

 TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



**FM SPUR 121
(GRAYSON PARKWAY)
VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING**

From: County Road 60
To: FM 121



CSJ: 0091-10-211 July 28, 2020

Welcome to the FM Spur 121 virtual public meeting presented by The Texas Department of Transportation Paris District.

Thank you for joining us. My name is Dan Perry and I serve as the Director of Transportation Planning and Development for the Paris District. On behalf of Paris District Engineer Noel Paramanatham and Project Manager Duane Good, the department appreciates your interest in the FM Spur 121 project.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, TxDOT is hosting this virtual public meeting in lieu of a traditional, in-person public meeting. This pre-recorded presentation will show the same information that would have been presented during the in-person meeting. Please note that you may pause this video at any time to allow additional time to study each slide.

At the conclusion of this presentation, you will be provided several methods to submit comments to the department. Your comments will be addressed in the formal meeting documentation and will be given full consideration as the department prepares final recommendations for this project.

All maps and exhibits showing the project location and design as well as other information and materials about the proposed project are available for your review at www.txdot.gov by searching “FM Spur 121”.

Purpose of this Virtual Public Meeting

- Inform the public of project status.
- Describe the project so the public can determine how they may be affected.
- Provide the public the opportunity to view project information and provide input.
- Develop a record of public participation to accompany recommendations for the proposed project.

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Similar to an in person public meeting, this virtual public meeting has four essential purposes:

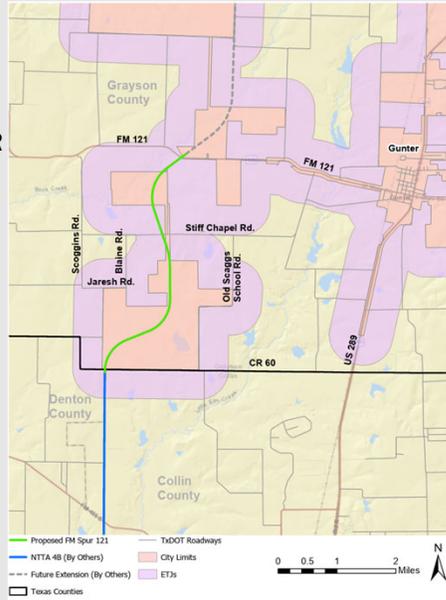
- To inform the public of the status of the project and present the recommendations based on studies performed to date.
- To describe the project so those participating can determine the project's potential to affect their lives and property.
- To give the public an opportunity to provide their comments and input on the project before location and design decisions are finalized. However, due the virtual format, the comment process may be a little different than what you are used too. We will give a detail explanation of the ways to provide input on the project shortly.
- And finally, to develop a record of public views and participation to accompany recommendations for any decisions.

This public meeting is being held in compliance with both federal and state laws.

I will now introduce Katelyn Kowalczyk (pronounce Ka-wall-chic), BGE's Environmental Project Manager, who has been assisting TxDOT with developing this virtual public hearing.

Project Overview

- TxDOT Paris District, with support from the Grayson County Regional Mobility Authority (GCRMA), is proposing to construct a new location roadway from CR 60 (at the Denton/Grayson County line) north to FM 121 in Grayson County, referred to as the FM Spur 121 (Grayson Parkway). The approximate length is 4.5 miles.
- The proposed roadway location generally aligns with a previous routing study developed by the North Texas Tollway Authority for the extension of the Dallas North Tollway up to FM 121. Additional information on previous studies can be found at www.ntta.org (search “DNT Phase 4 & 5”) and www.txdot.gov (Search “Grayson County Tollway Study”).



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Thank you, Dan.

