



PUBLIC HEARING

US 69 AT PINE ISLAND BAYOU

Tram Road to Cooks Lake Road

Hardin and Jefferson Counties, Texas



ELECTED & PUBLIC OFFICIALS

DISTRICT & AGENCY STAFF

CONSULTANTS



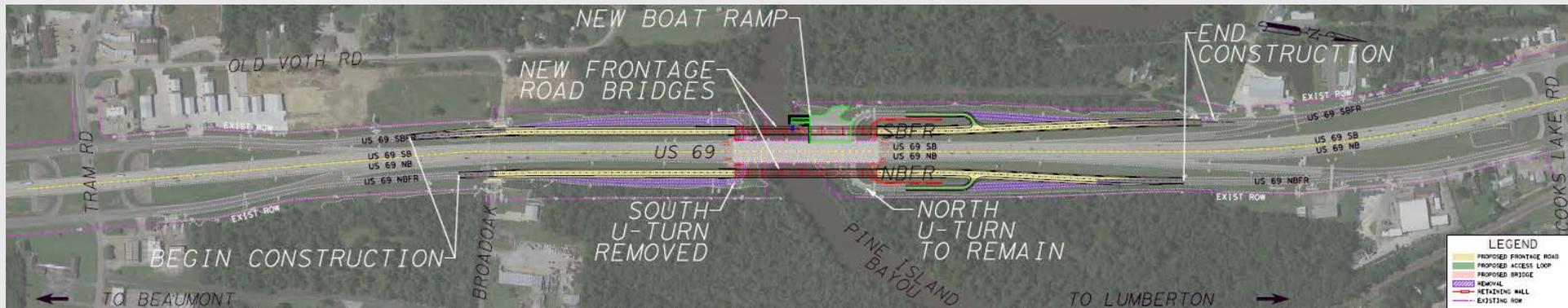
- **Purpose of the Public Hearing:** To present the planned improvements and receive comments from the public
- **Options for Commenting:**
 - 1) Verbal comments will commence after the intermission
 - 2) Written comments can be placed in the comment box
 - 3) E-Mail comments to: Andrew.Lee@txdot.gov
 - 4) Mail comments to: Andrew Lee, District Bridge Engineer
TxDOT Beaumont District
8350 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77708

Deadline for comments: Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Public Hearing Procedures and Agenda

1	Welcome	TxDOT
2	Project Overview	LJA
3	Environmental Overview	B&A
4	30-minute Recess	TxDOT
5	Public Comments	TxDOT
6	Project Schedule and Next Steps	TxDOT
7	Adjournment	TxDOT

Project Overview



Need and Purpose

Need

- US 69 lacks connectivity without continuous frontage roads, resulting in congestion and reduced mobility

