



Notice

Draft Environmental Assessment Available for Public Review

and

Public Hearing

SH 71

From CR 206 to SH 21

CSJs: 0265-03-041

Bastrop County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing to address increased congestion on SH 71 from CR 206 to SH 21 in Bastrop County, Texas. This notice advises the public that a draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting a public hearing on the proposed project. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at the Bastrop Convention & Exhibit Center, 1408 Chestnut Street, Bastrop, TX 78602. Displays will be available for viewing at 5:30 p.m. with the formal hearing starting at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements and to receive public comment on the proposed project.

The proposed improvements include: constructing new frontage roads, adding an overpass on SH 71 over the FM 1209 intersection, adding shared-use paths on both sides of SH 71 and FM 1209, improvements to FM 1209, and adding turnarounds to the intersection of SH 71 and FM 1209.

The length of the proposed project is approximately 2.5 miles and would require approximately 32.5 acres of additional right of way. The proposed project would displace seven residential properties and 25 commercial structures. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program, benefits and services for displacees, as well as information about the tentative schedules for ROW acquisition and construction can be obtained from the TxDOT district office at the address listed below. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses.

The draft EA, maps showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the project are on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Bastrop Area Office, located at 174 SH 21 East in Bastrop, (512) 321-2221, or the TxDOT Austin District headquarters, located at 7901 N. I-35 in Austin, (512) 832-7000 and on the TxDOT website at www.txdot.gov and enter "SH 71 at FM 1209" in the search area. This information also will be available for inspection at the hearing. Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the project are requested and may be presented at the hearing, or submitted in person or by mail to the TxDOT Austin District Office, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, TX 78761-5426, Attn: Giuly Caceres, P.E. Comments must be received on or before May 15, 2019 to be part of the official hearing record.

The hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs, such the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Mitzi Ellison, Public Involvement Project Lead, at (512) 761-2711 or by email at mitzi@nancyledbetter.com. Requests should be made at least four days prior to the hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the hearing, please contact Giuly Caceres, P.E., Project Manager, at (512) 832-7104 or by email at Giuly.Caceres@txdot.gov.

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.