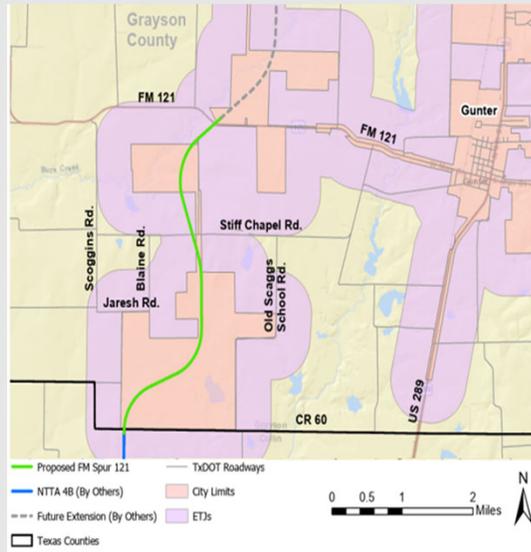
The TxDOT Paris District and the Grayson County Regional Mobility Authority, also known as GCRMA, is proposing to construct a two-lane, two-way roadway with shoulders from County Road 60 (at the Denton/Grayson County line) north to FM 121, referred to as the FM Spur 121 or Grayson Parkway. The project is located approximately 4 miles west of Gunter, Texas.

The approximate project length is 4.5 miles and traverses primarily open pastures. The current estimated construction cost is approximately \$15.1 million dollars.

The proposed roadway location generally aligns with a previous routing study developed by the North Texas Tollway Authority for the extension of the Dallas North Tollway up to FM 121. Additional information on previous studies can be found at www.ntta.org (by searching “DNT Phase 4 & 5”) and www.txdot.gov (by searching “Grayson County Tollway Study”).

Project Need and Purpose

- Need for the project is to connect NTTA's future extension of the Dallas North Tollway ending at County Road 60 to FM 121.
- The purpose of the FM Spur 121 project is to:
 - improve safety
 - increase regional mobility
 - Improve connectivity



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With this project, TxDOT is addressing the need to connect the North Texas Tollway Authority, also known as NTTA, future extension of the Dallas North Tollway, known as DNT Segment 4B Frontage Road project (which would be constructed by NTTA), to a safe TxDOT facility, FM 121. Currently, the Segment 4B project would end at the Denton/Grayson county line at County Road 60, a 2-lane paved roadway that ranges between 18 and 20 feet wide with no shoulders.

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve safety, increase regional mobility, and improve connectivity.

The next few slides will discuss the proposed project.

Proposed Section – Ultimate Build Out

- Ultimate 400' right-of-way acquired by Grayson County for future roadway
- Design for future roadway would be 70 MPH, controlled-access facility with one-way access roads in each direction
- Ultimate roadway would not be built at this time



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Grayson County's ultimate plan for this corridor is to accommodate a 4 to 6 lane facility with a 400-foot right-of-way. Therefore, this project would include acquiring the ultimate ROW to be preserved for future expansion. This ultimate controlled access facility is designed for 70 mph with one-way access roads. The design of the FM Spur 121 Project follows the general alignment of the future southbound frontage road but is offset to allow for future construction without impacting traffic. The Ultimate project is anticipated to be constructed by Grayson County in the future, when travel demands warrant expansion.

Proposed Section – Initial Phase

- FM Spur 121 Proposed Section – 200' Right-of-Way
- Two-Lane, Two-way rural roadway with shoulders



