



## **Notice Affording an Opportunity for a Public Hearing**

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**Notice**  
**Draft Categorical Exclusion Available for Public Review and**  
**Opportunity for a Public Hearing**  
**STATE HIGHWAY 242 (SH 242)**  
**From Interstate Highway 45 (I-45) to Interstate Highway 69 (I-69/US 59)**  
**CSJs: 3538-01-032, 3538-01-035, 3538-01-036 & 3538-01-045**  
**Montgomery County, Texas**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is the lead agency proposing to widen State Highway 242 (SH 242) from Interstate Highway 45 (I-45) to Interstate Highway 69 (I-69/US 59) in Montgomery County, Texas. The total distance of the project is approximately 17.25 miles. Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, §2.106 and §2.108, this notice advises the public that draft environmental documents are available for public review and that TxDOT is affording an opportunity for a public hearing on the proposed project. 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.

The existing facility, between Needham Road and I-69, consists of a two-lane undivided roadway. The existing facility, between I-45 and Needham Road, has previously been widened to four lanes and therefore no additional widening is proposed on this segment.

The proposed project would create a divided four-lane highway by constructing a two-lane roadway to the north of the existing roadway. The new lanes would serve as the westbound lanes with the existing lanes being converted to serve eastbound traffic. The eastbound and westbound lanes would be separated by a grassy median. An overpass would be constructed at Farm-to-Market (FM) 1314. The purpose of the proposed project is to add capacity, improve mobility and traffic safety, and construct the roadway to meet current design standards. The existing SH 242 right-of-way (ROW) width varies within the project limits, but typically ranges from 200 to 240 feet. The proposed project would be constructed within the existing right-of-way; therefore, the proposed project would displace no residences or commercial structures.

Potential jurisdictional waters of the US, including wetlands were identified within the project limits. All unavoidable impacts to jurisdictional waters of the US, including wetlands, would require a Section 404 Permit with the US Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District.

Exhibits showing schematic plans for the proposed project corridor and other information relative to 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 Houston District Office, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007. To schedule an appointment at the Houston District Office please contact Wahida Wakil at (713) 802-5513. These items are also available at the TxDOT Area Office in Conroe at 901 North FM 3083 East, Conroe, Texas 77303. To schedule an appointment at the Conroe Area Office please call (936) 538-3300. The information is also online at the TxDOT website: <http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/houston/sh242.html>. Please reference project number 3538-01-032 in any requests for information.

Any interested citizen may request a public hearing covering the social, economic and environmental effects of the proposed location and design for this project. Requests for a public hearing must be submitted in writing on or before February 14, 2017 to the TxDOT Houston District Office, Director of Project Development, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251-1386. Additionally, any comments proposed project can be submitted to the address included above. If you have general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the opportunity for the public hearing, contact Wahida Wakil at (713) 802-5513.