



US 281 (Future I-169C) Public Meeting

Project Location

Hidalgo County/Brooks County, Pharr District
CSJ: 0255-06-069, 0255-05-044, 0255-05-043 and 0255-04-096

Project Limits

US 281 from SH 186/FM1017 to FM 3066

Meeting Locations, Times, and Dates

October 23, 2018	October 25, 2018
Lasater Elementary School	Brewster Elementary School
200 W. Bennett	22420 FM 1017
Falfurrias, TX 78355	Edinburg, TX 7854
5 p.m.	5 p.m.

Translation Services

Spanish

Presenters

Melba Schaus, Pharr District Planning Engineer/Project Manager
Homer Bazan, Pharr District Director of Transportation Planning & Development

Elected Officials in Attendance

October 23, 2018 - Manuel Perez, Jr., City of Alderman
County Judge Eric Ramos
October 25, 2018 - Bernice M. Gonzalez, Hidalgo County Pct. 4
Ellie Torres, Hidalgo County Pct. 4 (Elect)
Aida Palacios for Senator Eddie Lucio's Office

Total Number of Attendees (approx.)

October 23, 2018 - 18 attendees
October 25, 2018 - 53 attendees

Number of Commenters

15

Contents

- A. Comments and Response Matrix
- B. Public Notices
- C. Sign-in Sheets
- D. Comments Received
- E. Court Reporter Transcripts
- F. Agenda and Fact Sheet
- G. Exhibits and Schematics
- H. Presentation
- I. Photos



US 281 (Future I-169C) Public Meeting

A. Comments and Response Matrix

TxDOT 281 Hidalgo Brooks County

Open House Comment Matrix 10-23-2018 & 10-25-2018

Commenter Number	Commenter Name	Date Received	Source	Representing	TxTrans Code: Check ones that apply	Comment Topic	Response
1	Thomas Slowinski	10/23/18	Comment Card	US Border Patrol		Concerned with drainage at checkpoint Concerned with Luminar lighting at checkpoint ramps (want it) both entering and exiting	Our drainage team will address any drainage issues to ensure no adverse impacts to the Checkpoint drainage This will be noted, and should be included in the PS&E design.
2	Thomas Slowinski	10/23/18	Public Meeting Verbal Comment			I'm Tom Slowinski. Good evening everyone, and my comments were on drainage and also the lighting, and this would be near our checkpoint. Obviously, 281 has had some drainage problems, you've seen that, and that---that would be our concerns that we want addressed. I think it's a great project, it's gonna help make the highway safe. Just want to make sure it's gonna drain and be well lit.	Yes, absolutely. In addition to everything you see on the tables here with the geometric design, we take a look at a lot of things as we come up with large scale project like this; lighting, property ownership, traffic projects and drainage, of course. I'm well aware of what's recently happened down here with the US 281 corridor, and so we will make sure that we if not improve, at least make it no worse than what is out there, as far as the drainage is concerned. So we'll definitely---and the lighting, as well. The lighting is more of a detailed design issue, but it's definitely something we can take a look at now, as far as how we light the corridor. So thank you for your comment.
3	Judge Ramos	10/23/18	Public Meeting Verbal Comment			Thank you all very much for taking an interest for improving our infrastructure and road so that we can get to where we need to go. Thank you, Mr. Slowinski, for bringing up the point. And my concern was when you said if we don't improve it, we'll at least not make it any worse. And I think you're aware that one side of 281, I don't know whether it was northbound or southbound, it flooded this last time between Encino and here, and our big concern is that we currently don't have a shelter in Encino. Anyone that needs a shelter, comes to Falfurrias. We have a bus that brings them over. There would have been issues. So I hope that we improve and not at least make it worse, right. We need to improve. Thank you.	Yes, sir. And one of the things we are looking at now, preliminary, is to come up with some solutions as to what we can do to provide some drainage for --along the corridor, so that we can try to improve the corridor's drainage. The one thing that we are looking at, it's an interstate, for sure the interstate will not flood. That's one of the things that we'll make sure that does not happen. As we do our study through the corridor, we will verify as we develop our drainage study that we prevent that from happening. The frontage roads is something that we will not be able to prevent on a large storm, but main lanes will not flood, that's one of the things. And when it goes to the PS&E stage, that is something that will be further looked into, and it will be looking at the preliminary drainage study that we come up with--or excuse me, the drainage study we come up with to verify that we follow that criteria. Mr. Bazan: And Tony, when the flooding occurred, Tony went out there with Pharr engineer, Rene Garza. They went out there and went to the site, itself, so that is something, Judge, that we plan to address in the design details and make sure that--that the main lanes, like Tony said, you know, don't ever flood. Thank you, Judge.
4	Presnall Cage (Court Reporter captured wrong name)	10/23/18	Public Meeting Verbal Comment			My name is Presnall Cage (Court reporter has name wrong on her report), and I represent the Cage Family. We have--the Cage Ranch represents about ---I'm guessing about eight miles of frontage on--here in this project on both sides of 281. My concern is, and I'm sure that you're aware of it, is the landowner's access and the possibility of getting us two-way access roads, instead of the one. You said it's four or five miles between overpasses and just-- if it was four miles and we have to access the road, we might have to go four miles, eight miles, just to get to town, and that's an awful long way to have to double back if you go to town four or five times like I do every day sometimes. So, anyway, I know that you all have been concerned from other people, have been contacted about--about the two way access. If anything has changed, or any kind of comment, I would appreciate it.	Thank you, Mr. Cage. Yeah, we're aware of that concern, that issue that's been brought up by, several of the property owners. It is a big change in the way you will access your property, it's a big change. And so we are looking at how--how we can locate those overpasses to minimize, that inconvenience, and we're doing the best we can on that. As far as two-way frontage roads, we, generally, try to not implement two-way frontage roads, because we're thinking that's a safety concern. So we try to avoid two-way frontage roads as much as we can--but that becomes a balance. We can't put too many overpasses, otherwise the expense is so much. But we'll be looking at the property owner's access as much as possible, and we'll try to maximize the location of the overpasses for that purpose. So thank you.
5	Unknown	10/23/18	Public Comment-Schematic			STA 1268+00, NBFR- Property Owner wanted to know how they were going to get to their driveway from the Overpass at STA 1305+00. Requested consideration of 2 way frontage roads	TxDOT responded by saying 2 way frontage roads are not in the plans and TxDOT is phasing out 2 way frontage roads statewide due to safety concerns. Moreover, the proposed facility is going to be upgraded to an Interstate standards and the Federal guidelines does not support and would not allow 2 way frontage roads for such facilities.
6	Unknown	10/23/18	Public Comment-Schematic			STA 628+00- Property Owner text change Jose R & Maria M. Ruelas to Lorenzo & Bianca Gonzales	Will confirm property owner
7	Unknown	10/23/18	Public Comment-Schematic			STA 1060+00- Property Owner text change P.C.Cage Ranch LTD to Catherine C. Lutts	Will confirm property owner

Commenter Number	Commenter Name	Date Received	Source	Representing	TxTrans Code: Check ones that apply	Comment Topic	Response
8	Raul Palma	10/25/18	Comment Card	Self		I am concerned and request drainage at known existing areas that flood be planned and designed with positive drainage to allow for continuous flow of traffic northward during evacuation scenarios. I request that joint efforts with the Hidalgo County Drainage District No. 1 be made to provide the positive outfall that is adequate for this project. I encourage TxDOT to plan and consider purchasing of larger detention acreage in known areas that flood. Also, consider the use of channels to move drainage waters eastward toward large low areas such as Sal Del Rey Lake.	US 281 is designated as an evacuation route and the current preliminary drainage report is addressing the drainage needs for this corridor to maintain the proposed mainlanes passable during a severe rain event.
9	Ricardo Coronado, Jr.	10/25/18	Comment Card			I feel that moving overpass #3 to line up with Guerra lane would make a lot more sense than its present proposed location. Guerra lane is a well traveled road. There are numerous ranches that are accessed by this road. Emergency and or medical pesonnel would also be able to reach families down Guerra Lane much quicker. There is also a pipeline running along Guerra Lane which is maintained by individuals using this road. Magic Valley Electric Coop has power lines that run along Guerra Lane providing electric to families down this road. The movement of overpass #3 would benefit alot more people than its current proposed location. Thank you!	See email dated 11/2/2018 from Mr. Ricardo Coronado Jr. that details retraction of written and oral comments made during the TxDOT Public Meeting held on October 25, 2018.
10	Aisha Gonzalez	10/25/18	Public Meeting Verbal Comment	B2Z Engineering		<p>Good evening, My name is Aisha Gonzalez. I'm the president of B2Z Engineering. I would like to begin by congratulating TxDOT Pharr District in upgrading US 281 to Interstate 69 standards. This action will put our Rio Grande Valley on the interstate map, which will promote commerce in our area, and we really appreciate that.</p> <p>I would like to make sure that my understanding of improving safety on this corridor is correct. Once the frontage roads are constructed, there will no longer be direct access to the main lanes, and access to the main lanes will be provided through ramps onto the main lanes, and, therefore, improving the safety of travel between our area and north, going north. Am I correct in my understanding? Thank you Mr. Bazan, thank you.</p>	Ms. Gonzalez that is correct. You're right we will have ramps, you know part of the project. That's a definition of an expressway or an interstate. Property owners won't have direct access anymore, like they have right now. They will have a frontage road in front of their properties now that they can access; but in order to get to the main lanes, they will have to use ramps to get to the main lanes; that is correct.
11	Joe Torres	10/25/18	Public Meeting Verbal Comment			Hi, My name is Joe Torres. What exactly are we doing for the—you guys are at the preliminary stage at this point, right? Are you gonna be picking up the road? How are you gonna be handling most of the drainage around that area?	It's an upgrade to an interstate facility. We definitely have to provide better drainage, anything that's reasonable and feasible. The main lanes will be passable under the hundred-year event, which should improve a lot of the areas that we've been seeing. I know particularly within the last month there has been some flooding along US 281 that's actually closed lanes. And so with this project, anything that's reasonable and feasible to provide better drainage, we will be accommodating.
12	Mr. Carlos X. Guerra	10/25/19	Public Meeting Verbal Comment			<p>First of all, on behalf of our committee, I want to thank you guys for being here today. We certainly appreciate you taking the time to come out. My name is Carlos Guerra, and I'm a local rancher and community leader and we have met several times with TxDOT, which we appreciate, and I want to go on the record, number one, as stating that the majority of the landowners in this community who this highway will be affecting, are in favor of having two-way feeder roads, and you guys know all the reasons we've give you all. I just want everybody else to know here, that in case you all are interested in the same thing, we have begun work on that, and we're working on doing all we can to make that possible until this area becomes populated that it's not safe to do that. But reasons for that are, number one, economics, because a lot of the times you're gonna end up going the wrong way before you can start going the right way. So you're gonna leave your house having go three or four miles south to turn around and go north. You're gonna be in a hurry to do that, and that, in itself, is not safe. But by doing the way it is, we're gonna cause thousands of people to spend millions of dollars on gasoline, wear and tear on their vehicles, and also use our tax dollars to wear and tear the highways themselves. Realizing that a majority—or not a majority but a big part, I would like to know how many miles, exactly, but a big part of the present major highways do have two-way feeder roads, and, supposedly, they're gonna be grandfathered in So some will be grandfathered in and some won't. So if you live in an area and you're my age where you've been grandfathered, and you go to an area that's not grandfathered, you know, we might be a hazard ourselves, thinking that everything is grandfathered. So, hopefully, you know, we can figure out a way. If not, maybe we can have more exits and more entrances in between overpasses that might help.</p>	And as far as frontage roads, I'm gonna get to your point of frontage roads. I want to make sure that everyone is clear that our frontage roads are all-right now, the way they're presented right now tonight area all one-way frontage roads. I know you understand that. And the reason why they're all one way is that those are the safest, you know, frontage roads that we can do. Over the years statewide, we have been converting a lot of two-way frontage roads into one-way over the years. And so, we're not proposing anymore two-way frontage roads at this time because of safety reasons. But we'll continue working with you, Mr. Guerra, as far as seeing what we can do to help out, as far as access. I know there are other property owners that have the same concerns you have, so we understand that, so we'll look at that. We'll look at your comments and we'll take them, obviously, under consideration and meet with you as we have before in the past.

Commenter Number	Commenter Name	Date Received	Source	Representing	TxTrans Code: Check ones that apply	Comment Topic	Response
						Also, want to go on the record that our community was helpful with the drainage situation here recently in a rain that we may not see again in our lifetime, but want to encourage TxDOT and everybody else that has anything to do with it, to do all they can now to make sure if it happens again, we're prepared to do that, but insure it doesn't happen again. But, anyway, thank you guys very much, and hopefully we can work on that. Do you all have any comments on that? Any good news, let me say that. We don't mind the rain, we just—you know, the flooding part on the highway. We pray for rain every day. Thank you.	US 281 is designated as an evacuation route and the current preliminary drainage report is addressing the drainage needs for this corridor to maintain the proposed mainlanes passable during a severe rain event.
13	Ricardo Coronado, Jr.	10/25/18	Public Meeting Verbal Comment			My name is Ricardo Coronado, Jr. and by looking at the map, I noticed that overpass number 3, I have a little bit of property north of where the proposed location is of that overpass. I would say maybe 500 fee, and I believe that if that overpass was moved just a little bit north, it would serve a lot—a lot more people than its present location. I'm asking that it be aligned with Guerra Lane, which is a very well traveled road. There is several ranches down that road, and I know there's some families that live down there, and I think for first responders, any medical attention, you know, certainly it would cut the time for them to respond. So I believe that just a very small movement of overpass number 3 would be very helpful to the people that live down there. And, there is also a power line that runs down there. Magic Valley has some power lines that run down there, and I think that it would also help them, you know, service those power lines. And there's also a gas pipeline that runs along Guerra Lane, and there's also a traffic from individuals going out there to service that pipeline. So I think a very small movement of overpass number 3 would serve a lot—many more families and individuals that work out there. So I am proposing that it be moved just slightly north of its proposed location right now, for the benefit of a lot more people than what it's currently—where it's currently located. I believe it's only like a big ranch, and it's gonna serve right now as opposed to serving a lot more ranches, and more families. So I would ask that you look at overpass number 3. Thank you very much, that is all I have.	Thank you Mr. Coronado, and we will—that's the purpose of this meeting, to hear comments such as yours. I appreciate you coming up here and making that comment. We will look at that location, at that overpass. You know, we will locate the overpasses where it makes the most sense, obviously, so we'll take your comments under consideration. And if you haven't written a written comment, I would encourage you to do so, also, to provide a written comment. I know you—I'm glad you made this comment.
14	Ricardo Coronado, Jr.	11/2/18	Emailed Comment			I would like to inform you that after further review and consideration I am not opposed to the current proposed location of overpass number 3. Therefore, I am retracting my written and oral comments I made at the TxDOT meeting held in San Manuel, Texas on October 25, 2018.	10/29 Mr. Coronado left a voicemail with Melba Schaus requesting to withdraw his comment about moving OP #3 and leaving the currently proposed OP as is. Melba returned his call. After speaking with him he said he would look at the schematic one more time. She informed him he could review the schematics from OH online. He was going to review the schematic again to be sure. Retraction email received 11/2
15	Richard Garza	11/8/18	Emailed Comment	BIC Realty and Investments		My name is Richard A. Garza. I am the property owner of a small ranch on the east side of US Hwy 281, located just north of the proposed 2nd crossover/bridge north of FM 186. I attended the TxDOT open house on Thursday, October 25, 2018 at Brewster Elementary in Linn, Texas. Arriving early, I had an opportunity to review the map you I would respectfully request that said 2nd crossover bridge be moved 55 feet north of current proposed location, whereas both my neighbor to the south and I would both be able to access and exit from said crossover. If said crossover/bridge remains at its current proposed location, the access in and out of my property will be limited and negativity devalue my property as a result. I feel it is a justifiable and reasonable request and would hope that you and your staff would seriously consider this. Thank you for your time and attention and I look forward to hearing from you soon.	Comment was e-mailed on 11/08/2018 asking for consideration of moving proposed bridge overpass # 2 to be moved 55' to the north of currently proposed location. TxDOT District staff has reviewed the request and has decided to maintain the current location.



