



NOTICE

Draft Environmental Assessment and Virtual Public Hearing

10/69 Interchanges Project
I-10 from Walden Road (County Road 131) to 7th Street
and
US 69 from Fannett Road (State Highway 124) to 11th
Street
CSJs: 0028-13-135; 0739-02-140
Jefferson County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Beaumont District, as the lead agency, is proposing to reconstruct and expand I-10 from Walden Road (County Road 131) to 7th Street and US 69 from Fannett Road (State Highway 124) to 11th Street in Jefferson 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 virtual public hearing on the proposed project. The virtual hearing will be held via pre-recorded presentation that will be available starting Tuesday, April 28, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. To participate in the virtual public hearing, go to the following web address www.txdot.gov and **Search: 10/69 Interchanges Virtual Public Hearing** at the date and time indicated above. Project staff will provide a pre-recorded video presentation regarding the project. The video will include both audio and visual components.

If you do not have internet access, you may call (409) 898-5732 to ask questions about the project and access project materials at any time during the project development process.

Members of the public may also call (409) 898-5880 and verbally provide testimony: the voicemail will only be available from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 immediately following the virtual public hearing presentation. Formal written comments may also be provided by mail, email or online as explained below. All verbally-provided testimony and timely written comments submitted by mail, email or online will be included as part of the official record for this hearing and project, and considered by TxDOT. Responses to verbally provided testimony and comments will be prepared by TxDOT, included as part of the hearing and project record, and made available online. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements and to receive public comment on the proposed project.

The proposed project would widen I-10 from Walden Road (County Road 131) to 7th Street and widen US 69 from Fannett Road (State Highway 124) to 11th Street. Between the Cardinal Drive and Eastex Freeway interchanges, the roadway would be widened in each direction from four lanes to five lanes. The roadway approaches to the Cardinal Drive and Eastex Freeway interchanges on I-10 and US 69 would be widened in each direction from two lanes to three lanes. The project also includes new frontage roads for continuity throughout the limits, relocating I-10 ramps, and constructing two-lane direct connectors in each direction where I-10 and US 69 converge within the project limits. In addition, the project includes the removal of the Maury Meyers Bridge (Liberty/Laurel Overpass) to address a height constraint for freight movements and includes upgrading drainage to meet current design standards. The total project length is approximately 5 miles.

Existing right of way (ROW) at the Eastex Freeway interchange varies from approximately 250 feet to 350 feet. Existing ROW at the Cardinal interchange varies from approximately 290 feet to 450 feet. Approximately 11 acres of additional ROW is anticipated as part of the proposed project, mostly within the Eastex Freeway interchange, including potential easements or ROW for drainage. The ROW would remain unchanged at the Cardinal Drive interchange, but the ROW at the Eastex Freeway interchange is proposed to increase approximately 250 feet at its widest part. The proposed project would displace 41 commercial businesses and one government office within 12 commercial properties. No residential displacements are anticipated. 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 or by calling (409) 898-5732. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses.

Waters of the United States (WOUS) and wetlands are located within the proposed project area and may be impacted by the proposed project. Impacts to WOUS and wetlands would be authorized under a U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 Permit. Permanent impacts would be minimized to the greatest extent possible and all permanent fills would comply with conditions of Section 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act. The proposed project is within a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated 100-year floodway and the FEMA-designated 100-year floodplain. The hydraulic design for this project would be in accordance with current FHWA and TxDOT design policies.

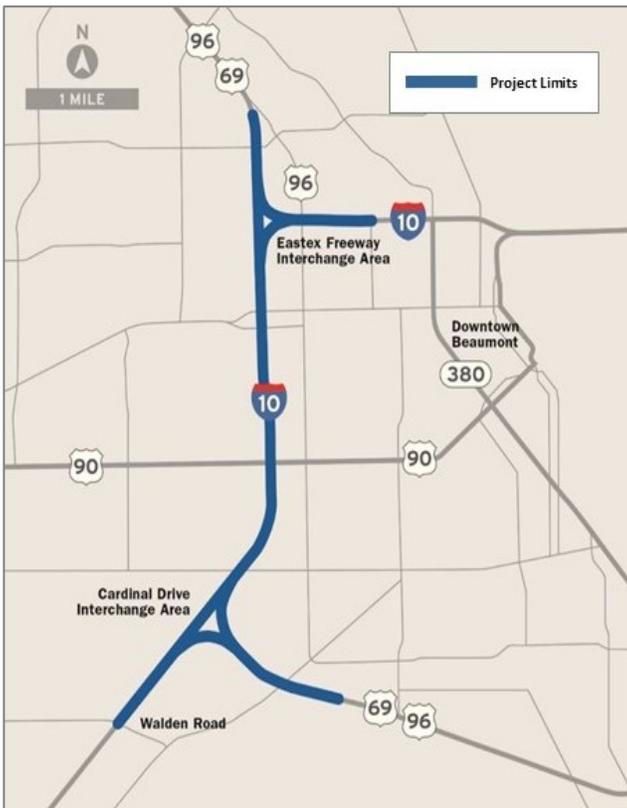
The draft EA, maps showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the project are available online at www.txdot.gov using keywords **10/69 Interchanges Virtual Public Hearing**.

TxDOT makes every reasonable effort to accommodate the needs of the public. The virtual public hearing pre-recorded video will be presented in English. If you have a special accommodation or need for an interpreter, a request can be made. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can also be made to accommodate most needs. Please call TxDOT Public Information Officer Sarah Dupre at (409) 898-5745 no later than Thursday, April 23, 2020. Please be aware that advanced notice is requested as some accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange.

Written comments from the public regarding the project are requested and may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Beaumont District Office, 8350 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas 77708. Written comments may also be submitted by email to bmtprojects@txdot.gov. All written comments must be received on or before Wednesday, May 13, 2020. Additionally, as stated above, members of the public may call (409) 898-5880 and verbally provide testimony from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. immediately following the posting of the virtual hearing pre-recorded video. Responses to written comments received and public testimony provided will be available online at www.txdot.gov using keywords 10/69 Interchanges Virtual Public Hearing once they have been prepared.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the hearing, please contact the TxDOT Project Manager, at (409) 898-5732 or via email bmtprojects@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 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.



WHEN:

Pre-recorded Virtual Public Hearing will be available on www.txdot.gov starting on: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 5:30 PM

You may leave a recorded voicemail with your verbal comments on:
Date: April 28, 2020
Time: 6 – 9 p.m. ONLY
Phone: (409) 898-5880

WHERE:

www.txdot.gov

Search: 10/69 Interchanges Virtual Public Hearing

Written Comments must be received by **Wednesday, May 13, 2020**, and may be submitted by mail, email or online to:

TxDOT Project Manager
8350 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, Texas 77708
bmtprojects@txdot.gov