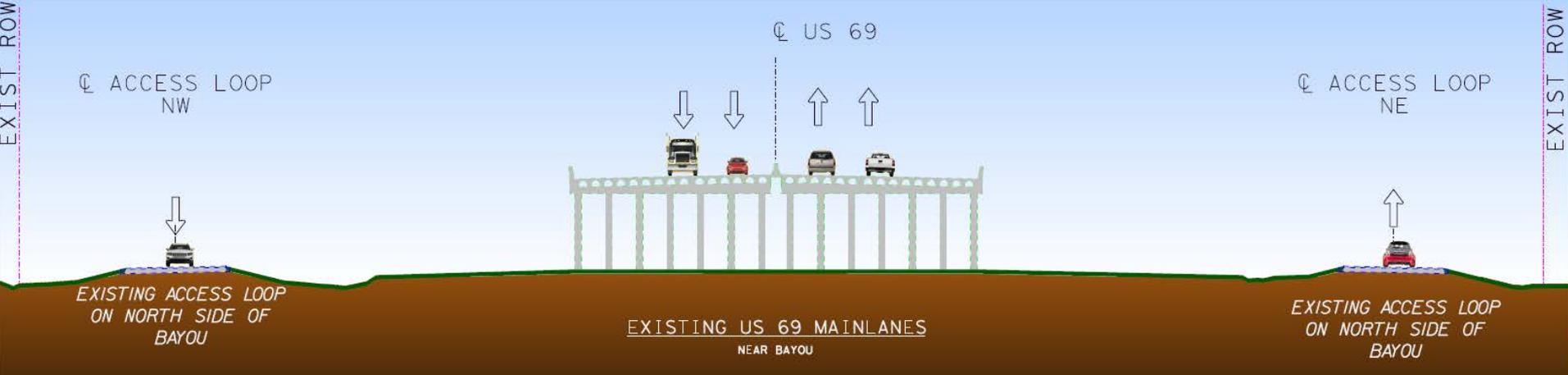
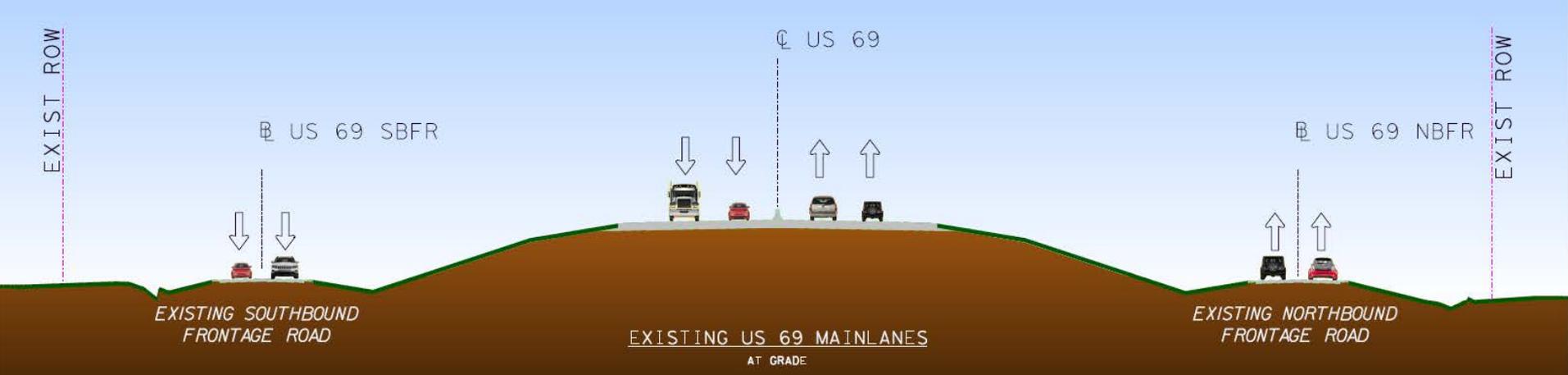
Traffic Projections for US 69 at Pine Island Bayou	
Year	Average Daily Traffic (vehicles per day)
2018	56,600
2038	77,300
2048	87,600

- Lack of sufficient hurricane evacuation capacity

Purpose

- Improve mobility and relieve hurricane evacuation congestion

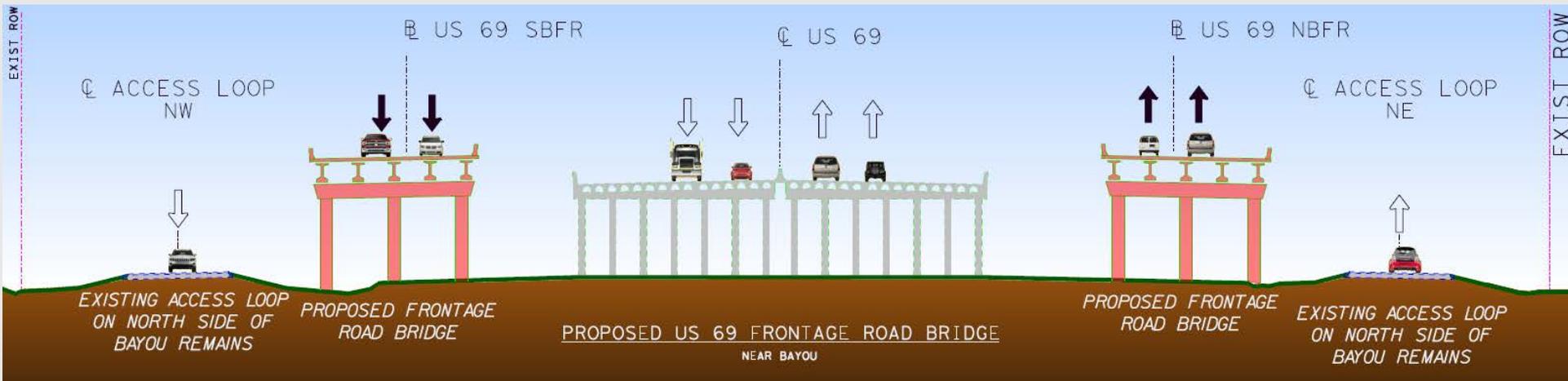
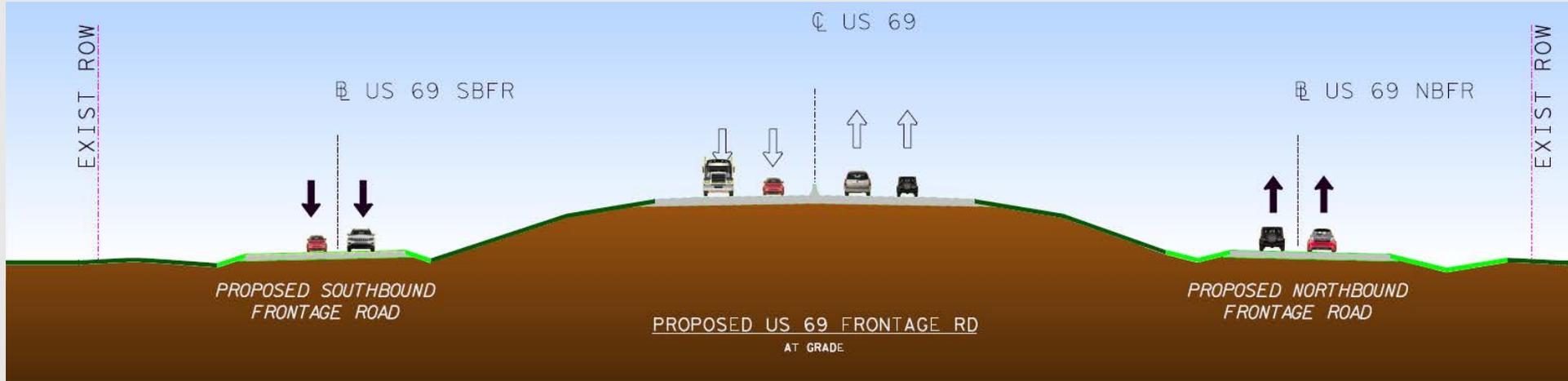
Existing Facility