US 281 (Future I-169C) Public Meeting

B. Public Notices

Get Involved

About Public Hearings, Meetings and Notices

Committees

Volunteer

Archive

Sunset Review

Page Options

Public Meeting - US 281 Hidalgo County and Brooks County

Texas Department of Transportation > Inside TxDOT > Get Involved > About Public Hearings, Meetings and Notices > Hearings, Meetings and Notices Schedule

Subscribe to Updates

Contact Us

Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2018: Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, TX 78355 (Map)

Open House: 5 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 25, 2018: Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, TX 78541 (Map)

Open House: 5 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6 p.m.

Purpose: The purpose of the public meeting is to gather public input on the proposed improvements to US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066. The purpose of these meetings is to allow the public the opportunity to view project related information and provide comments on the proposed improvements. The presentation content will be the same for both meetings. Comments must be received on or before Nov. 9, 2018 to be a part of the official public meeting record.

Description: Proposed improvements include to construct, in the interim, 4 lanes divided (2 main lanes each direction) and 2-lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would add an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281. The goal is to construct the project within the existing right-of-way (ROW) however; additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on a chosen feasible alternative alignment.

Special Accommodation: TxDOT makes every reasonable effort to accommodate the needs of the public. The open house will be in English. If you have a special communication accommodation or need for an interpreter, a request can be made. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can also be made to accommodate most needs. Please call (956) 702-6161 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. Please be aware that advance notice is requested as some accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange.

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 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

- Downloads:**
- Notice
 - Notice - Español
 - Display Ad
 - Display Ad - Español
 - Fact Sheet
 - Fact Sheet - Español
 - Comment Card - English and Español
 - Presentation
 - Exhibit Boards
 - Alternative Evaluation Matrix
 - Environmental Constraints Map
 - Schematic from FM 755 to FM 3066
 - Schematic from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 755 - Alternative 1 - 1 of 6
 - Schematic from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 755 - Alternative 1 - 2 of 6
 - Schematic from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 755 - Alternative 1 - 3 of 6
 - Schematic from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 755 - Alternative 1 - 4 of 6
 - Schematic from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 755 - Alternative 1 - 5 of 6
 - Schematic from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 755 - Alternative 1 - 6 of 6
 - Schematic from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 755 - Alternative 2
 - Schematic from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 755 - Alternative 3

Contact: TxDOT Pharr District
600 W. I-2
Pharr, TX 78577
(956) 702-6100

[Email](#)

Posted Oct. 3, 2017



Texas Department of Transportation

US 281 – PUBLIC MEETING

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Pharr District will host a public meeting to present the proposed improvements for US 281 in Hidalgo County and Brooks County. The project limits on US 281 are from SH 186/FM1017 to FM 3066. It is planned to construct 4 lanes divided (2 main lanes each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads in the interim. The ultimate section would add an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The proposed project will improve mobility and safety. The purpose of these public meetings is to present the proposed design and gather public input. The public is invited to view project maps and a presentation, visit with TxDOT staff, ask questions, and share comments on the proposed project improvements.

TUESDAY • OCTOBER 23, 2018

Open House: 5:00 p.m.

Presentation & Comment Period: 6:00 p.m.

Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria

200 W. Bennett, Falfurrias, Texas 78355

THURSDAY • OCTOBER 25, 2018

Open House: 5:00 p.m.

Presentation & Comment Period: 6:00 p.m.

Brewster School Cafeteria

22420 FM 1017, Edinburg, Texas 78541

Both meetings will have the same presentation and information.

For general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project, or if you are unable to attend the public meeting and would like to schedule an appointment, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager, at 956-702-6181. Spanish translation will be available. Persons interested in attending the public meeting who have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact Norma Robeldo at 956-702-6161 at least 5 business days before the meeting. For more information, visit www.txdot.gov and search keyword: "US 281 Hidalgo County and Brooks County".

The environmental review, consultation, and other action 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.



Texas Department of Transportation

US 281 – REUNIÓN PÚBLICA

El Departamento de Transporte de Texas (TxDOT) del Distrito de Pharr llevará a cabo una reunión pública para presentar las mejoras propuestas para US 281 en el Condado de Hidalgo y el Condado de Brooks. Los límites del proyecto sobre la US 281 son de la SH 186/FM1017 hasta FM 3066. El plan es de construir una carretera de cuatro carriles divididos (dos carriles centrales en cada dirección) y caminos laterales de dos carriles durante el tiempo interino. La sección mayor agregaría dos carriles centrales adicionales (un carril en cada dirección) que se construirán cuando se requieran dependiendo del nivel de tráfico a futuro. El proyecto propuesto mejorará movilidad y seguridad. El propósito de estas reuniones públicas es de presentar los diseños propuestos y recoger las opiniones del público. El público está invitado a ver mapas del proyecto y una presentación, visitar con el personal de TxDOT, hacer preguntas, y compartir comentarios respecto a las mejoras propuestas.

MARTES, 23 DE OCTUBRE DE 2018

Exhibición Abierta al Público: 5:00 p.m.
Presentación y Comentario Público: 6:00 p.m.
Cafetería de la escuela primaria Lasater
200 W. Bennett, Falfurrias, Texas 78355

JUEVES, 25 DE OCTUBRE DE 2018

Exhibición Abierta al Público: 5:00 p.m.
Presentación y Comentario Público: 6:00 p.m.
Cafetería de la escuela Brewster
22420 FM 1017, Edinburg, Texas 78541

Las presentaciones en las dos reuniones serán iguales

Para preguntas generales, cuestiones respecto al proyecto, o si usted no puede asistir a la reunión pública y prefiere hacer una cita, favor de comunicarse con Melba Schaus, P.E. Gerente del Proyecto, al 956-702-6181. Servicio de traducción al español estará disponible. Se pide a las personas que les interese asistir a la reunión y que tengan necesidades especiales de comunicación o acomodación, comunicarse con Norma Robledo de TxDOT al (956) 702-6161 con un mínimo de 5 jornadas laborales antes de la reunión pública. Para más información, visite www.txdot.gov y busque usando las palabras claves: "US 281 Hidalgo County and Brooks County".

La revisión del impacto ambiental, las consultas y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes federales ambientales vigentes para este proyecto se están llevando a cabo o se han llevado a cabo por TxDOT conforme al 23 U.S.C. 327 y un memorando de entendimiento de fecha 16 de Diciembre de 2014. Asimismo, estas han sido ejecutadas por la Administración de Carreteras Federales y TxDOT.

Request # 753727

10004866 - TX DOT-Pharr - 30103512

THE MONITOR

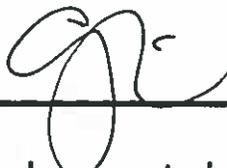
PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

State of Texas

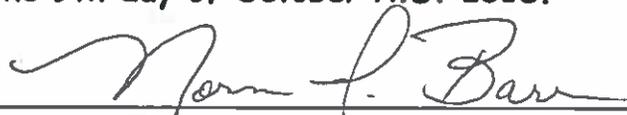
County of Hidalgo

Glendora Cisneros being duly Sworn on his/her oath states that he/she is a Sales Representative of THE MONITOR in McAllen, TX and that the attached notice appeared in the following issues:

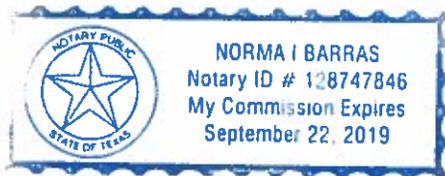
October 7, 2018



Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 9th day of October A.D. 2018.



Notary Public, Hidalgo County



Efforts continue to save horny toads

Once plentiful, they have now vanished from much of state

BY CHARLES SCUDDER
DALLAS MORNING NEWS

MASON, Texas — A dozen conservationists clad in khaki and forest green march into the Hill Country brush.

The noontime sun hasn't broken through the clouds. The prickly pears are full of ripe purple fruit. Late summer rain has kept the grasses green and red dirt damp. Conditions are ideal for this rescue mission as the procession moves wordlessly onward.

In their hands are cameras and clear deli cups, the kind used to take home leftover potato salad. Inside each are tiny lizards, about the size of a quarter and only a few weeks old.

They are the latest, greatest hope for bringing their species back from the brink.

Call them horny toads, horned frogs, *Phrynosoma cornutum* or the Texas horned lizard, the state reptile is in dire straits. For several decades, they've been vanishing from Texas landscapes for reasons researchers cannot fully explain.

Now, Texas zeros, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department officials, Texas Christian University biologists and more are working together to release hundreds of horned lizard hatchlings here, on state land about 100 miles west of Austin.

The horned lizard procession arrives in a clearing surrounded by granite hills at Mason Mountain Wildlife Management Area. There's open dirt, a few tufts of low grass, tall brush nearby, lots of termites and a few varieties of ants. Perfect horned lizard habitat.

Jim Gallagher, a wildlife biologist with Parks & Wildlife, spreads his arms wide.

"Ground zero," he says. "Who's got how many?"

"I've got 15," says Jaime Pelier,



TPWD wildlife biologist Cameron Martin weighs a wild-caught Texas horned lizard May 11 before it is released at the Muse Wildlife Management Area in Brown County, Texas.

Reagan Hunsinger | Dallas Morning News via AP

a zookeeper at the Fort Worth Zoo. She kneels and pries the lid off one of the cups.

Carefully she lifts each baby lizard and sets it on the ground. Some scurry away quickly, others lunker down and hardly move at all. Pelier's face turns red as Diane Barber, her boss, pulls out a phone to take photos of the zookeeper.

"I'm trying not to cry," she says, grinning.

Pelier has worked with the horned lizards for months to prepare for this day. She helped pair lizards for breeding, scraped droppings, refilled ant feeders, checked for nests, watched, walled, weighed and measured them week after week, packed the hatchlings into these cups and brought them here.

It's emotional, she says, to finally see them scamper out of sight.

In a booming bass, Gallagher sings as the little lizards look for ants to snack on.

"Born free, free as the wind blows."

The horned lizard hatchlings at Mason Mountain are on their own now. But before they got here, these critters were the product

of the careful, calculated work of biologists, ecologists, researchers, landowners and zookeepers across the state.

It's an uphill battle, one that has become more and more common as species like the Texas horned lizard struggle to survive.

The horned lizard is not on the brink of extinction — yet. It is listed as "threatened" in the state, but strong populations in New Mexico and elsewhere keep it off the federal endangered species list.

Status as a state treasure helps the lizard cultural protection, but it could easily become just another Texas legend.

"There's a lot against us in terms of establishing these guys," Barber said in the spring. She's the Fort Worth Zoo's curator of ectotherms, in charge of the cold-blooded creatures there. "There's a lot of species where people wait until

11th hour and there's 20 left — literally, only 20 — and people come to us. It's far better to try to take action."

To lose the horned lizard would be to lose something uniquely Texan, and it's why so many people are working to bring them back.

"It's more like a bald eagle or something," said Dean Williams, a TCU biology professor who has worked with the lizards for a decade. "It's symbolic of the



West." On fall Saturdays, just across campus from Williams' biology lab, TCU fans dressed in purple and white fill Amon G. Carter Stadium. Just before kickoff, a gray mascot with a cartoonish head runs onto the field.

The mascot — here, it's a "horned frog" — leads the stadium in a chant of "Go Frogs!" After every touchdown, the stadium echoes with refrains of "Horned Frogs, we're all for you," but few TCU students have seen the real thing outside of zoos.

The lizards' round, flat bodies and namesake horns make them look prehistoric. Their unique defense mechanism — shooting blood from their eyes at canine predators — only adds to their reputation as Texas tough.

The Comanche people believed that horned lizards would always run in the direction of bison, and used them to guide hunts. Older American Indian cultures saw them as symbols of strength. Cowboy stories told of horny toads that could live a century or more.

One tall tale from Eastland, Texas, tells of a lizard that survived 30 years sealed in the cornerstone

of the county courthouse without food or water. As the story goes, the lizard went on to appear onstage in Dallas and meet President Calvin Coolidge in Washington, D.C. When it died a few months later, its body was embalmed and put on display at the courthouse. Tourists still stop to snap photos of "Old Rip," the horny toad.

North Texas city manager calls police on immigration activists

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HALLAM CITY, Texas — Immigration advocates here said they're disturbed that a North Texas city manager called police on their group for gathering outside his office.

United Fort Worth members visited Hallam City Manager Keith Lane's office this month to express concerns about federal program 287(g), in which law enforcement agencies voluntarily cooperate with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Lane told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram that the group approached him with an open records request concerning the program. He said that a member of the group

repeatedly held a sign close to his face.

"At least every 30 seconds, he would stick the sign in my face," Lane said.

Lane said he called police to escort the group from City Hall because they were causing a disturbance.

United Fort Worth members talked to a police officer in the parking lot without incident.

Activist Andres Pacheco said he felt threatened by the city manager's actions. "I thought at some point that I may get arrested because the city manager didn't like what I told him," Pacheco said. "I was exercising my right to free speech and my right to speak to a city official."

Nirmla Whitler, a United

Fort Worth member who visited Lane's office said it's concerning that the city manager didn't ask how he could help the group or schedule an appointment to discuss the issue.

"His immediate reaction was, 'Stop threatening me, and if you don't leave now you'll be arrested. What was so odd was that it escalated so quickly,'" she said.

The groups visit to Hallam City was part of a joint effort with other organizations to deliver open records requests to a dozen cities in Tarrant County. United Fort Worth members said they're seeking information from Hallam City about the June 3 arrest of Maria Molina, who they said is a domestic violence victim who was working as a janitor.



Juan Medina
Actual Patient
Lost over 200 pounds

Take the **First Step** to Your New Life.

Join us for a **FREE surgical weight loss seminar:**

- October 9 • 5:30 PM
- October 13 • 9:00 AM
- October 16 • 5:30 PM
- October 18 • 9:00 AM

Spanish Seminar
- October 30 • 5:30 PM

DHR Health Bariatric and Metabolic Institute
5500 Royalplex Drive
Caterburg, TX 75139



Scan QR Code
Visit rgyweightloss.com
Call (956) 362-LOSE

Scan this code with your smartphone to register for our online seminar.



In affiliation with



For You.
For Life.



Texas Department of Transportation US 281 - PUBLIC MEETING

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Pharr District will host a public meeting to present the proposed improvements for US 281 in Hidalgo County and Brooks County. The project limits on US 281 are from SH 188/FM 1017 to FM 2066. It is planned to construct 4 lanes divided (2 main lanes each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads in the interim. The interim section would add an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The proposed project will improve mobility and safety. The purpose of these public meetings is to present the proposed design and gather public input. The public is invited to view project maps and a presentation, visit with TxDOT staff, ask questions, and share comments on the proposed project improvements.

THIS DAY • WED, FEBRU 21, 2018	THURSDAY • 01, SCHEM 21, 2018
Presentation & Open House Location: Pharr District, 2017 E. Highway 281, Pharr, TX 78577	Presentation & Open House Location: Brooks County, 2017 E. Highway 281, Brooks, TX 78001

For general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project, or if you are unable to attend the public meeting and would like to schedule an appointment, please contact Melissa Schaeus, P.E., Project Manager, at 956-702-6181. Spanish translation will be available. Persons interested in attending the public meeting who have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact Norma Robledo at 956-702-6181 at least 5 business days before the meeting. For more information, visit www.txdot.gov and search keyword: "US 281 Hidalgo County and Brooks County".

The environmental review, consultation, and other action 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 18, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

El Periodico U.S.A.

