



Notice

Public Hearing

US 59 UPGRADE REDLAND (FUTURE I-69)

From FM 2021 to 0.34 mile north of US 59/SL 287

CSJ: 0176-02-118

Angelina County, Texas

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in conjunction with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), as the lead agency, is proposing to construct frontage roads from FM 2021 to 0.34 mile north of US 59/SL 287 in order to meet interstate standards for potential future designation as I-69 in Angelina County, Texas. This notice advises the public that TxDOT will be conducting a public hearing on the proposed project. The hearing will be held on December 13, 2018 at the Ellen Trout Zoo Jaguar Room, at 402 Zoo Circle, Lufkin, Texas 75904. Displays will be available for viewing starting at 4:00 p.m. with the formal hearing starting at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements and to receive public comment on the proposed project.

The proposed 2.45 miles long project will bring US 59 in the Redland area up to interstate standards by constructing northbound and southbound frontage roads with two 12-foot wide lanes and reconstructing the existing US 59 main lanes to include two 12-foot wide travel lanes in each direction with median barrier. The proposed project will become a controlled access freeway which means there will not be direct access to the main lanes. Access to the main lanes is allowed via entrance and exit ramps.

The existing right of way (ROW) width varies from 165 feet to 620 feet. The proposed right-of-way (ROW) width would vary from 350 to 670 feet and would displace 17 residences, 12 commercial structures, and 6 other structures. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program, benefits and services for displaced property owners, 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.

Wetlands are present within the proposed ROW and will be impacted by the proposed improvements. Therefore, TxDOT will be required to obtain authorization under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act from the United States Army Corps of Engineers. In accordance with Executive Order 11990, no practicable alternatives were identified that would avoid impacts to wetlands. The proposed project will also cross floodplains; therefore, coordination with the local floodplain administrator will be required. The project is subject to and will comply with Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management.

Any environmental documentation or studies, 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 Lufkin District Office, 1805 N. Timberland Dr., Lufkin, TX 75901. This information will also 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, submitted in person or by mail to the TxDOT Lufkin District Office. Comments must be received on or before December 31, 2018 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 as the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Rhonda Oaks, District Public Information Officer at (936)633-4395 or at Rhonda.Oaks@txdot.gov. Requests should be made at least two 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 Jennifer Adams, I-69 Project Manager, at (936) 633-4469 or at Jennifer.Adams@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.