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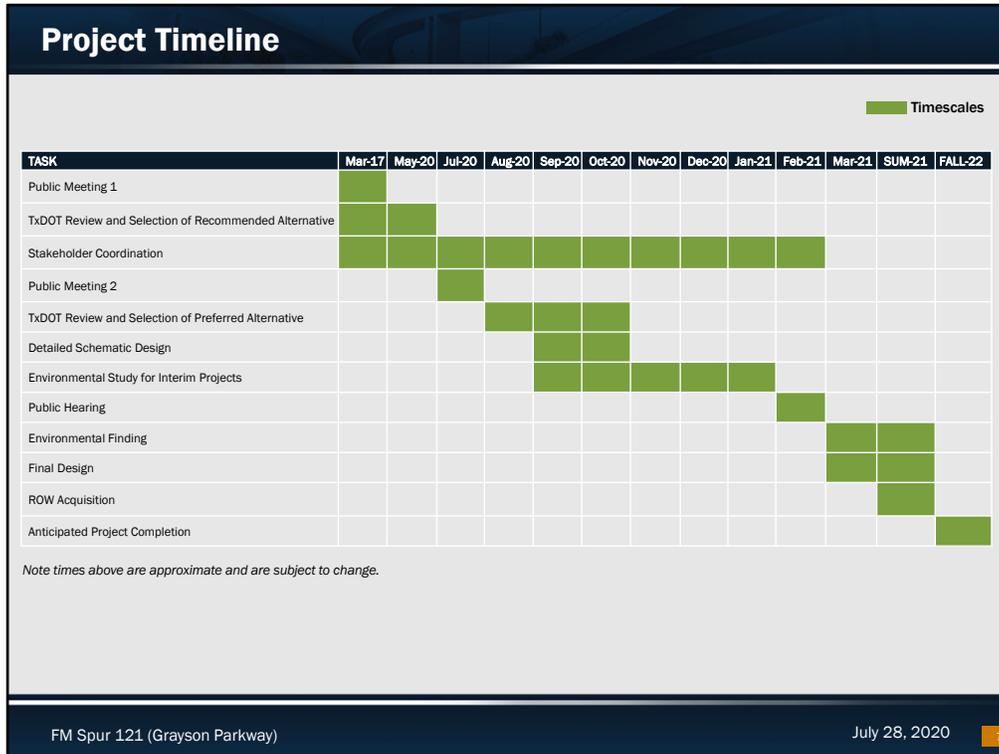
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TxDOT is proposing to use the western half of the ultimate right of way, approximately 200 feet of the 400-foot corridor, to construct the 2-lane, 2-way FM Spur 121 Project. As previously stated, the alignment is offset approximately 50 feet between the southbound frontage road and southbound main lanes.

The proposed design speed of the FM 121 Spur would be 50 mile per hour. TxDOT will conduct a speed limits study on the constructed FM Spur 121 to determine the safe and appropriate posted speed limits.

We encourage you to view the schematic design sheets, available on the public meeting webpage.



Since the project began, TxDOT has worked to collect information about needed improvements, develop alternatives, and seek input from the public and key stakeholders for the proposed FM Spur 121 project.

TxDOT held the first public meeting on March 20th, 2017 at the Gunter High School. During this meeting, four alternative alignments were presented to the public.

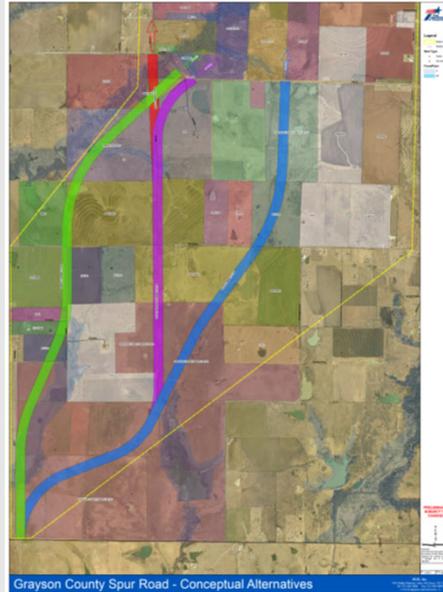
Through collaboration with the GCRMA, stakeholders and the design team, a recommended route was chosen. That route has been refined based on public input and stakeholder coordination which is being presented during this public meeting. TxDOT and the GCRMA will receive and review input from tonight’s meeting and advance into detailed schematic design.

Following this public meeting, TxDOT will develop environmental documents for the proposed interim project.

We are targeting a public hearing to present the design and environmental analyses in early 2021. TxDOT will review public input and process the environmental documentation through the summer of 2021. Once the project has received environmental findings and right of way has been acquired, the project is anticipated to begin construction in late 2021 and completed in the fall of 2022.

From Previous Public Meeting (March 2017)

- Among the 4 conceptual alternatives presented, the Purple route was recommended for schematic development.
- Public and stakeholder input and economic impact evaluation supports TxDOT's recommendation.