Publisher's Affidavit
State of
Texas
County of Hidalgo

Terry Cano, being duly sworn
on her oath states that she is the
Account Representative of

EL PERIODICO USA

and that the attached notice appeared
in the following issue:

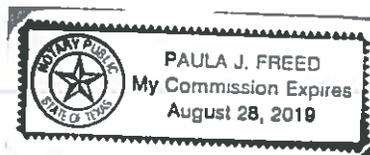
OCTOBER 10, 2018

Terry Cano

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
10th day of OCTOBER A.D. 2018

Paula J. Freed

Notary Public, Hidalgo County
Paula J. Freed
August 28, 2019





SE BUSCA EMPLEADO DE CONDUCTORES DE CAMIONES LOCALES Y REGIONALES (CDL LICENCIA DE CONDUCIR COMERCIA)

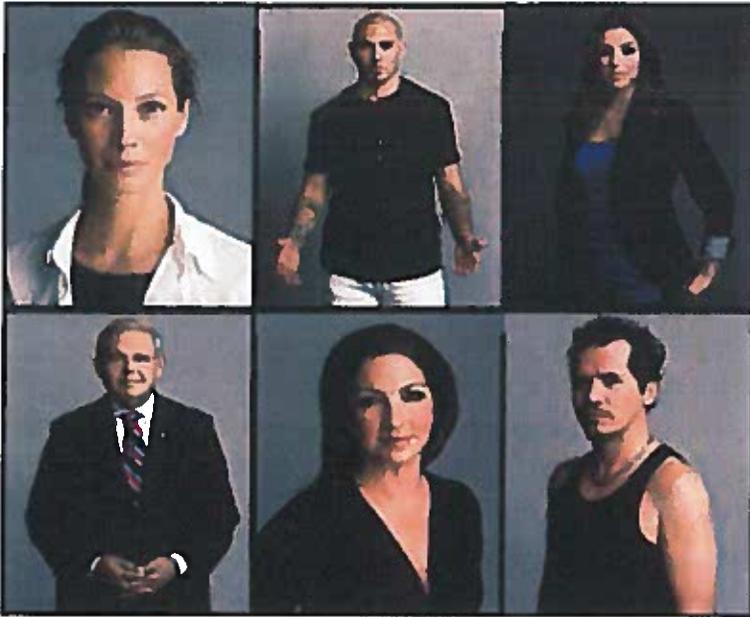
- Opciones estar en casa diariamente o cada semana (según la ubicación)
- Ganar hasta 62 CPM con "Pay Boosters Exclusivos"
- Pago Competitivo: \$1,200 por semana o más
- Pago de detención inmediata—hasta \$6,000 extra por año
- Beneficios geniales, incluyendo reembolso de instrucción y 401k

APLIQUE AHORA CONDUCEMARTEN.COM

LLAME AHORA 920-247-2335

The Latino List: Fotografías de Timothy Greenfield-Sanders en el IMAS

September 18 - January 6, 2019



THE LATINO LIST

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
TIMOTHY GREENFIELD-SANDERS



Texas Department of Transportation US 281 - REUNIÓN PÚBLICA

El Departamento de Transporte de Texas (TxDOT) del Distrito de Pharr llevará a cabo una reunión pública para presentar las mejores propuestas para US 281 en el Condado de Hidalgo y el Condado de Brooks. Los límites del proyecto sobre la US 281 son de la SH 196/FM1017 hasta FM 3066. El plan es de construir una carretera de cuatro carriles divididos (dos carriles centrales en cada dirección) y caminos laterales de dos carriles durante el tiempo interino. La sección mayor agregaría dos carriles centrales adicionales (un carril en cada dirección) que se construirán cuando se regularan dependiendo del nivel de tráfico a futuro. El proyecto propuesto mejorará movilidad y seguridad. El propósito de estas reuniones públicas es de presentar los diseños propuestos y recoger las opiniones del público. El público está invitado a ver mapas del proyecto y una presentación, visitar con el personal de TxDOT, hacer preguntas, y compartir comentarios respecto a las mejoras propuestas.

MARTES, 23 DE OCTUBRE DE 2018

Exhibición Abierta al Público: 5:00 p.m.
Presentación y Comentario Público: 6:00 p.m.
Cafetería de la escuela primaria Losafter
200 W. Bennett, Falmouth, Texas 78355

JUEVES, 25 DE OCTUBRE DE 2018

Exhibición Abierta al Público: 5:00 p.m.
Presentación y Comentario Público: 6:00 p.m.
Cafetería de la escuela Brewster
22420 FM 1017, Edinburg, Texas 78541

Las presentaciones y las discusiones serán iguales.

Para preguntas generales, cuestiones respecto al proyecto, o si usted no puede asistir a la reunión pública y prefiere hacer una cita, favor de comunicarse con Melba Schaus, P.E. Gerente del Proyecto, al 956-702-6181. Servicio de traducción al español estará disponible. Se pide a las personas que les interese asistir a la reunión y que tengan necesidades especiales de comunicación o acomodación, comunicarse con Norma Robledo de TxDOT al (956) 702-6161 con un mínimo de 5 jornadas laborales antes de la reunión pública. Para más información, visite www.txdot.gov y busque usando las palabras claves: "US 281 Hidalgo County and Brooks County".

La revisión del impacto ambiental, los estudios y otros estudios requeridos por las leyes federales ambientales vigentes para este proyecto se están realizando o como se han llevado a cabo por TxDOT conforme al 23 U.S.C. 327 y un memorando de entendimiento de fecha 16 de Diciembre de 2014. Asimismo, estos han sido aprobados por la Administración de Carreteras Federales y TxDOT.

MCALLEN, Tx- En préstamo del Museo de Arte de San Antonio, The Latino List: Photographs de Timothy Greenfield-Sanders presenta treinta y un retratos de latinos influyentes que abarcan los mundos de la cultura, los negocios, la política y los deportes. Desde el golfista profesional Chi Chi Rodriguez hasta el rapero Pitbull y el juez asociado de la Corte Suprema Sonia Sotomayor, el reconocido fotógrafo y director Timothy Greenfield-Sanders documenta la vibrante cultura de la América hispana.

The Latino List es la principal exposición de otoño del Museo Internacional de Arte y Ciencia, en celebración del Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana. Texas está particularmente bien representada en la serie, que presenta al ex alcalde Henry Cisneros, a la escritora Sandra Cisneros y a la actriz del sur de Texas Eva Longoria.

Como uno de los retratistas contemporáneos más destacados de Estados Unidos, Greenfield-Sanders (estadounidense, nacido en 1952) ha explorado construcciones de identidad y comunidad a lo largo de su carrera. Sus obras invitan a los espectadores a hacer preguntas sobre cómo participamos en grupos, tanto auto-definidos como definidos por otros. ¿Hay una identidad comunitaria esencial? Al mismo tiempo, sus retratos francos celebran los personajes individuales de sus

modelos. Las series anteriores incluyen The Black List (2008), una colección de modelos afroamericanas contemporáneas; Soldados heridos (2008); Acerca de Face (2012), retratos de modelos femeninos; The Women's List (2015); y The Trans List (2017).

Greenfield-Sanders también ha realizado documentales galardonados que exploran de manera similar la comunidad y la biografía, incluido Lou Reed: Rock and Roll Heart, que ganó un premio Grammy al mejor video de formato largo.

La exhibición de la Lista Latina estará disponible en el IMAS hasta enero 6 del 2019, en la galería The Clark Family y está incluida en el costo de la Admisión General.

El Museo Internacional de Arte y Ciencia (IMAS) está completamente acreditado por la Alianza Americana de Museos y su misión es promover una apreciación más profunda de las artes y las ciencias a través de sus exposiciones, eventos culturales y programas educativos, así como preservar, expandir y exhibir sus colecciones permanentes de arte y ciencia. El museo está ubicado en la intersección de Bicentennial y Nolana, en McAllen, Texas. Para más información puede visitar www.theimasonline.org o llamar al (956) 681-2800.

PROPERTY OWNER NOTICES



Aviso de Reuniones Públicas **US 281 de SH 186/FM 1017 a FM 3066** **El Condado de Brooks y el Condado de Hidalgo, Texas**

El Departamento de Transporte de Texas (TxDOT) propone ampliar la estructura existente de una carretera dividida de 4 carriles a una carretera interestatal dividida de cuatro carriles con dos carriles principales en cada dirección y calles laterales de dos carriles en cada dirección. Las mejoras propuestas incluyen también pasos elevados con retornos en varios lugares. La distancia completa del proyecto es de 43 millas aproximadamente.

Detalles de las Reuniones:

Martes, 23 de octubre de 2018

Cafetería de la escuela primaria Lasater
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Exhibición Abierta al Público: 5:00 p.m. a 6:00 p.m.

Presentación y Comentario Público: 6:00 p.m.

Jueves, 25, de octubre de 2018

Cafetería de la escuela Brewster
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541

Exhibición Abierta al Público: 5:00 p.m. a 6:00 p.m.

Presentación y Comentario Público: 6:00 p.m.

El propósito de estas reuniones es de permitir que el público tenga la oportunidad de ver información relacionada con el proyecto y proveer comentarios de las mejoras propuestas. El contenido de las presentaciones será el mismo en las dos reuniones.

El plan es de construir por mientras cuatro carriles divididos (dos carriles principales en cada dirección) y calles laterales de dos carriles. La sección mayor agregaría dos carriles principales adicionales (un carril en cada dirección) que se construirán cuando se requiera según el futuro nivel del tráfico. El propósito del proyecto propuesto es de mejorar la movilidad, la seguridad y las operaciones de tráfico de la carretera US 281. La meta es de construir el proyecto dentro del derecho de vía actual (*ROW* por sus siglas en inglés), sin embargo, puede ser que se requiera derecho de vía adicional para actualizar la instalación según la ruta alternativa que se seleccione.

Mapas de la ubicación, el diseño geométrico, y otra información pertinente al proyecto se presentarán en la reunión y también estarán disponibles al público de lunes a viernes de las 8:00 a.m. a las 5:00 p.m. en la oficina de TxDOT Distrito de Pharr ubicado en el 600 W. Interstate 2, Pharr, TX 78577.

Todo miembro del público está invitado a asistir a esta reunión para dar su opinión respecto a las mejoras propuestas. Comentarios verbales o por escrito se pueden presentar en la reunión pública. Comentarios por escrito tienen que ser entregados a TxDOT para el 9 de noviembre de 2018, sea en persona o por escrito a TxDOT Distrito de Pharr, Attn: Robin Gelston, 600 W. I-2, Pharr, TX 78577. Comentarios también se pueden entregar por fax al (956) 702-6110 o por correo electrónico al Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov. Para más información favor de llamar a Melba Schaus, P.E., Gerente del Proyecto con TxDOT al (956) 702-6181.

La reunión pública se conducirá en inglés con traducción al español disponible. Se pide a personas que les interese asistir a la reunión y que tengan necesidades especiales de comunicación a acomodación, comunicarse con Norma Robledo de TxDOT al (956) 702-6161. La petición se debe de hacer por lo menos con cinco (5) jornadas laborales de anticipación a la reunión pública. Todo esfuerzo razonable se hará para acomodar esas necesidades. Para más información respecto al proyecto, favor de visitar www.txdot.gov usando las palabras claves: US 281 Hidalgo County and Brooks County.

La revisión del impacto ambiental, las consultas y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes federales ambientales vigentes para este proyecto se están llevando a cabo o se han llevado a cabo por TxDOT conforme al 23 U.S.C. 327 y un memorando de entendimiento de fecha 16 de Diciembre de 2014. Asimismo, estas han sido ejecutadas por la Administración de Carreteras Federales y TxDOT.

PROPERTY OWNER NOTICES



Notice of Public Meeting US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Hidalgo County and Brooks County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), is proposing widening the existing facility from a 4-lane divided highway to an interstate standard with four lane divided urban freeway, two main lanes in each direction, and two-lane frontage roads in each direction. The proposed improvements also include overpasses with turnarounds at various locations. The total distance of the project is approximately 43 miles.

Meetings Details:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

The purpose of these meetings is to allow the public the opportunity to view project related information and provide comments on the proposed improvements. The presentation content will be the same for both meetings.

It is planned to construct 4 lanes divided (2 main lanes each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads in the interim. The ultimate section would add an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281 future I-69 Corridor. The goal is to construct the project within the existing right-of-way (ROW) however; additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on a chosen feasible alternative alignment.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

All interested members of the public are invited to attend this meeting to provide input regarding the proposed improvements. Verbal and/or written comments may be presented at the public meeting. Written comments must be submitted by November 9, 2018 to TxDOT, either in person or by mail to TxDOT Pharr District, Attn: Robin Gelston, 600 W. I-2, Pharr, TX 78577. Comments may also be submitted by fax to (956) 702-6110 or by e-mail to Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov. For additional information, please call Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181.

The public meetings will be conducted in English, with Spanish translation services available. Persons interested in attending the meeting who have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact Norma Robledo with TxDOT at (956) 702-6161. Requests should be made at least five (5) business days prior to the public meetings. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs. For more information about the project please visit www.txdot.gov, keyword: US 281 Hidalgo County and Brooks County

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.

PROPERTY OWNER MAILING LABELS

GERARDO L GUERRA



CARMAN E. GUERRA



CARLOS X. GUERRA
LA MUNECA RANCHES LLC



CHAPA JOSE E JR FAMILY LIMITED
PARTNERSHIP



L & G INVESTMENTS LLP



JESUS L. VILLARREAL



ADOLFO A GUERRA



LPJ FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP



LEONARDO GUERRA



BARAQUIEL VELA



ERNESTO GARCIA



JULIETA L & KERRY J SMITH



VICTORIANO & ASCENCION GARZA



HOMER SALAZAR SR



VICTORIANO & ASCENCION GARZA



SANTA FE EAST CATTLE COMPANY



JUAN A SOLIS



ROLANDO JAVIER GUERRA



ROSE MARIE G GUZMAN



PERMAPAC INC



MARIA ELENA MUNOZ



JOSE & CRUZITA GUTIERREZ



RIGOBERTO L & JUANA M AGUILAR



MONICA A &
CYNTHIA RIOS SALAZAR



GARZA FELICITAS L ETAL



ARTURO G GARZA



EVA GARCIA



ALBERTICO & DORA M MELENDEZ



JORGE J JR TERRAZAS



JOSE JR & PAULINE HINOJOSA



PROPERTY OWNER MAILING LABELS

RICARDO & GUADALUPE P LOPEZ



EUTIQUIO M JR &
ANNA M ELIZONDO GUZMAN
ELIZONDO GUZMAN LIVING TRUST



GUERRA ENTERPRISES LTD



DARIO V GUERRA JR



MERARDO VILLARREAL



ROSA A CORONA



JOSE G GUERRA



ROBERTO D GUERRA



EVANGELINA DE LA GARZA



ROBERTO D GUERRA



REAGAN & CARROLL D STONE



EVANGELINA G GUERRA



NOVILLO RANCH II LP



SOUTH TEXAS MIX LTD



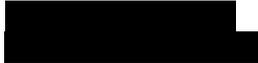
RICHARD A GARZA



BEATRIZ REYES



FERNANDO & FRANCISCA CORONADO



DAAIV FAMILY LTD



D V GUERRA



LAS BLANCAS PROPERTIES LLC



LA MULA LLC



CARROLL D & STUART REAGON STONE



PRONTO REAL ESTATE LLC



GARZA RICHARD A



BHATT YOGESH & MARIA G & ANTONIO
ALVAREZ



KELLER REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS INC



RICARDO CORONADO JR



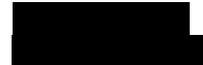
SANTA FE EAST CATTLE COMPANY



ECR-LPR, LP



ADELINA G CANTU
CANTU ADELINA G TSTE



PROPERTY OWNER MAILING LABELS

MAHURIN LINDA CANTU



CANTU ADELINA G TRSTEE



RAMONA SALAZAR DE LOPEZ



FAROLAN FAMILY LP



DAVID KELLY

Laborcitas Creek Ranch



RONNIE W. OSBURN

Tepeguate Ranch



RICHARD T. BOWMAN

La Indian Ranch LLC



PRESNALL & STEPHANIE CAGE

Cage Ranch



ALEJANDRO R. URIAS

Santa Fe Feeders South Texas Mix



SHAWN SNIDER

Edinburg Fire Dept.



