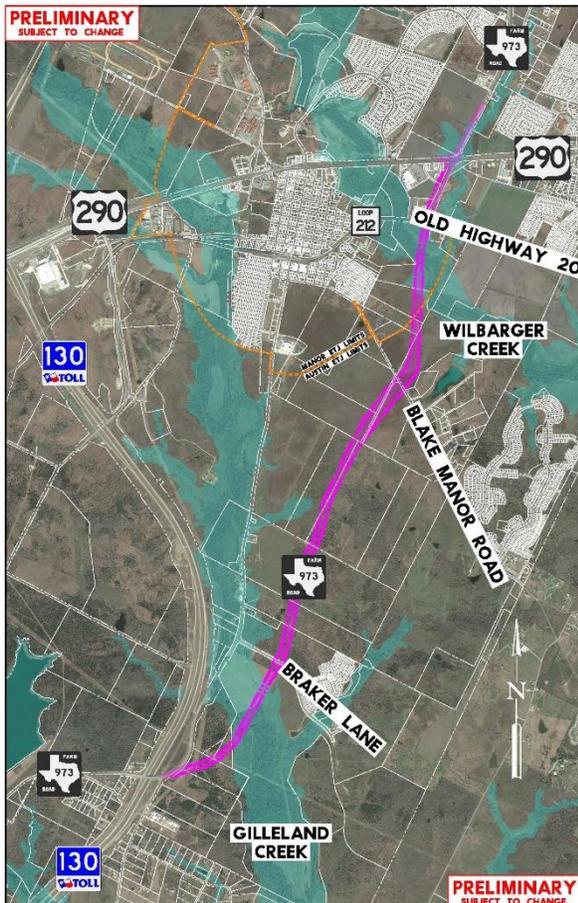
Preliminary Design and Environmental Studies Over Half-Way Complete

The Texas Department of Transportation’s schematic design and environmental study to realign FM 973 between US 290 and SH 130 is approximately 60 percent complete. Located east of Manor, the project addresses traffic congestion with additional capacity and provides a direct route between US 290 and SH 130. The preliminary drainage reports, traffic models and cross sections are under development.

NOAA Atlas 14 – Right-of-Way Impact

Late last year, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) released updated rainfall data showing higher rain amounts throughout the state of Texas. In the Austin Region, the rainfall depths have increased over previous historical data, and TxDOT is implementing these updated values for drainage design and mitigation analysis for all projects in the schematic phase. Based on this data, hydraulic models and calculations are now being updated and the results could possibly increase the project’s right-of-way needs. When the hydraulic models are completed, TxDOT will share any revisions to the anticipated right-of-way needs. TxDOT welcomes any questions regarding these impacts.

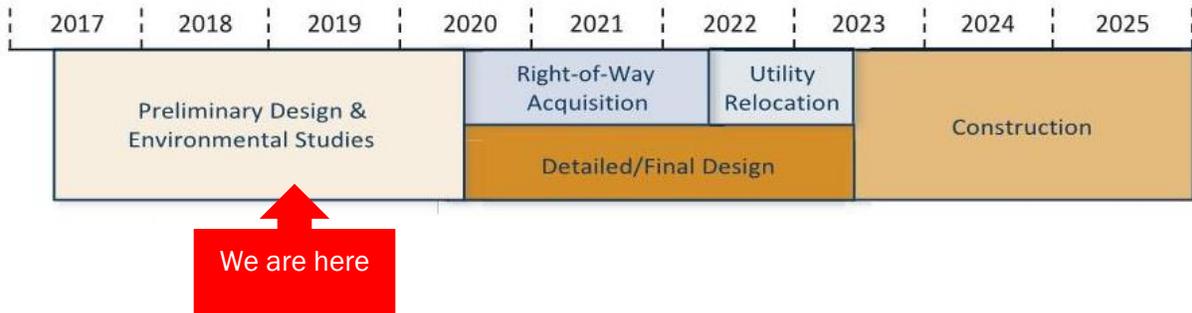
Project Overview



The proposed project would realign a portion of FM 973 to a new location and expand the roadway to six travel lanes—three in each direction—and include a grassy median and turn lanes in various locations. The typical right-of-way width is currently anticipated to be between 200 and 240 feet and includes a shared-use path.

TxDOT is continuing preliminary design for FM 973. The anticipated project timeline is shown below.

ANTICIPATED PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE*



Please visit the project website [here](#) for more information on the project including the open house held on December 7, 2017. We will notify our stakeholders of additional upcoming meetings and ways to provide input. Please note that the TxDOT Project Manager for the project is now Reza Arti, P.E. You may contact Reza via email at Reza.Arti@txdot.gov with any additional questions.