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During March 2017 public meeting, four alternatives were presented to the public. Those 4 alternatives are represented on this slide as green, red, purple, and blue. Based on public input received, stakeholder coordination, environmental and economic impacts, the purple route was selected for refinement and schematic development.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

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.

Prior to December 16, 2014, the Federal Highway Administration, or FHWA, reviewed and approved documents prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act, known as NEPA. However, on December 16, 2014, the Texas Department of Transportation assumed responsibility from FHWA to review and approve certain assigned NEPA environmental documents. The Memorandum of Understanding between TxDOT and FHWA was updated on December 9, 2019.

Environmental Review

- Environmental technical reports will be performed for the proposed project and include the following resources:
 - Air Quality
 - Community Impacts
 - Cultural Resources
 - Hazardous Materials
 - Biological Resources including vegetation and wildlife
 - Traffic Noise
 - Water Resources
- Once complete, the environmental technical reports will be available for public review in support of a Categorical Exclusion document.
- TxDOT will issue the environmental finding for the Categorical Exclusion at the end of the study to determine if the project can move forward.

Environmental technical reports will be performed for the proposed project in accordance with NEPA. The environmental analyses are necessary to identify, avoid, and minimize effects to the human and natural environments. Resources that will be evaluated during the environmental analyses including air quality, community impacts, cultural resources, hazardous materials, biological resources, traffic noise, and water resources.

An initial environmental constraints map is available on the project website for review.

Once the environmental technical reports are complete, they will be available for public review and comment following a public hearing that is tentatively scheduled for the spring of 2021.

The TxDOT will issue an environmental finding at the end of the study to determine if the project can move forward. The finding may include mitigation to offset adverse effects to sensitive resources.

How to Provide Comments

All comments must be received or postmarked by Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2020.

Electronic Comment Form	Available at www.txdot.gov search “FM Spur 121”, click “Submit Your Comment” button on right hand side of the page or scan the QR code on the right to access the electronic comment form.
Mail	Attention: Duane Good, P.E. TxDOT Paris District Office 1365 North Main Street Paris, TX 75460
E-mail	Duane.Good@txdot.gov



Scan Here!

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As previously stated, one of the goals of this public meeting is receive your thoughts, questions and concerns about the proposed project. We will now review the public comment process.

1. You may email your comments to: Duane.Good@txdot.gov.
2. Mail your comments to Duane Good, P.E., TxDOT Paris District Office, 1365 North Main Street, Paris, TX 75460.
3. You may submit your comments online:
 - A. Visit www.txdot.gov.
 - B. In the “Search TxDOT” box in the upper-right hand corner of the webpage, enter the search term: FM Spur 121.
 - C. Select the Virtual Public Meeting webpage, then click on the “Submit Your Comment” button at the top right of the page or click on the email link at the bottom of the page.
4. You may also scan this QR Code with your smartphone or tablet to access the electronic comment form.

All comments regarding the FM Spur 121 (Grayson Parkway) Project must be received or postmarked on or before Wednesday, August 12, 2020 to be included in the formal meeting documentation.

Project Contacts



Texas Department of Transportation

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the project, please contact the TxDOT project manager during regular business hours.

Duane Good, P.E.

(903) 737-9282

Duane.Good@txdot.gov

Monday – Friday / 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

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If you have any general questions or concerns regarding FM Spur 121 (Grayson Parkway) Project, please contact the TxDOT project manager, Duane Good, during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., by phone at (903) 737-9282 or by email at Duane.Good@txdot.gov.

Thank you for your interest and for providing input on the FM 121 Spur project.

Visit
www.txdot.gov search “FM Spur 121”
for additional project information and to subscribe for updates.

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Thank you for watching this virtual public meeting and interest concerning the proposed design of the FM Spur 121 (Grayson Parkway) Project.

Please visit TxDOT.gov for additional project information and to subscribe for project updates and meeting notices.

Thank you.