NOEL CARREN

LSMVFD



DANNY VELA

Rancho Dia





Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Dr. Ambrosio "Amos" Hernandez
Chairman
MPO Transportation Policy Committee
510 S. Pleasantview Drive
Weslaco, Texas 78596

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Chairman Hernandez,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 5, 2018

Dr. Maria Rodriguez Casas
Brooks CISD, Superintendent
200 E. Allen Street
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Dr. Rodriguez Casas,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,



Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 5, 2018

Ms. Carla Rodriguez
Interim City Manager
City of Edinburg
415 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78541

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Ms. Rodriguez,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable John Cornyn
U.S. Senator
222 E. Van Buren Ste 404
Harlingen, Texas 78550

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Senator Cornyn,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Ted Cruz
U.S. Senator
300 E. 8th Street, Suite #961
Austin, Texas 78701

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Senator Cruz,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa
Texas State Senator
District 20
612 Nolana Ste 410B
McAllen, Texas 78504

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Senator Hinojosa,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Terry Canales
Texas State Representative
State House District 40
101 N. 10th Ave.
Edinburg, Texas 78541

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Representative Canales,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,



Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Oscar Longoria
Texas State Representative
State House District 35
1320 S. Main Street
Penitas, Texas 78576

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Representative Longoria,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Ryan Guillen
Texas State Representative
State House District 31
100 North FM 3167 Ste 212
Rio Grande City, Texas 78582

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Representative Guillen,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Vicente Gonzalez
United States Congressman
Texas Representative, Dist 15
2864 West Trenton Rd
Edinburg, Texas 78539

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Congressman Gonzalez,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Ramon Garcia
Hidalgo County Judge
1615 S. Closner Suite J
Edinburg, Texas 78539

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Judge Garcia,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable David L. Fuentes
Hidalgo County Commissioner Pct. 1
1902 Joe Stephens Ave. Ste 101
Weslaco, Texas 78599

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Commissioner Fuentes,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu
Hidalgo County Commissioner Pct 2
300 W. Hall Acres, Suite G
Pharr, Texas 78577

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Commissioner Cantu,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Joe M. Flores
Hidalgo County Commissioner Pct 3
724 North Breyfogle
Mission, Texas 78574

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Commissioner Flores,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Joseph Palacios
Hidalgo County Commissioner Pct 4
1051 N. Doolittle Rd.
Edinburg, Texas 78542

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Commissioner Palacios,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,


Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.

Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Richard Molina
Mayor, City of Edinburg
415 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78541

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Mayor Molina,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable David Torres
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Edinburg
415 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78541

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Mayor Pro Tem Torres,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Homer Jasso Jr.
Commissioner, City of Edinburg
415 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78541

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Commissioner Jasso,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,



Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Gilbert Enriquez
Commissioner, City of Edinburg
415 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78541

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Commissioner Enriquez,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Jorge Salinas Jr.
Commissioner, City of Edinburg
415 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78541

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Commissioner Salinas,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

Mr. Pilar Rodriguez
Executive Director
Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority
118 S. Cage Blvd, 4th Floor
Pharr, Texas 78577

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Mr. Rodriguez,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

Mr. David Deanda Jr.
Chairman
Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority
118 S. Cage Blvd, 4th Floor
Pharr, Texas 78577

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Chairman Deanda,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,


Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.

Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

Commander Jose Rodriguez III
Regional Commander
Texas Department of Public Safety
2525 N. International Blvd.
Weslaco, Texas 78596

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Commander Rodriguez,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

Dr. Rene Gutierrez
Superintendent
Edinburg CISD
411 North 8th Ave
Edinburg, Texas 78541

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Dr. Gutierrez,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

Mr. Andrew Canon
Director
Hidalgo County MPO
510 S. Pleasantview Drive
Weslaco, Texas 78596

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Mr. Canon,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Eric Ramos
Brooks County Judge
P.O. Box 515
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Judge Ramos,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Gloria Garza
Brooks County Commissioner Pct. 1
P.O. Box 515
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Commissioner Garza,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Vince Vargas
Brooks County Commissioner Pct. 2
P.O. Box 515
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Commissioner Vargas,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Armando Olivarez
Brooks County Commissioner Pct 3
P.O. Box 515
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Commissioner Olivarez,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Tony Martinez
Brooks County Commissioner Pct 4
P.O. Box 515
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Commissioner Martinez,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

Mr. Lewis David Flores Jr.
City Administrator
City of Falfurrias
625 N. St. Mary's Street
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Mr. Flores,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,


Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable David Longoria
Mayor, City of Falfurrias
625 N. St. Mary's Street
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Mayor Longoria,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Frank Nevarez
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Falfurrias
625 N. St. Mary's Street
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Mayor Pro Tem Nevarez,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Isaac Homer Salinas Jr.
Alderman, City of Falfurrias
625 N. St. Mary's Street
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Alderman Salinas,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Manuel Perez Jr.
Alderman, City of Falfurrias
625 N. St. Mary's Street
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Alderman Perez,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development

OUR GOALS
MAINTAIN A SAFE SYSTEM • ADDRESS CONGESTION • CONNECT TEXAS COMMUNITIES • BEST IN CLASS STATE
AGENCY

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Expressway US 83, Pharr, Texas 78577

October 4, 2018

The Honorable Justo Ramirez
Alderman, City of Falfurrias
625 N. St. Mary's Street
Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Re: US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Dear Alderman Ramirez,

The Texas Department of Transportation would like to invite you to a Public Meeting for the proposed improvements along US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties. The purpose of the meeting is to present the proposed improvements to the public and gather comments.

The proposed improvements include constructing an urban divided expressway with 4 main lanes divided (2 in each direction) and 2 lane frontage roads. The ultimate section would include an additional 2 main lanes (1 lane each direction) to be constructed as traffic warrants in the future. The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance mobility, safety, and improve traffic operations along US 281, the future I-69C Corridor. The goal is to construct the project primarily within the existing right-of-way (ROW). However, additional ROW may be required to upgrade the facility based on the chosen feasible alternative alignment.

There will be two opportunities to attend the public meeting on two separate dates and different locations. Each meeting will have the same information presented. The dates and locations are:

Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas 78355
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00pm

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Brewster School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Presentation and Public Comment: 6:00 p.m.

Location maps, geometric design, and other pertinent project information will be presented at the meeting and also available for public viewing from Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Pharr District Office located at 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577.

For additional information, please contact Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager with TxDOT at (956) 702-6181, or by email at Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Homero Bazan, Jr., P.E.
Director of Transportation Planning & Development



US 281 (Future I-69C) Public Meeting

C. Sign-in Sheets



Public Sign In

US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066

Public Meeting

Lasater Elementary

Tuesday October 23, 2018

Name/Nombre	Address/ Dirección	Phone Number/ Teléfono	Email Address/ Correo Electrónico	Affiliation/Afiliación	How did you hear about the meeting? ¿Cómo se enteró de la reunión?
OSCAR D. LOPEZ	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	EL COYOTE RANCH	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Manuel Perez Jr	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	City Alderman	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Eric Ramos	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	County Judge	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Eddie GARCIA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	HNFB	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> website Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
KRISTI Flagg	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	KCI/SMT	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
RAFAEL CRUZ	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	KCI/IMT	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___



Public Sign In
 US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066
 Public Meeting
 Lasater Elementary
 Tuesday October 23, 2018

Name/Nombre	Address/ Dirección	Phone Number/ Teléfono	Email Address/ Correo Electrónico	Affiliation/Afiliación	How did you hear about the meeting? ¿Cómo se enteró de la reunión?
Ronald Nelson	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Tx DPS	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ <u>Email</u>
Andrew Smith	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Tx DPS	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ <u>email</u>
Chad Martin	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	USBP	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ <u>email</u>
MIKE CHAVEZ	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	WSP	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ <u>Email</u>
Rene Garcia	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Jacobs	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ <u>Email</u>
Stephanie Cage + Presnell Cage	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	CAGE RANCH	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___



Public Sign In
 US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066
 Public Meeting
 Lasater Elementary
 Tuesday October 23, 2018

Name/Nombre	Address/ Dirección	Phone Number/ Teléfono	Email Address/ Correo Electrónico	Affiliation/Afiliación	How did you hear about the meeting? ¿Cómo se enteró de la reunión?	
Tom Slowinski	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	United States Border Patrol	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___	Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Lorenzo & Bianca Gonzalez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>Online</u>	Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___	Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___	Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___	Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___	Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___



SIGN IN SHEET – STAFF, CONSULTANTS & MEDIA
US 281 at SH 186/ FM 1017 to FM 3066
 Public Meeting
 Lasater Elementary
 October 23, 2018

Please Print

Name	Representing
Laura Calderon	XAI
Laura Vasquez	XAI
Mahmoud Saleki	CF
Sonia Jimenez	XAI
Linda Jimenez	XAI
Paul Voilet	B+B Inc.
Kevin Mineo	B+B Inc.
Tony Gelacio	Entech
Nick Alanis	Entech
Leo Octavio Guerra	Entech
Jasmine Gardner	B + A Inc.
Melba R Schans	TXDOT
Sanjay G. Upadhyay	TXDOT
NOLAN NICKLAS	TXDOT
EDUARDO GONZALEZ, JR	TXDOT
Sandya Flores	TXDOT



SIGN IN SHEET - STAFF, CONSULTANTS & MEDIA
US 281 at SH 186/ FM 1017 to FM 3066
 Public Meeting
 Lasater Elementary
 October 23, 2018

Please Print

Name	Representing
Stephen Schaus	PHR TX DOT
Pete Alvarez	PHR - TX DOT
Margil Maldonado	TXDOT
Norma Y. Garza	TXDOT- PHR
Rob Gelst	TXDOT
Homero Berrin, Jr.	TXDOT
Dorann Smith	Court Reporter -
Robert A. Casarez	R.A. Casarez
[Signature]	TXDOT
Lana Jimenez	TXDOT
Rene Garza	TXDOT
Jim Elmer	Cobb Fendley
Steve Bak	Cobb Fendley
Norma Robledo	TXDOT



Speaker Sign In
US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066
Public Meeting
Lasater Elementary
October 23, 2018

Please Print

Name	Representing
Thomas Slowinski	USBP
Co Judge	
Mr. Cage	Cage Ranch



Public Sign In
 US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066
 Public Meeting
 Brewster Elementary
 Thursday October 25, 2018

Name/Nombre	Address/ Dirección	Phone Number/ Teléfono	Email Address/ Correo Electrónico	Affiliation/Afiliación	How did you hear about the meeting? ¿Cómo se enteró de la reunión?	
Victor Santa Ana	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	DPS	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>email</u>	Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar)
Cody + Jolee Colchado	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>School</u>	Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar)
Stanley Ramos	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>✓</u> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify)	Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar)
Jaime Flores	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>✓</u> Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify)	Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar)
Rolando J Gomez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>✓</u> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify)	Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar)
					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify)	Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar)



Public Sign In
 US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066
 Public Meeting
 Brewster Elementary
 Thursday October 25, 2018

Name/Nombre	Address/ Dirección	Phone Number/ Teléfono	Email Address/ Correo Electrónico	Affiliation/Afiliación	How did you hear about the meeting? ¿Cómo se enteró de la reunión?
Raul Martinez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	N/A	N/A	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Richard A Garza	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	myself	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
SILVER SALAS JR	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	-	-	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Victoriana PANG Ascension Pang	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	N A		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Masim Canziles Zoila Canziles	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	-	-	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Frank Stewart	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Borden Patrol	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>email</u> Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___



Public Sign In

US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066

Public Meeting

Brewster Elementary

Thursday October 25, 2018

Name/Nombre	Address/ Dirección	Phone Number/ Teléfono	Email Address/ Correo Electrónico	Affiliation/Afiliación	How did you hear about the meeting? ¿Cómo se enteró de la reunión?
Ricardo Coronado Jr	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
MILES BULLION	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>EMAIL</u> Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Toribio Garza	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>EMAIL</u> Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
JOSE E. CHAPA JR	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>Mr. Guerra</u> Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
John F Ponz	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>SCHOOL</u> Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Baraquiel Vela	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___



Public Sign In

US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066

Public Meeting

Brewster Elementary

Thursday October 25, 2018

Name/Nombre	Address/ Dirección	Phone Number/ Teléfono	Email Address/ Correo Electrónico	Affiliation/Afiliación	How did you hear about the meeting? ¿Cómo se enteró de la reunión?
X DANNY	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Munoz Ma Elena Miguel A. Vazquez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Alvan Vela (w/ Baraqueel Vela)	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Dora Flores	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>Principal</u> Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
GREG CARLIA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>WEB TDOT</u> Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Luis M. Yzaguirre <u>Guerra BoE III</u>	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>Guerra</u> Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___



Public Sign In

US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066

Public Meeting

Brewster Elementary

Thursday October 25, 2018

Name/Nombre	Address/ Dirección	Phone Number/ Teléfono	Email Address/ Correo Electrónico	Affiliation/Afiliación	How did you hear about the meeting? ¿Cómo se enteró de la reunión?
Anna Torres	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
LEANNE NAPOLILLO	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ <u>Other (please specify)</u> ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
BRUCE TURENTINE	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
José M. Sanchez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
Ruben Garcia	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>work email</u> ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
STEVE MILLER	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___



Public Sign In

US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066

Public Meeting

Brewster Elementary

Thursday October 25, 2018

Name/Nombre	Address/ Dirección	Phone Number/ Teléfono	Email Address/ Correo Electrónico	Affiliation/Afiliación	How did you hear about the meeting? ¿Cómo se enteró de la reunión?
Enrique Cortez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	TXDLS	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>Submits</u>
Frances Keller	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify)
Carlos X. Guerra	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	PREVIOUS MEETING LETTER	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify)
Daniel Vela	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Landowner	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>website</u>
Aisha Gonzalez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>Internet</u>
John Eldred Cozad	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Landowner	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify)



Public Sign In
 US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066
 Public Meeting
 Brewster Elementary
 Thursday October 25, 2018

Name/Nombre	Address/ Dirección	Phone Number/ Teléfono	Email Address/ Correo Electrónico	Affiliation/Afiliación	How did you hear about the meeting? ¿Cómo se enteró de la reunión?
BENJAMIN ROY	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	U.S. BORDER PATROL	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>Work email</u>
Abe Belkele	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	LAN	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>TxDOT website</u>
Mark Corbitt	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	SSA	Newspaper <u>X</u> Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>Internet</u>
Raul Palma ^{Palma}	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	MEG	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>TxDOT website</u>
Raul Garcia	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Half Assoc.	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___
John Torres (John Torres)	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___



Public Sign In

US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066

Public Meeting

Brewster Elementary

Thursday October 25, 2018

Name/Nombre	Address/ Dirección	Phone Number/ Teléfono	Email Address/ Correo Electrónico	Affiliation/Afiliación	How did you hear about the meeting? ¿Cómo se enteró de la reunión?
BEHROOZ BADIOZZAMANI					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) <u>daughter</u>
Saul Munoz	_____	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	B2Z Eng	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify)
OSCAR GARZA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	LANDTECH- INC	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify)
Vicky J Flores	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Chorizo de San Manuel Inc	Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify)
					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify)
					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify)



