



## ***Finding of No Significant Impact for a FHWA Project***

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**Proposed Action:** Airport Boulevard  
**Project Limits:** From Hiram Clarke Road to FM 521 (Almeda Road)  
**City:** Houston      **County:** Harris      **State:** Texas  
**TxDOT CSJ(s):** 0912-71-386

In accordance with 23 CFR Section 771.119 and Section 771.121, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has determined that Airport Boulevard from Hiram Clarke Road to FM 521 will not have a significant impact on the human or natural environment.

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Preferred Alternative is based on the final Environmental Assessment dated July 2017 and the entire project record. This decision documents the selection of the Build Alternative, presented in the final EA, as the Preferred Alternative, which is described as:

The Build Alternative would include a proposed roadway facility 2.498 miles in length which would connect existing fragmented segments of Airport Boulevard through undeveloped/new location areas to complete a 4-lane divided boulevard between Hiram Clarke Road and FM 521. A 4-lane divided roadway with a raised center median is proposed for construction to match the first existing boulevard section of Airport Boulevard from Hiram Clarke Road to HCFCD Channel No. C146-00-00.

Airport Boulevard would be constructed on new location from HCFCD Channel No. C146-00-00 through to the intersection with Buffalo Speedway then to the intersection with Townwood Drive. The second existing segment of Airport Boulevard would be widened from a 2-lane roadway to a 4-lane boulevard from Townwood Drive to the Waterloo Drive intersection. East of the Waterloo Drive intersection, Airport Boulevard is proposed to traverse the following residential streets in a northwest-southeast direction: Woodkerr Street, Lightstar Drive and Ambrose Street. East of Ambrose Street, Airport Boulevard would continue to the southeast, on new location, crossing HCFCD Channel No. C161-00-00 and a wooded undeveloped area, curve to the northeast through a grassy area between two existing ponds, and extend through to the intersection with Clover Lane. From Clover Lane, Airport Boulevard would curve eastward and continue through an undeveloped wooded area and end at FM 521 (eastern project terminus).

The Build Alternative would include proposed bridges at HCFCD Channel No. C146-00-00 and HCFCD Channel No. C161-00-00. Separate bridge structures for eastbound and westbound traffic are proposed at each HCFCD Channel which totals four proposed bridges within the

project limits. A culvert structure is proposed along Airport Boulevard at an unnamed tributary of Sims Bayou.

An approximately 7 acre detention pond for the Airport Boulevard project is preliminarily proposed east of HCFCD Channel No. C161-00-00 on the north side of the proposed roadway in an undeveloped area. TxDOT would finalize the location, design and acquire the proposed ROW for the detention area at a later date.

A Notice of Availability of the draft EA and public hearing was published on March 21, 2017 in *La Subasta* and on March 22, 2017 in the *Houston Chronicle*.

A public hearing for this project was held on April 6, 2017. Input received at the public hearing included comments regarding safety, traffic, noise, and air quality. The project team has thoroughly considered the comments received as a result of the public involvement process. No changes to the EA were made as a result of comments received on the EA during the posted comment period or from comments made at the public hearing.

A Public Hearing Summary and Analysis report and certification that the required hearing was held has been prepared and is available for review on request.

The final EA, the Public Hearing Summary and Analysis report, and reports contained in the file of record have been independently evaluated by TxDOT and determined to adequately and accurately discuss the need, purpose, alternatives, environmental issues, impacts of the proposed project, and appropriate mitigation measures. These documents provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. These documents are incorporated by reference into this decisional document.

Based upon TxDOT's review and consideration of the analysis and evaluation contained in the EA for this project, and after careful consideration of all social, economic, and environmental factors, including input from the public involvement process, TxDOT hereby issues this Finding of No Significant Impact for the Airport Boulevard project from Hiram Clarke Road to FM 521.

TxDOT will ensure adherence and completion of all project commitments described in the final EA (July 2017), Section 8.0. TxDOT will ensure that any and all local, state, or federal permit requirements and conditions are met and otherwise complied with.

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 the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

  
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TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division Director

7/11/17  
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Date