



# Finding of No Significant Impact for a FHWA Project

**Proposed Action:** Nolana Loop

**Project Limits:** FM 1426 (Raul Longoria Road) to FM 88 (Texas Avenue)

**City:** San Juan

**County:** Hidalgo

**State:** Texas

**TxDOT CSJ(s):** 0921-02-169 & 0921-02-361

In accordance with 23 CFR Section 771.119 and Section 771.121, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has determined that Nolana Loop 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 (EA) dated April 2020 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 scope of the project is to widen, reconstruct, and extend the existing roadway from FM 1426 (Raul Longoria Road) to FM 88. The project would use approximately 63 acres of existing ROW where possible along Earling Road and Mile 11 ½ Road. Approximately 2.5 miles of the project, from Victoria Road east to FM 88, would be on new location.

Nolana Loop would be constructed as an 84-foot-wide urban roadway consisting of four 12-foot-wide travel lanes, one 16-foot-wide continuous left turn lane, two 10-foot-wide shoulders, and six-foot-wide sidewalks on both sides of the roadway within a 120-foot-wide ROW. Drainage would be handled by a storm drain system. As part of the project, the intersection of Cesar Chavez Road would be reconstructed for approximately 1,286 feet to the north and south to include a proposed left turn lane. The project would use 7.3 miles of existing ROW along Earling Road and Mile 11 ½ Road, within the city limits of San Juan and rural Hidalgo County.

Three public meetings for this project were held on August 23, 2006, August 24, 2006, and January 10, 2017.

A Notice of Availability of the draft EA was issued on October 28, 2019.

A public hearing for this project was held on November 20, 2019.

No changes to the draft EA were made as a result of comments received on the draft EA during the posted comment period or from comments made at the public hearing.

Public Hearing Documentation has been prepared and is available for review on request.

The final EA, Public Meeting Documentation, Community Impacts Analysis, Air Quality Technical Report, Traffic Noise Analysis, Hazardous Materials Initial Site Assessment, Cultural Resources Reports, Biological Technical Report, Indirect & Cumulative Impacts Technical Report, Water Resources, Chapter 26 Packet, Section 4(f) Packet, Public Hearing Documentation, and other 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



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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 Nolana Loop project from FM 1479 (Raul Longoria Road) to FM 88 (Texas Avenue).

TxDOT will ensure adherence and completion of all project commitments described in the final EA May 2020, Section IX. 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 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

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*carlos swonke*  
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7/20/2020

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*TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division Director*

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*Date*