Public Sign In

US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066

Public Meeting

Brewster Elementary

Thursday October 25, 2018

Name/Nombre	Address/ Dirección	Phone Number/ Teléfono	Email Address/ Correo Electrónico	Affiliation/Afiliación	How did you hear about the meeting? ¿Cómo se enteró de la reunión?
Eddie DeLeon					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___
					Newspaper ___ Road-side sign ___ TV ___ Friend ___ Radio ___ Community Flyer ___ Mailed Notice ___ Other (please specify) ___ Periódico ___ Anuncio de Calle ___ TV ___ Amigo(-a) ___ Radio ___ Folleto ___ Correo ___ Otro (favor especificar) ___



Speaker Sign In
US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066
Public Meeting
Brewster Elementary
October 25, 2018

Please Print

Name	Representing
Aisha Gonzalez	B2Z Engineering
# Joe Torres	citizen
Mr Carlos X Guerra	Citizen + Community
Ricardo Coronado Jr.	citizen



SIGN IN SHEET - STAFF, CONSULTANTS & MEDIA
US 281 at SH 186/ FM 1017 to FM 3066
 Public Meeting
 Brewster Elementary
 October 25, 2018

Please Print

Name	Representing
Norma Y. Garza	TXDOT- PHR
Robin Geston	TXDOT PHR
Marilyn Maldonado Jr	TxPdt
Donna Smead	Action Reporting
DILHAR DE SILVA	AtLink communications.
Paul Bauer	AtLink communications.
JUAN Sustaita	TXDOT - PAO
Homer Bazzan	TXDOT - PHR
Pete Alvarez	TXDOT - PHR
FRED Lopez	TXDOT - RAO
EDUARDO GRALLA, JR	TXDOT - RAO
Rene Garza	TXDOT - PAO



SIGN IN SHEET - STAFF, CONSULTANTS & MEDIA
US 281 at SH 186/ FM 1017 to FM 3066
Public Meeting
Brewster Elementary
October 25, 2018

Please Print

Name	Representing
Jasmine Gardner	Blanton Associates
Sanjay G. Upadhyay	TXDOT
PAUL VOLLES	BBI
Tony Galacio	Entech Civil Engineers, Inc
ZACH JACOBSON	BBI
Laura Calderon	Ximenes & Assoc
Linda Ximenes	Ximenes & Assoc
Sonia Jimenez	Ximenes & Assoc
Megan Schaus	TXDOT
Victoria A. Luna	Entech Civil Engineers
Norma Rubedo	TXDOT
NOLAN NICOLAS	TXDOT
Stephen Schaus	TXDOT
Nicholas Giber	Translator
Heleno Elizant	TXDOT
April Morin	TXDOT



US 281 (Future I-69C) Public Meeting

D. Comments Received



PUBLIC COMMENTS
COMENTARIOS DEL PÚBLICO
OCTOBER 23, 2018 AND OCTOBER 25, 2018
23 DE OCTUBRE DE 2018 Y 25 DE OCTUBRE DE 2018

(PLEASE PRINT/Favor de escribir en letra de molde)

NAME/Nombre: Thomas Slowinski

ADDRESS/ Dirección: 

REPRESENTING/ Representando: United States Border Patrol

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): check each of the following boxes that apply to you:
Según el código de Transportación de Texas §201.811(a)(5), marque las casillas siguientes que le apliquen a usted:

- I am employed by TxDOT/ Soy empleado de TxDOT.
- I do business with TxDOT/ Hago negocios con TxDOT.
- I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting/ Podría beneficiar económicamente con el proyecto u otro punto sobre el que estoy comentando.

COMMENTS/ COMENTARIOS:

Concerned with drainage @ checkpoint
Concerned with Lumbar lighting
Both entering & exiting @ Checkpoint Ramps
(Want it)

Written statements may be submitted to TxDOT, Attn. Robin Gelston, Pharr District, 600 W. Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577. Comments may also be sent electronically by facsimile to (956) 702-6110 or e-mailed to Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov. **The Deadline to submit comments is by Friday, November 9, 2018.**

Declaraciones por escrito pueden ser enviadas después de la junta pública a TxDOT, a la atención Robin Gelston del, Pharr District, 600 W. Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577. Sus comentarios pueden también ser enviados por fax a (956) 702-6110, o por correo electrónico a Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov. La fecha límite para presentar comentarios es miércoles, Viernes, 9 de noviembre de 2018.

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. La revisión ambiental, consultas y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes ambientales federales aplicables para este proyecto están siendo o han sido, llevado a cabo por TxDOT - en virtud de 23 USC 327 y un Memorando de Entendimiento fechado el 16 de diciembre del 2014, y ejecutado por la FHWA y el TxDOT.



From: Sonia Jimenez sjimenez@xa-sa.com
Subject: Re: US 281 Comments from Public Meeting(10/23)
Date: October 30, 2018 at 4:47 PM
To: Zachary Jacobson, PE ZJacobson@binkleybarfield.com
Cc: Mahmoud Salehi msalehi@cobbhendley.com, Melba Schaus Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov, Sanjay Upadhyay Sanjay.Upadhyay@txdot.gov, Kevin A. Mineo, PE kmineo@binkleybarfield.com, Paul Voiles, PE, PTP PVoiles@binkleybarfield.com, Laura Vasquez lvasquez@xa-sa.com

Thank you - we will enter them into the comment matrix.

Sonia

On Oct 30, 2018, at 4 04 PM, Zachary Jacobson, PE <ZJacobson@binkleybarfield.com> wrote:

Sonia,

Below are the comments that were written on our roll plot from the Public Meeting on Tuesday 10/23, for your records:

STA 1268+00, NBFR- Property Owner wanted to know how they were going to get to their driveway from the Overpass at STA 1305+00. Requested consideration of 2 way frontage roads

STA 628+00- Property Owner text change Jose R & Maria M. Ruelas to Lorenzo & Bianca Gonzales

STA 1060+00- Property Owner text change P.C.Cage Ranch LTD to Catherine C. Lutts

Thanks,



Zachary Jacobson, PE
Project Engineer
A 1710 Seamist Drive, Houston, TX 77008
P 713.869.3433
TBPE F-257 | BinkleyBarfield.com |   

AUSTIN | COLLEGE STATION | HOUSTON | RICHARDSON | ROUND ROCK | SAN ANTONIO

This e-mail, including attachments, may include confidential information and may be used only by the person or entity to which it is addressed. If the reader of this e-mail is not the intended recipient, the reader is hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this e-mail is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by replying to this message and delete this e-mail immediately.



PUBLIC COMMENTS

COMENTARIOS DEL PÚBLICO

OCTOBER 23, 2018 AND OCTOBER 25, 2018

23 DE OCTUBRE DE 2018 Y 25 DE OCTUBRE DE 2018

(PLEASE PRINT/Favor de escribir en letra de molde)

NAME/Nombre: Bruce Kelms

ADDRESS/ Dirección: [REDACTED]

REPRESENTING/ Representando: Self

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): check each of the following boxes that apply to you:
Según el código de Transportación de Texas §201.811(a)(5), marque las casillas siguientes que le apliquen a usted:

- I am employed by TxDOT/ Soy empleado de TxDOT.
- I do business with TxDOT/ Hago negocios con TxDOT.
- I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting/ Podría beneficiar económicamente con el proyecto u otro punto sobre el que estoy comentando.

COMMENTS/ COMENTARIOS:

I am concerned and request that drainage at known existing areas that flood be planned and designed with positive drainage to allow for continuous flow of traffic northward during evacuation scenarios. I request that joint efforts with the Hidalgo County Drainage District No 1 be made to provide the positive outfall that is adequate for this project. I encourage TxDOT to plan and consider purchasing of large detention acreage in known areas that flood. Also consider the use of channels to move drainage water eastward toward large low areas such as El Del Rey Lake.

Written statements may be submitted to TxDOT, Attn. Robin Gelston, Pharr District, 600 W. Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577. Comments may also be sent electronically by facsimile to (956) 702-6110 or e-mailed to Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov. The Deadline to submit comments is by Friday, November 9, 2018.

Declaraciones por escrito pueden ser enviadas después de la junta pública a TxDOT, a la atención Robin Gelston del, Pharr District, 600 W. Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577. Sus comentarios pueden también ser enviados por fax a (956) 702-6110, o por correo electrónico a Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov. La fecha límite para presentar comentarios es miércoles, Viernes, 9 de noviembre de 2018.

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. La revisión ambiental, consultas y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes ambientales federales aplicables para este proyecto están siendo o han sido, llevado a cabo por TxDOT - en virtud de 23 USC 327 y un Memorando de Entendimiento fechado el 16 de diciembre del 2014, y ejecutado por la FHWA y el TxDOT.

10/25



PUBLIC COMMENTS
COMENTARIOS DEL PÚBLICO
OCTOBER 23, 2018 AND OCTOBER 25, 2018
23 DE OCTUBRE DE 2018 Y 25 DE OCTUBRE DE 2018

(PLEASE PRINT/Favor de escribir en letra de molde)

NAME/Nombre: Ricardo Coronado Jr

ADDRESS/ Dirección: [Redacted]

REPRESENTING/ Representando:

(Texas Transportation Code, §201.811(a)(5)): check each of the following boxes that apply to you:
Según el código de Transportación de Texas §201.811(a)(5), marque las casillas siguientes que le apliquen a usted:

- I am employed by TxDOT/ Soy empleado de TxDOT.
I do business with TxDOT/ Hago negocios con TxDOT.
I could benefit monetarily from the project or other item about which I am commenting/ Podría beneficiar económicamente con el proyecto u otro punto sobre el que estoy comentando.

COMMENTS/ COMENTARIOS:

I feel that moving overpass #3 to line up with Guerra lane would make alot more sense than its present proposed location. Guerra lane is a well traveled road. There are numerous ranches that are accessed by this road. Emergency an or medical personal would also be able assisted ASSISTED in reaching families down Guerra Lane. much quicker. There is also a pipeline that runs along Guerra Lane which is maintzined by individuals using this road. Magic Valley Electric coop has powerline that run along Guerra lane providing electric to families daen this road.

Written statements may be submitted to TxDOT, Attn. Robin Gelston, Pharr District, 600 W. Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577. Comments may also be sent electronically by facsimile to (956) 702-6110 or e-mailed to Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov. The Deadline to submit comments is by Friday, November 9, 2018.

Declaraciones por escrito pueden ser enviadas después de la junta pública a TxDOT, a la atención Robin Gelston del, Pharr District, 600 W. Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577. Sus comentarios pueden también ser enviados por fax a (956) 702-6110, o por correo electrónico a Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov. La fecha límite para presentar comentarios es miércoles, Viernes, 9 de noviembre de 2018.

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. La revisión ambiental, consultas y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes ambientales federales aplicables para este proyecto están siendo o han sido, llevado a cabo por TxDOT - en virtud de 23 USC 327 y un Memorando de Entendimiento fechado el 16 de diciembre del 2014, y ejecutado por la FHWA y el TxDOT.

The movement of overpass #3 would not be an undue burden. It would benefit alot more people than its current proposed location.

On Oct 29, 2018, at 9:44 AM, Melba Schaus <Melba.Schaus@txdot.gov> wrote:

Tony/Octavio,

Just wanted to let you know that I received a call on late Friday afternoon from Mr. Ricardo Coronado. He voice mail indicated that he wanted to withdraw his comment about moving OP #3 and leaving the currently proposed OP as is. I spoke to him this morning asking him to send us an email with his retraction so we could have it on record. He said he would like to take a look at the schematic one more time just to be sure. I advise him he could see it online. Hoping to get his retraction in writing within next couple of days. For now, just hold off doing any changes here.

Melba R. Schaus, P.E.
District Planning Engineer

Texas Department of Transportation

600 W Interstate 2, Pharr, TX 78577

(956) 702-6181 (office)

(956) 358-7319 (mobile)

Email: melba.schaus@txdot.gov

(just noted)

From: Alfredo Torres [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 02, 2018 2:02 PM
To: Melba Schaus
Subject: Project Engineer Pharr District

This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To: Melba Schaus, P.E
Project Engineer Pharr District

From: Ricardo Coronado Jr.
Interested Property Owner
Email: [REDACTED]
Date: November 2, 2018

Dear Ms. Schaus :

I would like to inform you that after further review and consideration I am not opposed to the current proposed location of overpass number 3. Therefore, I am retracting my written and oral comments I made at the TxDOT meeting held in San Manuel, Texas, on October 25th, 2018

Thank you,
Ricardo Coronado Jr.

From: Richard A. Garza [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2018 2:28 PM

To: Robin Gelston

Cc: Melba Schaus; Homer Bazan Jr; oguerra@entechhou.com; Richard Garza; Charles Brown; Ramiro Garza

Subject: Proposed Improvements at US 281 from SH186/FM 1017 (Hidalgo County) to FM 3066 (Brooks County)

This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Gelston,

My name is Richard A. Garza. I am the property owner of a small ranch on the east side of U.S. Hwy 281, located just north of the proposed 2nd crossover/bridge north of FM 186.

I attended the TxDOT Open House on Thursday, October 25, 2018 at Brewster Elementary in Linn, Texas. Arriving early, I had an opportunity to review the maps you had on display and also listened intently to the entire presentation, which I found very informative. Also, I found your presentation professional, easy to understand and very well done. Congratulations to all your staff.

I would respectfully request that said 2nd crossover bridge be moved 55 feet north of current proposed location, whereas both my neighbor to the south and I would both be able to access and exit from said crossover. If said crossover/bridge remains at its current proposed location, the access in and out of my property will be limited and negatively devalue my property as a result.

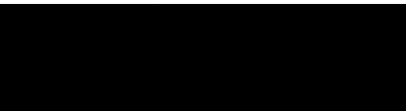
I feel this is a justifiable and reasonable request and would hope that you and your staff would seriously consider this. Thank you for your time and attention and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Respectfully,

Richard A. Garza

CC: Mr. Homer Bazan, Ms. Melba Schaus P. E., Mr. Octavio N. Guerra, P.E.

Richard A. Garza
BIC Realty & Investments





US 281 (Future I-69C) Public Meeting

E. Court Reporter Transcripts

*

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC MEETING

US 281 at SH 186

FM 1017
to
FM 3066

Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria
200 W. Bennett
Falfurrias, Texas

October 23, 2018

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 23rd day of October, 2018, the following proceedings were held at the Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria, 200 W. Bennett, Falfurrias, Brooks County, Texas.

1 MR. BAZAN: Good evening. I am Homer
2 Bazan. I'm the Director of Transportation, Planning
3 and Development for the Texas Department of
4 Transportation, Pharr District, with the headquarters
5 in the City of Pharr. On behalf of TxDOT, I will be
6 conducting tonight's public meeting for the proposed
7 improvements on US 281 in Brooks and Hidalgo
8 Counties.

9 Thank you for participating in this
10 public meeting. Citizen participation and input is
11 important in the transportation planning process, and
12 I appreciate you taking time from your busy schedules
13 to be here. Tonight's proceedings will be conducted
14 in English, but we do have Spanish translation
15 services available. Please raise your hand if you
16 would like to use this service.

17 Before you leave tonight, we would
18 appreciate you registering with the staff at the
19 entrance if you have not already done so. This will
20 allow us to keep you updated on the project and inform
21 you about any possible additional public meetings as
22 the planning process continues. If you would like to
23 provide comments during the public comment portion of
24 this meeting, please write your name on the sign-in
25 sheet available at the registration area.

1 At this time, I would like to recognize
2 the local government officials who are present here
3 tonight. We have Brooks County Judge, Eric Ramos.

4 Judge, thank you very much.

5 And, also, we have from the City of
6 Falfurrias, Alderman or City Councilman Manuel Perez,
7 Jr.

8 Thank you, Mr. Perez.

9 We also have staff here tonight here
10 from TxDOT and from our local -- from our consulting
11 engineers Entech Civil Engineers and Binkley and
12 Barfield. They're gonna be available through the
13 room to provide assistance. You can identify them by
14 their name tags. I encourage you to visit with them.
15 if you have any questions, or you want more
16 information on the project.

17 At this time, I would like to ask staff
18 from TxDOT, Entech Engineers, and Binkley and
19 Barfield to please stand. Okay, thank you.