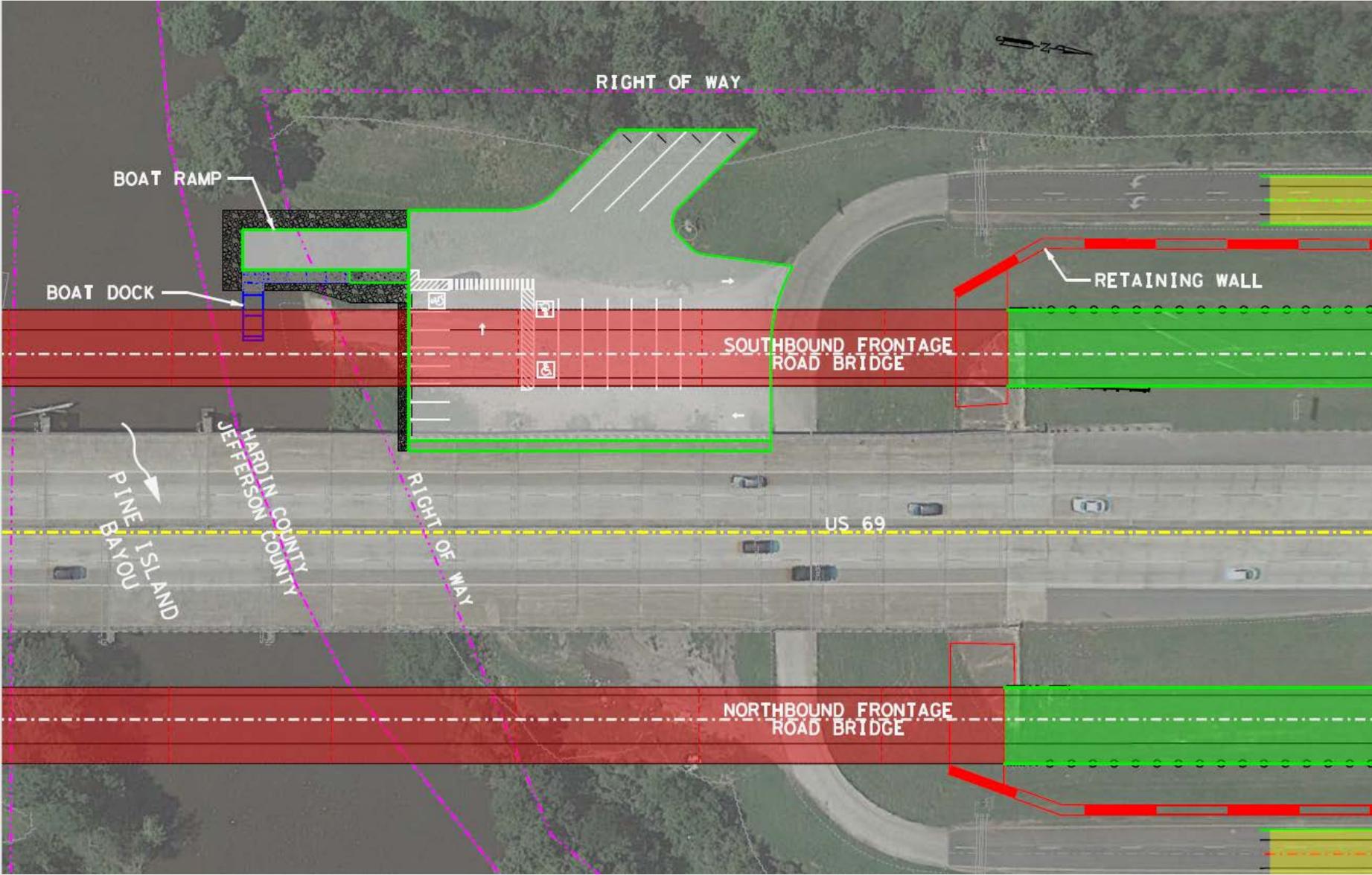
US 69 at Pine Island Bayou Frontage Roads Project- Recommended Preferred Alternative