20 At TxDOT in the last -- we start every
21 meeting with a safety minute, and this is something we
22 started I'm not sure how long ago, it was about a
23 decade or so ago, and since that time, we've -- we've
24 instituted this program that we call safety Mission
25 Zero, that you see on the slide here. And I want to

1 give you some statistics. At TxDOT, we're trying to
2 make sure we -- safety has become our highest
3 priority, basically, at the department, the main
4 focus being we want to have all employees be safe and
5 return back home safely every day at the end of each
6 workday. And just to give you a little, I guess, note
7 on success, back in 2010, when we started this Mission
8 Zero -- Mission Zero, what it means is that we're
9 trying to get to the goal of zero accidents and
10 injuries.

11 Back in 2010, TxDOT had 314 injuries.
12 In 2018, we had 156, basically half. And, also, as
13 far as lost time injuries, and injuries that incurred
14 lost time, we had 116 back in 2010, and this fiscal
15 year, 2018 that just ended, we have 34. Almost like
16 about a fourth. So this is something that's very
17 important to TxDOT.

18 And now let me give you our safety
19 minute, officially. In the case of a fire or any
20 other emergency that requires all occupants to
21 immediately leave the building, evacuation will be
22 signaled by the internal building alarm, or by the
23 direction of emergency personnel. Should the
24 evacuation signal sound off, please leave the
25 building immediately through the nearest exit. And

1 we have exits here on each side of me, here, and also
2 in the back; actually, in all four corners of this
3 building.

4 Evacuation is required when the alarm is
5 sounding, for each individual in the building.
6 Please exit in an orderly fashion. Do not run or
7 push. Running can lead to falls and injuries. Gather
8 at a safe distance from the building, taking care not
9 to block entrances or exits. Emergency personnel
10 will need a clear path into and out of the buildings,
11 or the area.

12 Stay together. Assess who is present.
13 Staff at the registration table will bring the sign-
14 in sheets to insure that all people that signed in are
15 accounted for. Report the condition and location of
16 any persons unable to leave the building or area, or
17 who need assistance to emergency personnel.

18 Please wait for the all clear from the
19 emergency personnel before attempting to re-enter the
20 building. If a fire or other incident makes the
21 building or area unsafe to enter, the public meeting
22 will be rescheduled at a later date.

23 Now as you came in, you were given an
24 agenda for tonight's public meeting.

25 In a few minutes, Ms. Melba Schaus,

1 Project Manager for TxDOT, will provide a technical
2 overview of the project.

3 After her presentation, I will then
4 provide a summary of the next steps involved in the
5 project development. We will then open up the meeting
6 at that time to receive your comments before we
7 adjourn.

8 The purpose for tonight's public meeting
9 is to encourage and maintain effective communication
10 with the public and provide project specific
11 information as it relates to the US 281 project in
12 Hidalgo and Brooks Counties.

13 Your input and comments are an important
14 part of this process, and we encourage you to provide
15 comments on this project. As I said earlier, your
16 attendance at this meeting and continued
17 participation throughout the planning and development
18 of this project are very important. I encourage you
19 to talk with your neighbors and refer them to us so
20 they can also make comments and be included in this
21 process.

22 Today's public meeting will be to
23 discuss US 281 from SH 186 and FM 1017 to FM 3066,
24 just south of Falfurrias, to update the highway to
25 interstate standards. The total project length is

1 43.9 miles. There is also currently a project in the
2 design phase from FM 490 to SH 186, or FM 1017 in
3 Hidalgo County, or just immediately south of the
4 project that we're discussing tonight.

5 We want to receive your comments, and
6 there are several ways that you can do this. A court
7 reporter is available to record tonight's meeting, so
8 please reserve any comments until we reach the public
9 comment portion of the meeting, so your input can be
10 accurately recorded. A translator is also available
11 and can assist upon request.

12 If you prefer to provide written
13 comments, you may leave them here at the registration
14 table before you leave. You can also mail, fax, or
15 email your comments up to the comment period deadline
16 of Friday, November 9th, 2018. The contact
17 information that you see on the screen here is also
18 included in your -- in your meeting packets.

19 After tonight, you can also view the
20 presentation materials at the TxDOT Pharr District
21 Office, located at 600 West Interstate 2 in Pharr.

22 The proposed project we're gonna talk
23 about tonight is located in Northern Hidalgo County
24 and in Brooks County. The project consists of
25 improvements from SH 186, or FM 1017, to FM 3066 to

1 upgrade US 281 to interstate standards. The project
2 will also include construction of main lanes,
3 overpasses, and frontage roads.

4 There are 11 proposed overpasses that
5 are spaced three to five miles apart.

6 The total construction cost of the
7 project is, approximately, 500 million dollars.

8 The preliminary utility and right-of-way
9 costs of the project is, approximately, 9.5 million
10 dollars.

11 At this time, I will now turn the
12 program over to Ms. Melba Schaus, our TxDOT project
13 manager, who will provide a more detailed overview of
14 the project.

15 MS. SCHAUS: Thank you, Mr. Bazan, and
16 good evening everyone.

17 The first topic that I would like to
18 discuss tonight is the project's existing conditions,
19 which will allow us to identify the need and purpose
20 of the project. The need and purpose describes why
21 the project is needed, and what the project will
22 accomplish. First, let's discuss the existing
23 conditions.

24 US 281 is an existing rural divided
25 highway. From SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 755, the average

1 daily traffic is projected to be 17,935 vehicles per
2 day in 2025, and 24,145 vehicles per day in 2045.
3 From FM 755 to FM 3066, the average daily traffic is
4 projected to be 19,590 vehicles per day in 2027, and
5 26,295 vehicles per day in 2047. The existing roadway
6 consists of two 12 foot travel lanes with a 10 foot
7 outside shoulder, and a four foot inside shoulder in
8 each direction, within varying existing right-of-way
9 from 300 foot wide to 450 foot wide. Drainage is
10 controlled by both the median ditch and the outside
11 graded ditches.

12 The project needs, or the reason for
13 this project is due to the lack of capacity that will
14 be needed for future growth and the upgrade of US 281
15 to meet interstate standards or future I-69C, and
16 reduce risks for accidents.

17 The use of this road is expected to
18 increase because of the anticipated future
19 development. The project purpose, or what will be
20 accomplished, is that safety and mobility will be
21 improved within this corridor. The capacity of this
22 roadway will be increased with the addition of main
23 lanes and provide support to current and future
24 developments along I-69C.

25 The proposed configuration for US 281 is

1 an expressway facility that includes both main lanes
2 and frontage roads. The proposed main lanes would be
3 divided by a concrete barrier and consist of two 2 12
4 foot travel lanes with a 12 foot outside shoulder for
5 northbound lanes, only, and a 10 foot inside shoulder
6 in each direction, for a total pavement width of 90
7 feet. The additional two feet on the northbound
8 shoulder would allow for a wider lane for hurricane
9 evacuation, if needed. The proposed frontage roads
10 would consist of two 12 foot travel lanes with an
11 eight foot outside shoulder and a four foot inside
12 shoulder. The proposed ditches between the main
13 lanes and frontage roads and between the frontage
14 roads and the right-of-way line would be used for
15 drainage.

16 Additional right-of-way is proposed at
17 two locations. North of SH 186 and FM 1017 to
18 straighten the curves and at the existing rest area.

19 At the approaches to the proposed
20 overpasses, the configuration of the main lanes would
21 change a bit. The main lanes would be built to the
22 ultimate typical section in order to accommodate a
23 third 12 foot travel lane. The proposed outside
24 shoulder would become a 22 foot outside shoulder to
25 accommodate a third 12 foot lane, and a 10 foot

1 outside shoulder in each direction, for a total
2 pavement width of 116 feet as part of the ultimate
3 facility. Retaining walls would be used at the
4 proposed overpasses to minimize right-of-way impacts.

5 The proposed construction of US 281 will
6 consist of these improvements, as listed in the
7 project scope shown on this slide.

8 Will upgrade the existing US 281 to
9 interstate standards as part of future I-69C;

10 Will add discontinuous frontage roads
11 and control access;

12 Construct 11 overpasses with a maximum
13 distance of, approximately, five miles apart;

14 Utilize existing right-of-way where
15 feasibly possible by providing retaining walls at the
16 overpasses; all retaining walls and bridges will be
17 constructed to ultimate width to allow for three
18 lanes of traffic in each direction.

19 Other unique features include the Border
20 Patrol checkpoint, the rest area, the weigh station,
21 and four wildlife crossings.

22 As mentioned in the previous slides, a
23 total of 11 new overpasses are proposed between SH
24 186, FM 1017, and FM 3066. There are currently three
25 existing overpasses. They are at SH 186/FM 1017; FM

1 755; and FM 3066.

2 As per the table shown, you can see that
3 the spacing between the overpasses ranges from 1.4
4 miles to 5.1 miles, with an average spacing of four
5 miles.

6 Based on location and traffic need, some
7 of the overpasses will be a three span bridge that
8 will allow the construction of a turnaround lane,
9 while other overpasses will be a single span bridge.
10 I'll talk about the details of a single span bridge in
11 the next slide.

12 The proposed three span bridge overpass
13 will include turnarounds, and, as mentioned earlier,
14 will utilize retaining walls. The interim main lane
15 configuration will consist of two 12 foot travel
16 lanes, a 12 foot outside shoulder in the northbound
17 direction and a 10 foot inside shoulder. At other
18 overpasses, the future travel lane is shown as cross-
19 hatched for future use.

20 The proposed single span bridge overpass
21 will not include turnarounds, but will utilize
22 retaining walls. There will be a stop sign for
23 frontage road traffic and cross traffic. The interim
24 main lane configuration will consist of two 12 foot
25 travel lanes, a 12 foot outside shoulder in

1 northbound direction, and a 10 foot inside shoulder.
2 At other overpasses, the future travel lane is shown
3 as cross-hatched for future use.

4 A matrix was developed based on the
5 alternatives proposed tonight, and the impacts can be
6 seen on the current slide.

7 The no build alternative would not meet
8 the purpose and need of the project.

9 Alternative 1 represents the best fit
10 alternative. It straightens out the curves north of
11 SH 186/FM 1017 for safety, and additional large truck
12 parking is proposed at the rest areas. The rest areas
13 would serve both northbound and southbound traffic.
14 Southbound traffic would access the rest area by
15 making a turnaround at the overpass south of the rest
16 area, then heading north to the rest area. This
17 removes the left exit off the high speed main lanes,
18 which improves safety conditions.

19 Alternative 2 represents a larger amount
20 of right-of-way widening to the west side to
21 straighten out the curves. At the rest area, in
22 addition to the safety concerns regarding left exits
23 of the high speed main lanes, the additional truck
24 parking would not be acquired, meaning that there
25 would be no separation of cars and large trucks, which

1 causes increased safety concerns.

2 The preferred alternative is Alternative
3 1. This alternative provides the least amount of
4 impacts in regards to residential and commercial
5 displacements. In addition, the roadway design used
6 to straighten the curves along US 281 will allow us to
7 enhance mobility and add capacity in the safest way
8 possible. In addition, the additional truck parking
9 would increase safety by separating the cars and
10 large trucks.

11 This concludes the technical overview
12 portion of the presentation. I will now turn the
13 program back over to Mr. Bazan.

14 MR. BAZAN: Thank you, Melba.

15 The next step in project development is
16 to review and evaluate all the comments received.

17 Project development will continue by
18 receiving environmental clearance to further develop
19 the project. We are anticipating receiving this
20 environmental clearance by spring of 2020.

21 Once the environmental clearance is
22 granted, right-of-way acquisition and utility
23 adjustments will be completed in spring of 2021. The
24 design of the project will be finalized in the summer
25 of 2022. Now the US 281 corridor is 43.9 miles long,

1 and it will be built in phases as the funding becomes
2 available. We anticipate Phase 1 to have letting of
3 spring of 2023, and the construction would begin,
4 approximately, in the summer of 2023, and it would
5 take, approximately, 30 to 36 months.

6 At this time, we will now begin the
7 public comment period.

8 During this time I ask that you, one,
9 you use the microphone up here at the microphone
10 stand; that you state your full name and state your
11 interest in the project.

12 When I call your name, please stand or
13 raise your hand so that a TxDOT staff member can bring
14 you a microphone. Well, in this case we're just gonna
15 bring them up here to the microphone. And then once I
16 call everyone that has signed up, and right now we
17 only have one person that has signed up at this point,
18 after that person is given that opportunity, then
19 we'll ask others if they want to -- if they want to
20 provide any additional comments.

21 Your questions and your comments are
22 gonna be addressed by a panel that will be at the
23 front here, consisting of Rene Garza, our Pharr Area
24 Office Engineer. We also have Eddie Gracia, our Roma
25 Area Office Engineer. We have our consultant project

1 manager, Tony Gelacio from Entech Civil Engineers.
2 We also have Paul Voiles, the consulting project
3 manager from Binkley and Barfield.

4 Also, in order to give everybody who is
5 interested in making a public comment an opportunity
6 to do so, please make sure your comments do not exceed
7 three minutes.

8 We would like to first invite the public
9 officials to speak and provide their comments if they
10 would to at this time.

11 Judge, in deference to you -- you don't
12 have any comments at this time?

13 Mr. Perez?

14 MR. PEREZ: Not right now.

15 MR. BAZAN: Okay, sir. Thank you.

16 We will now start off with the first
17 person that signed up. His name is Thomas Slowinsky.

18 MR. SLOWINSKY: Very good. All right.
19 So I'm Tom Slowinsky. Good evening, everyone, and my
20 comments were on drainage and also the lighting, and
21 this would be near our checkpoint. Obviously, 281 has
22 had some drainage problems, you've seen that, and
23 that -- that would be our concerns that we want to
24 address. I think it's a great project, it's gonna
25 help make the highway safe. Just want to make sure

1 it's gonna drain and be well lit.

2 MR. BAZAN: Paul? I guess, Paul, would
3 you --

4 MR. VOILES: Yes, absolutely. In
5 addition to everything you see on the tables here with
6 the geometric design, we take a look at a lot of
7 things as we come up with a large scale project like
8 this; you know, lighting, property ownership, traffic
9 projects and drainage, of course. I'm well aware of
10 what's recently happened down here with the US 281
11 corridor, and so we will make sure that we if not
12 improve, at least make it no worse than what is out
13 there, as far as the drainage is concerned. So we'll
14 definitely -- and the lighting, as well. The lighting
15 is more of a detailed design issue, but it's
16 definitely something we can take a look at now, as far
17 as how we light the corridor. So thank you for your
18 comment.

19 MR. BAZAN: Thank you, Mr. Slowinsky.

20 At this time, is there anybody else that
21 would like to step up and make any comments?

22 JUDGE RAMOS: Thank you all very much
23 for taking an interest for improving our -- our
24 infrastructure and road so that we can get to where we
25 need to get to. Thank you, Mr. Slowinsky, for

1 bringing up the point. And my concern was when you
2 said if we don't improve it, we'll at least not make
3 it any worse. And I think you're aware that one side
4 of 281, I don't know whether it was northbound or
5 southbound, it flooded this last time between Encino
6 and here, and our big concern is that we currently
7 don't have a shelter in Encino. Anyone that needs a
8 shelter, comes to Falfurrias. We have a bus that
9 brings them over. There would have been issues. So I
10 hope that we improve and not at least make it not
11 worst, right. We need to improve. Thank you.

12 MR. BAZAN: Tony? Tony Gelacio, do you
13 mind addressing that comment?

14 Tony is the consulting engineer in that
15 section of the project.

16 MR. GELACIO: Yes, sir. And one of the
17 things we are looking at now, preliminarily, is to
18 come up with some solutions as to what we can do to
19 provide some drainage for -- along the corridor, so
20 that we can try to improve the corridor's drainage.
21 The one thing that we are looking at, since it is --
22 it's an interstate, for sure the interstate will not
23 flood. That's one of the things that we'll make sure
24 that does not happen. As we do our study through the
25 corridor, we will verify as we develop our drainage

1 study that we prevent that from happening.

2 The frontage roads is something that we
3 will not be able to prevent on a large storm, but main
4 lanes will not flood, that's one of the things. And
5 when it goes to the PS&E stage, that is something that
6 will be further looked into, and it will be looking at
7 the preliminary drainage study that we come up with --
8 or excuse me, the drainage study we come up with to
9 verify that we follow that criteria.

10 MR. BAZAN: Thank you, Tony.

11 And Tony -- when the flooding occurred,
12 Tony went out there with our Pharr engineer, Rene
13 Garza. They went out there and went to the site,
14 itself, so that is something, Judge, that we plan to
15 address in the design details and make sure that --
16 that the main lanes, like Tony said, you know, don't
17 ever flood. Thank you, Judge.

18 MR. CAGE: My name is Presnall Cage, and
19 I represent the Cage family. We have -- the Cage
20 Ranch represents about -- I'm guessing about eight
21 miles of frontage on -- here in this project on both
22 sides of 281. My concern is, and I'm sure that you're
23 aware of it, is the landowner's access and the
24 possibility of getting us two-way access roads,
25 instead of the one. You said it's four or five miles

1 between overpasses and just -- if it was four miles,
2 and we have to access the road, we might have to go
3 four miles, eight miles, just to get to town, and
4 that's an awful long way to have to double back if you
5 go to town four or five times like I do every day
6 sometimes. So, anyway, I know that you all have been
7 concerned from other people, have been contacted
8 about -- about the two-way access. If anything has
9 changed, or any kind of comment, I would appreciate
10 it.

11 MR. BAZAN: Thank you, Mr. Cage. Yeah,
12 we're aware of that concern, that issue that's been
13 brought up by, you know, several of the property
14 owners. It is a big change in the way you will access
15 your property, it's a big change. And so we are
16 looking at how -- you know, how we can locate those
17 overpasses to minimize, you know, that inconvenience,
18 and we're doing the best we can on that. As far as
19 two-way frontage roads, we, generally, try to not
20 implement two-way frontage roads, because we're
21 thinking that's -- that's a safety concern. So we try
22 to avoid two-way frontage roads as much as we can, and
23 -- but that becomes a balance. We can't put too many
24 overpasses, you know, otherwise the expense is so
25 much. But we'll be looking at the property owner's

1 access as much as possible, and we'll try to maximize
2 the location of the overpasses for that purpose. So
3 thank you.

4 Is there anybody else that would like to
5 make a comment? Okay, hearing none, let me go ahead
6 and proceed.

7 As mentioned earlier, our next step is
8 to review and evaluate all the comments received
9 tonight, as well as any written comments submitted on
10 or before Friday, November 9th, 2018. I encourage you
11 to register your contact information at the sign-in
12 table, if you haven't already done so.

13 As I said at the beginning of the
14 meeting, public input and participation are very
15 important in this process. I know you could be home
16 with your families or doing something else this
17 evening, so I thank you again for attending and
18 participating tonight. The Texas Department of
19 Transportation's mission is to work with others to
20 provide safe and reliable transportation solutions
21 for Texas. Thank you for working with us on this
22 local transportation improvement. Please contact our
23 project manager, Melba Schaus, at our TxDOT district
24 headquarters in Pharr, Texas. Her telephone number
25 is 956-702-6181, if we can be of further service.

1 We would like to thank Lasater
2 Elementary Staff here for the use of their facility
3 for the public meeting this evening. And as a
4 reminder, there will be a second public meeting for US
5 281 on Thursday, in a couple of days, October 25th, at
6 Brewster School Cafeteria on FM 1017. The same
7 information that was presented here tonight will be
8 presented there.

9 Again, thank you for everything, and
10 have a good evening.

11
12 (The deposition was concluded at 6:32 p.m.)
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

*

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC MEETING

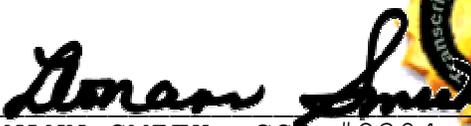
US 281 at SH 186

FM 1017
to
FM 3066

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION
Taken on 10-23-18

I, DONANN SMITH, Certified Shorthand Reporter in
and for the State of Texas, do hereby certify that the
above and foregoing contains a true and correct
transcription of the Public Meeting held on October
23, 2018.

Certified to by me this 15th day of November,
2018.


DONANN SMITH, CSR #2304
Expiration Date: 12-31-19
Action Reporting, Firm #13
P. O. Box 4513
McAllen, Texas 78502
(956) 631-1024
actionrpg@gmail.com



*

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC MEETING

US 281 at SH 186

FM 1017
to
FM 3066

Brewster Elementary School Cafeteria
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas

October 25, 2018

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 25th day of October,
2017, the following proceedings were held at the
Brewster Elementary School Cafeteria, 22240 FM 1017,
Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas.

1 MR. BAZAN: Good evening. My name
2 is Homer Bazan. I'm the Director of Transportation,
3 Planning and Development for the Texas Department of
4 Transportation, Pharr District, with the headquarters
5 in the City of Pharr. On behalf of TxDOT, I will be
6 conducting tonight's public meeting for the proposed
7 improvements to US 281 in Brooks and Hidalgo
8 Counties.

9 Thank you for participating in the
10 public meeting. Citizen participation and input is
11 important in the transportation planning process, and
12 I appreciate you taking time from your busy schedules
13 to be here tonight. Tonight's proceedings will be
14 conducted in English, but we do have Spanish
15 translation services available. Please raise your
16 hand if you would like to use this service.

17 At this time, I would like to
18 recognize the local government officials who are
19 present here tonight. We have a representative from
20 Senator Lucio's office, Ms. Ida Palacios. Thank you.
21 Thank you, ma'am. We also have Vernice Gonzalez
22 representing Precinct 4 of Hidalgo County. Thank you
23 very much, Vernice. And we also have Commissioner
24 Elect from Precinct 4, Ellie Torres here in
25 attendance. Thank you, Ms. Torres.

1 Staff from TxDOT, our consulting
2 engineers, Entech Civil Engineers, and Binkley and
3 Barfield are also present here tonight, and they're
4 available throughout the room, if you need
5 assistance. You can identify them by the name tags
6 that they're wearing. I encourage you to visit with
7 them, and if you would like to ask some questions or
8 get more information from them. At this time, I would
9 like to ask the staff from TxDOT, Entech Engineers,
10 and Binkley and Barfield to please stand. Thank you.

11 At TxDOT we always begin our
12 meetings with a safety message, and we would like to
13 do that in this case, also, as well. We have what's
14 called, and I'll explain what we show in the screen,
15 it's called Mission Zero. This is -- about a decade
16 or so ago, TxDOT began to refocus on safety, and we
17 call our slogan Mission Zero, indicating that we want
18 to get to the goal where one day we have no injuries
19 or no accidents.

20 To show you how much progress we've
21 made, in 2010 TxDOT statewide had 314 injuries, and
22 this past physical year that just ended, in 2018, we
23 had 156, about half of that number of eight years ago.
24 In injuries, in which there was lost time that the
25 employees couldn't make it to work, back in 2010, we

1 had 116 such incidents, injuries, and in 2018, this
2 past year, we had 34, approximately a fourth of what
3 we had eight years ago. So we are making progress at
4 TxDOT, so we take it very seriously.

5 And now for the safety message I
6 want to give to you all. In the case of a fire here
7 today, or any other emergency that requires all
8 occupants to immediately leave the building,
9 evacuation will be signaled by the internal building
10 alarm, or by the direction of emergency personnel.
11 Should the evacuation signal sound off, please leave
12 the building immediately through the nearest exits.
13 And we have one exit over here to my right, we have an
14 exit to the back. Please do not run or push. Exit in
15 an orderly fashion. Running can lead to falls and
16 injuries. Gather at a safe distance from the building
17 taking care not to block entrances or exits.
18 Emergency personnel will need a clear path into and
19 out of the buildings, or the area.

20 Stay together. Assess who is
21 present. Staff at the registration table will bring
22 the sign-in sheets to insure that all people that
23 signed in are accounted for. Report the condition and
24 location of any persons unable to leave the building
25 or area, or who need assistance to emergency

1 personnel.

2 Please wait for the all clear from
3 the emergency personnel before attempting to re-enter
4 the building. If a fire or other incident makes the
5 building or area unsafe to enter, this public meeting
6 would be rescheduled at a later date.

7 And now for the project. As you
8 came in, you were given an agenda for tonight's public
9 meeting.

10 In a few minutes, Ms. Melba Schaus,
11 Project Manager for TxDOT, will provide a technical
12 overview of the project.

13 After her presentation, I will
14 provide a summary of the next steps involved in the
15 project development. We will then open up the meeting
16 to receive your comments before we adjourn.

17 The purpose for tonight's public
18 meeting is to encourage you and maintain effective
19 communication with the public and provide project
20 specific information as it relates to the US 281
21 project in Hidalgo and Brooks Counties.

22 Your input and comments are an
23 important part of this process, and we encourage you
24 to provide comments on this project. As I said
25 earlier, your attendance at this meeting and

1 continued participation throughout the planning and
2 development of this project are very important. I
3 encourage you to talk with your neighbors and refer
4 them to us so they can also make comments and be
5 included in the process.

6 Today's public meeting will be to
7 discuss US 281 from SH 186 and FM 1017 all the way to
8 FM 3066, just south of Falfurrias, to update the
9 highway to interstate standards. The total project
10 length is 43.9 miles. There is also currently a
11 project in the design phase from FM 490 to SH 186 and
12 FM 1017 in this county, or just immediately south of
13 this project that we're discussing tonight.

14 We want to receive your comments on
15 this project, and there are several ways that you can
16 do this. A court reporter is available to record
17 tonight's meeting, so please reserve any comments
18 until we reach the public comment portion of the
19 meeting, so your input can be accurately recorded. A
20 translator is also available and can assist upon
21 request.

22 If you prefer to provide written
23 comments, you may leave them here at the registration
24 table before you leave. You can also mail them, fax
25 them, or email them up to the comment period deadline

1 of Friday, November 9th, 2018. The contact
2 information that you see in the screen is also
3 included in your meeting packets.

4 After tonight, you can also view
5 the presentation materials at the TxDOT Pharr
6 District Office, which is located at 600 West
7 Interstate 2 in Pharr.

8 The proposed project is located in
9 Northern Hidalgo County and in Brooks County. The
10 project consists of improvements from SH 186 and FM
11 1017, to FM 3066 to upgrade US 281 to interstate
12 standards. The project will also include the
13 construction of main lanes, frontage roads, and
14 overpasses.

15 There are 11 proposed overpasses
16 that are spaced, approximately, three to five miles
17 apart.

18 The total construction cost of the
19 project is, approximately, 500 million dollars.

20 The preliminary utility and right-
21 of-way costs of the project is, approximately, 9.5
22 million dollars.

23 I will now turn the program over to
24 Ms. Melba Schaus, our TxDOT project manager, who will
25 provide a more detailed overview of the project.

1 MS. SCHAUS: Thank you, Mr. Bazan,
2 and good evening everyone.

3 The first topic that I would like
4 to discuss tonight is the project's existing
5 conditions, which will allow us to identify the need
6 and purpose of the project. The need and purpose
7 describes why the project is needed, and what the
8 project will accomplish. First, let's discuss the
9 existing conditions.

10 US 281 is an existing rural divided
11 highway. From SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 755, the average
12 daily traffic is projected to be 17,935 vehicles per
13 day in 2025, and 24,145 vehicles per day in 2045.
14 From FM 755 to FM 3066, the average daily traffic is
15 projected to be 19,590 vehicles per day in 2027, and
16 26,295 vehicles per day in 2047. The existing roadway
17 consists of two 12 foot travel lanes with a 10 foot
18 outside shoulder, and a four foot inside shoulder in
19 each direction, within varying existing right-of-way
20 from 300 foot wide to 450 foot wide. Drainage is
21 controlled by both the median ditch and the outside
22 graded ditches.

23 The project need, or the reason for
24 this project is due to the lack of capacity that will
25 be needed for future growth and the upgrade of US 281

1 to meet interstate standards or future I-69C, and
2 reduce risks for accidents.

3 The use of this road is expected to
4 increase because of the anticipated future
5 development. The project purpose, or what will be
6 accomplished, is that safety and mobility will be
7 improved for this corridor. The capacity of this
8 roadway will be increased with the addition of main
9 lanes and provide support to current and future
10 development along I-69C.

11 The proposed configuration for US
12 281 is an expressway facility that includes both main
13 lanes and frontage roads. The proposed main lanes
14 would be divided by a concrete barrier and consist of
15 two 12 foot travel lanes with a 12 foot outside
16 shoulder for northbound lanes, only, and a 10 foot
17 inside shoulder in each direction, for a total
18 pavement width of 90 feet. The additional two feet on
19 the northbound shoulder would allow for a wider lane
20 for hurricane evacuation, if needed. The proposed
21 frontage road would consist of two 12 foot travel
22 lanes with an eight foot outside shoulder and a four
23 foot inside shoulder. The proposed ditches between
24 the main lanes and frontage roads and between the
25 frontage roads and the right-of-way line would be

1 used for drainage.

2 Additional right-of-way is proposed
3 at two locations; north of SH 186 and FM 1017 to
4 straighten the curves and at the existing rest area.

5 At the approaches to the proposed
6 overpasses, the configuration of the main lanes would
7 change a bit. The main lanes would be built to the
8 ultimate typical section in order to accommodate a
9 third 12 foot travel lane. The proposed outside
10 shoulder would become a 22 foot outside shoulder to
11 accommodate a third 12 foot lane, and a 10 foot
12 outside shoulder in each direction, for a total
13 pavement width of 116 feet as part of the ultimate
14 facility. Retaining walls would be used at the
15 proposed overpasses to minimize right-of-way impacts.

16 The proposed construction of US 281
17 will consist of these improvements, as listed in the
18 project scope shown on this slide.

19 Upgrade the existing US 281 to
20 interstate standards as part of future I-69C;

21 Add discontinuous frontage roads
22 and control access;

23 Construct 11 overpasses with a
24 maximum distance of, approximately, five miles apart;

25 Utilize right-of-way where feasibly

1 possible by providing retaining walls at the
2 overpasses; all retaining walls and bridges will be
3 constructed to ultimate width to allow for three
4 lanes of traffic in each direction.

5 Other unique features include the
6 Border Patrol checkpoint, the rest area, weigh
7 station, and four wildlife crossings.

8 As mentioned in the previous
9 slides, a total of 11 new overpasses are proposed
10 between SH 186, FM 1017, and FM 3066. There are
11 currently three existing overpasses; at SH 186/FM
12 1017; FM 755; and FM 3066.

13 As per the table shown, you can see
14 that the spacing between the overpasses ranges from
15 1.4 miles to 5.1 miles, with an average spacing of
16 four miles.

17 Based on location and traffic need,
18 some of the overpasses will be a three span bridge
19 that will allow the construction of a turnaround
20 lane, while other overpasses will be a single span
21 bridge. I'll talk about the details of a single span
22 bridge in the next slide.

23 The proposed three span bridge
24 overpasses will include turnarounds, and, as
25 mentioned earlier, will utilize retaining walls. The

1 interim main lane configuration will consist of two
2 12 foot travel lanes, a 12 foot outside shoulder in
3 the northbound direction and a 10 foot inside
4 shoulder. At other overpasses, the future travel
5 lane is shown as cross-hatched for future use.

6 The proposed single span bridge
7 overpass will not include turnarounds, but will
8 utilize retaining walls. There will be a stop sign
9 for frontage road traffic and cross traffic. The
10 interim main lane configuration will consist of two
11 12 foot travel lanes, a 12 foot outside shoulder in
12 northbound direction, and a 10 foot inside shoulder.
13 At other overpasses, the future travel lane is shown
14 as cross-hatched for future use.