- Construct new continuous northbound and southbound frontage roads between Tram Road and Cooks Lake Road
- Construct new frontage road bridges over Pine Island Bayou
- Remove the existing U-turn located south of Pine Island Bayou
- Reconstruct the boat ramp located north of Pine Island Bayou
- No additional right-of-way is anticipated

Proposed Facility



Proposed Boat Ramp



Project Planning and Funding

- Project is consistent with the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission Metropolitan Planning Organization's Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2040, as amended, and the Transportation Improvement Plan
- Total Estimated Project Cost: approximately \$10.6 million
- Funding Source: state funds

An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared for the proposed project.

The EA evaluated impacts to the natural and human environment, including:

- Vegetation
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Water Resources
- Air Quality
- Cultural Resources
- Hazardous Materials
- Utilities
- Environmental Justice and Limited English Proficiency
- Access and Travel Patterns
- Visual Impacts

Vegetation Impacts

Potential impacts to:

- Approximately 3 acres of Urban vegetation
- Approximately < 0.01 acre of Riparian vegetation

Threatened and Endangered Species Impacts

- Potential habitat for 12 state-listed species and 2 rare species
- No effect to federally protected species

Water Resources Impacts

- Section 404 Nationwide Permit (NWP) 14 (Linear Transportation Projects)
- Section 404 NWP 36 (Boat Ramps)
- Section 401 of Clean Water Act
- U.S. Coast Guard Permit

Environmental Overview

Air Quality

- National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)
- Mobile Source Air Toxics (MSAT)

Cultural Resources

- No effects to historic resources
- No effect on archeological historical properties or State Archeological Landmarks (SALs) is anticipated

Hazardous Materials

- No hazardous materials concerns

Utilities

- No relocation or reconfiguration of utilities of existing utilities is required

Environmental Justice and Limited English Proficiency

- No disproportionately high or adverse impacts to Environmental Justice or Limited English Proficiency populations

Access and Travel Patterns

- Access to all adjacent properties would be maintained
- Project would remove the existing U-turn south of Pine Island Bayou

Visual Impacts

- Construction of a visual barrier was determined to not be necessary

Agency Coordination

- Beaumont Independent School District
- Lower Neches Valley Authority
- Big Thicket Natural Heritage Trust
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Coshatta Tribe of Texas
- Big Thicket National Preserve
- Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- United States Coast Guard

Reviewing Project Information

- Project plans and the environmental document are available for viewing tonight
- Environmental document can be viewed on the internet at <http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/beaumont/us69-pine-island-bayou.html>.
- Project information can be viewed Monday through Friday at the TxDOT Beaumont District Office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.:

**TxDOT Beaumont District Office
8350 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, TX 77708**

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30 Minute Recess

Verbal Comments



Q = QIN

Next Steps

Spring 2017

- Public Comment Period Ends Wednesday, April 26, 2017
- Public Hearing Summary Complete
- Environmental Clearance
- Project Available for Contract Bid (Letting)

Summer 2017

- Construction Scheduled to Begin

Construction Duration: 19-20 months

Thank You For Your Participation!

Please remember to submit your comments on or before
Wednesday, April 26, 2017

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***Public Hearing Summary will be posted at www.txdot.gov when analysis is complete