15 A matrix was developed based on the
16 alternatives proposed tonight, and the impacts can be
17 seen on the current slide.

18 The no build alternative would not
19 meet the purpose and need of the project.

20 Alternative 1 represents the best
21 fit alternative. It straightens out the curves north
22 of SH 186/FM 1017 for safety, and additional large
23 truck parking is proposed at the rest area. The rest
24 area would serve both northbound and southbound
25 traffic. Southbound traffic would access the rest

1 area by making a turnaround at the overpass south of
2 the rest area, then heading north to the rest area.
3 This removes the left exit off the high speed main
4 lanes, which improves safety conditions.

5 Alternative 2 represents a larger
6 amount of right-of-way widening to the west side to
7 straighten out the curves. At the rest area, in
8 addition to the safety concerns regarding left exits
9 of the high speed main lanes, the additional truck
10 parking would not be acquired, meaning that there
11 would be no separation of cars and large trucks, which
12 causes increased safety concerns.

13 The preferred alternative is
14 Alternative 1. This alternative provides the least
15 amount of impacts in regards to residential and
16 commercial displacements. In addition, the roadway
17 design used to straighten the curves along US 281 will
18 allow us to enhance mobility and add capacity in the
19 safest way possible. In addition, the additional
20 truck parking would increase safety by separating the
21 cars and large trucks.

22 This concludes the technical
23 overview portion of the presentation. I will now turn
24 the program back over to Mr. Bazan.

25 MR. BAZAN: Thank you, Ms. Schaus.

1 The next step in project
2 development is to review and evaluate all the
3 comments that we receive.

4 Project development will continue
5 by receiving environmental clearance to further
6 develop the project. We are anticipating receiving
7 this clearance by spring of 2020.

8 Once the environmental clearance is
9 granted, right-of-way acquisition and utility
10 adjustments will be completed by spring of 2021. The
11 design of the project will be finalized in the summer
12 of 2022. The US 281 corridor will be built in phases
13 as the funding becomes available. We anticipate the
14 first phase to have letting of spring, 2023.
15 Construction would begin, approximately, in the
16 summer of 2023, and it would take, approximately, 30
17 to 36 months to complete.

18 At this time, we will now begin the
19 public comment period.

20 During this time I ask that you,
21 one, you use the microphone, and we have the
22 microphone stand up here, that you can please come to
23 it; that you state your full name and that you state
24 your interest in the project.

25 When I call your name, please stand

1 or raise your hand so that a TxDOT staff member can
2 recognize you, and you can be led up here to the
3 microphone stand. First, I will call up the people
4 that signed up, and one person has signed up to speak,
5 and after that, I will ask if there are any other
6 persons willing or wishing to make a public comment.

7 Your questions and your comments
8 are gonna be addressed by a panel that we have here
9 today, consisting of the following personnel:
10 Gentlemen, if you can please take the table. We have
11 Rene Garza, who is our Pharr Area Engineer, here at
12 the far -- the far right, the far end of the table.
13 We have Eddie Gracia, who is our Roma Area Office
14 Engineer. We have our consultant project manager
15 from Entech Civil Engineers, Tony Gelacio, up here;
16 and then Paul Voiles, the consulting project manager
17 from Binkley and Barfield, and myself, Homer Bazan,
18 will also be in the panel.

19 In order to give everybody who is
20 interested in making a public comment an opportunity
21 to do so, please make sure your comments do not exceed
22 three minutes.

23 We would like to first invite the
24 public officials, if they so wish to, make any
25 comments at this time. At this time, I don't know if

1 Ms. Ida Palacios, if you want to make any comments on
2 behalf of Senator Lucio? Okay. Thank you. Vernice,
3 I don't know if you want to make any comments for the
4 commissioner. And Ms. Eli Torres, I don't know if you
5 want to make any comments at this time, or -- okay.
6 Thank you.

7 We have one person that signed up
8 to speak, and her name is Aisha Gonzalez. Ms.
9 Gonzalez, you can please come up here.

10 MS. GONZALEZ: Good evening. My
11 name is Aisha Gonzalez. I'm the president of B2Z
12 Engineering. I would like to begin by congratulating
13 TxDOT Pharr District in upgrading US 281 to
14 Interstate 698 standards. This action will put our
15 Rio Grande Valley on the interstate map, which will
16 promote commerce in our area, and we really
17 appreciate that.

18 I would like to make sure that my
19 understanding of improving safety on this corridor is
20 correct. Once the frontage roads are constructed,
21 there will no longer be direct access to the main
22 lanes, and access to the main lanes will be provided
23 through ramps onto the main lanes, and, therefore,
24 improving the safety of travel between our area and
25 north, going north. Am I correct in my understanding?

1 MR. BAZAN: Ms. Gonzalez, that's
2 correct. You know, you're right. You know, we will
3 have ramps, you know, as part of the project. That's
4 a definition of an expressway or an interstate.
5 Property owners won't have direct access anymore,
6 like they have right now. They will have a frontage
7 road in front of their properties now that you -- they
8 can access; but in order to get to the main lanes,
9 they will have to use ramps to get to the main lanes;
10 that is correct.

11 MS. GONZALEZ: Thank you, Mr.
12 Bazan. Thank you.

13 MR. BAZAN: At this time, I would
14 like to open it up to anybody else that would like to
15 make any comments right now.

16 MR. TORRES: Hi. My name is Joe
17 Torres. What exactly are we doing for the -- you guys
18 are at the preliminary stage at this point, right?
19 Are you gonna be picking up the road? How are you
20 gonna be handling most of the drainage around that
21 area?

22 MR. BAZAN: Paul. I guess, Paul,
23 I'll let you address this one.

24 MR. VOILES: So it's an upgrade to
25 an interstate facility. We definitely have to

1 provide better drainage, anything that's reasonable
2 and feasible. The main lanes will be passable under a
3 hundred year event, which should improve a lot of the
4 areas that we've been seeing. I know particularly
5 within the last month there has been some flooding
6 along US 281 that's actually closed lanes. And so
7 with this project, anything that's reasonable and
8 feasible to provide better drainage, we will be
9 accommodating.

10 MR. BAZAN: Thank you, Mr. Torres
11 for your comment. Thank you, Paul.

12 Yes, sir, can you please come up to
13 the microphone stand?

14 MR. GUERRA: First of all, on
15 behalf of our committee, I want to thank you guys for
16 being here today. We certainly appreciate you taking
17 the time to come out. My name is Carlos Guerra, and
18 I'm a local rancher and community leader, and we have
19 met several times with TxDOT, which we appreciate,
20 and I want to go on record, number one, as stating
21 that the majority of the landowners in this community
22 who this highway will be affecting, are in favor of
23 having two-way feeder roads, and you guys know all the
24 reasons we've give you all. I just want everybody
25 else to know here, that in case you all are interested

1 in the same thing, we have begun work on that, and
2 we're working and doing all we can to make that
3 possible until this area becomes so populated that
4 it's not safe to do that. But reasons for that are,
5 number one, economics, because a lot of times you're
6 gonna end up going the wrong way before you can start
7 going the right way. So you're gonna leave your house
8 having to go three or four miles south to turn around
9 and go north. You're gonna be in a hurry to do that,
10 and that, in itself, is not safe. But by doing the
11 way it is, we're gonna cause thousands of people to
12 spend millions of dollars on gasoline, wear and tear
13 on their vehicles, and also use our tax dollars to
14 wear and tear the highways themselves. Realizing
15 that a majority -- or not a majority but a big part, I
16 would like to know how many miles, exactly, but a big
17 part of the present major highways do have two-way
18 feeder roads, and, supposedly, they're gonna be
19 grandfathered in. So some will be grandfathered in
20 and some won't. So if you live in an area and you're
21 my age where you've been grandfathered, and you go to
22 an area that's not grandfathered, you know, we might
23 be a hazard ourselves, thinking that everything is
24 grandfathered. So, hopefully, you know, we can
25 figure out a way. If not, maybe we can have more

1 exits and more entrances in between the overpasses
2 that might help.

3 Also want to go on record that our
4 community was very helpful with the drainage
5 situation here recently in a rain that we may not see
6 again in our lifetime, but I want to encourage TxDOT
7 and everybody else that has anything to do with it, to
8 do all they can now to make sure if it happens again,
9 we're prepared to do that, but insure it doesn't
10 happen again.

11 But, anyway, thank you guys very
12 much, and hopefully we can work on that. Do you all
13 have any comments on that? Any good news, let me say
14 that.

15 MR. BAZAN: Mr. Guerra, I wanted to
16 point out, first of all, thank you very much for your
17 comments. And as far as, hopefully we don't see that
18 rain event. I agree with you, hopefully we don't see
19 a rain event like that again in this area.

20 MR. GUERRA: We don't mind the
21 rain, we just -- you know, the flooding part on the
22 highway.

23 MR. BAZAN: Not that much, right.

24 MR. GUERRA: We pray for rain every
25 day.

1 MR. BAZAN: Right. And as far as
2 frontage roads, I'm gonna get to your point of
3 frontage roads. I want to make sure that everyone is
4 clear that our frontage roads are all -- right now,
5 the way they're presented right now tonight are all
6 one-way frontage roads. I know you understand that,
7 but I want to make sure everyone understands that.
8 And the reason why they're one way is that those are
9 -- you know, those are the safest, you know, frontage
10 roads that we can do. You know, over the years
11 statewide, we have been converting a lot of two-way
12 frontage roads to one-way over the years. And so, you
13 know, we're not proposing anymore two-way frontage
14 roads at this time because of safety reasons. But
15 we'll continue working with you, Mr. Guerra, as far as
16 seeing what we can do to help out, as far as access.
17 I know -- I know there are other property owners that
18 have the same concerns you have, so we understand
19 that, so we'll look at that. We'll look at your
20 comments and we'll take them, obviously, under
21 consideration and meet with you as we have before in
22 the past.

23 MR. GUERRA: Thank you.

24 MR. BAZAN: Thank you, Mr. Guerra.

25 Is there anybody else that would

1 like to speak? Yes, sir, please come up.

2 MR. CORONADO: My name is Ricardo
3 Coronado, Jr., and by looking at the map, I noticed
4 that overpass number 3, I have a little bit of
5 property north of where the proposed location is of
6 that overpass. I would say maybe about 500 feet, and
7 I believe that if that overpass was moved just a
8 little bit north, it would serve a lot -- a lot more
9 people than its present location. I'm asking that it
10 be aligned with Guerra Lane, which is a very well
11 traveled road. There is several ranches down that
12 road, and I know there's some families that live down
13 there, and I think for first responders, any medical
14 attention, you know, certainly it would cut the time
15 for them to respond. So I believe that just a very
16 small movement of overpass number 3 would be very
17 helpful to the people that live down there.

18 And there's also a power line that
19 runs down there. Magic Valley has some power lines
20 that run down there, and I think that it would also
21 help them, you know, service those power lines.

22 And there's also a gas pipeline
23 that runs all along Guerra Lane, and there's also a
24 lot of traffic from individuals going out there to
25 service that pipeline. So I think a very small

1 movement of overpass number 3 would serve a lot --
2 many more families and individuals that work out
3 there. So I am proposing that it be moved just
4 slightly north of its proposed location right now,
5 for the benefit of a lot more people than what it's
6 currently -- where it's currently located. I believe
7 it's only like a big ranch, and it's gonna serve right
8 now, as opposed to serving a lot more ranches, and
9 more families.

10 MR. BAZAN: Okay.

11 MR. CORONADO: So I would ask that
12 you all look at that overpass number 3.

13 MR. BAZAN: Okay.

14 MR. CORONADO: Thank you very much.
15 That's all I have.

16 MR. BAZAN: Thank you, Mr.
17 Coronado, and we will -- that's the purpose of the
18 meeting, to hear comments such as yours. I appreciate
19 you coming up here and making that comment. We will
20 look at that location, at that overpass. You know, we
21 will locate the overpasses where it makes the most
22 sense, obviously, so we'll take your comments under
23 consideration. And if you haven't written a written
24 comment, I would encourage you to do so, also, to
25 provide a written comment. I know you -- I'm glad you

1 made this comment.

2 At this time, is there anybody else
3 that would like to make any other comments here. And
4 if there's nobody else, we'll still be available here
5 after the presentation here, so if you have any other
6 questions, you can always meet with us after this
7 presentation here.

8 As mentioned earlier, our next step
9 is to review and evaluate all the comments received
10 tonight, as well as any written comments submitted on
11 or before Friday, November 9th, 2018. I encourage you
12 to register your contact information at the front
13 desk, if you haven't already done so.

14 As I said at the beginning of the
15 meeting, public input and participation are very
16 important in this process. I know you could be home
17 with your families or doing something else this
18 evening, so I thank you again for attending and
19 participating tonight in this process. The Texas
20 Department of Transportation's mission is to work
21 with others to provide safe and reliable
22 transportation solutions for the state of Texas.
23 Thank you for working with us on this local
24 transportation improvement. Please contact our
25 project manager, Ms. Melba Schaus, at our TxDOT

1 district headquarters in Pharr, Texas. Her telephone
2 number is 956-702-6181. I already have that number
3 memorized. Please contact her if you have any other
4 information on this project.

5 We would like to also thank the
6 Brewster Elementary Staff here for the use of their
7 facility and for the public meeting this evening. I
8 want to thank you again for attending tonight, and
9 have a good evening.

10 Thank you.

11

12 (The public meeting was concluded at 6:32 p.m.)

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29

*

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC MEETING

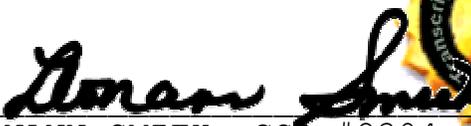
US 281 at SH 186

FM 1017
to
FM 3066

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION
Taken on 10-25-18

I, DONANN SMITH, Certified Shorthand Reporter in
and for the State of Texas, do hereby certify that the
above and foregoing contains a true and correct
transcription of the Public Meeting held on October
25, 2018.

Certified to by me this 15th day of November,
2018.


DONANN SMITH, CSR #2304
Expiration Date: 12-31-19
Action Reporting, Firm #13
P. O. Box 4513
McAllen, Texas 78502
(956) 631-1024
actionrpg@gmail.com





US 281 (Future I-69C) Public Meeting

F. Agenda and Fact Sheets



AGENDA

US 281 at SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Hidalgo County and Brooks County, Texas

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Martes, 23 de octubre de 2018

Lasater Elementary School Cafeteria

200 W. Bennett

Falfurrias, Texas 78355

Thursday, October 25, 2018

Jueves, 25 de octubre de 2018

Brewster School Cafeteria

22420 FM 1017

Edinburg, Texas 78541

Exhibit Viewing

Exhibición de información del proyecto

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

5:00 a 6:00 de la tarde

Presentation

Presentación

I. Welcome and Introductions

Bienvenida e introducciones

6:00 PM

6:00 de la tarde

Homer Bazan

TxDOT Director of Transportation
Planning & Development

*Director de Planeación y Desarrollo de
Transporte de TxDOT*

II. Project Overview & Description

Información general del proyecto

Melba Schaus, P.E.

TxDOT Engineer
Ingeniero de TxDOT

III. Next Steps in Project Development

Próximos pasos en el desarrollo del proyecto

Homer Bazan

TxDOT Director of Transportation
Planning & Development

*Director de Planeación y Desarrollo de
Transporte de TxDOT*

IV. Public Comment Period

Tiempo para comentarios del público

Homer Bazan

TxDOT Director of Transportation
Planning & Development

*Director de Planeación y Desarrollo de
Transporte de TxDOT*

VI. Adjournment

Clausura

Homer Bazan

TxDOT Director of Transportation
Planning & Development

*Director de Planeación y Desarrollo de
Transporte de TxDOT*

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 the Federal Highway Administration and TxDOT.

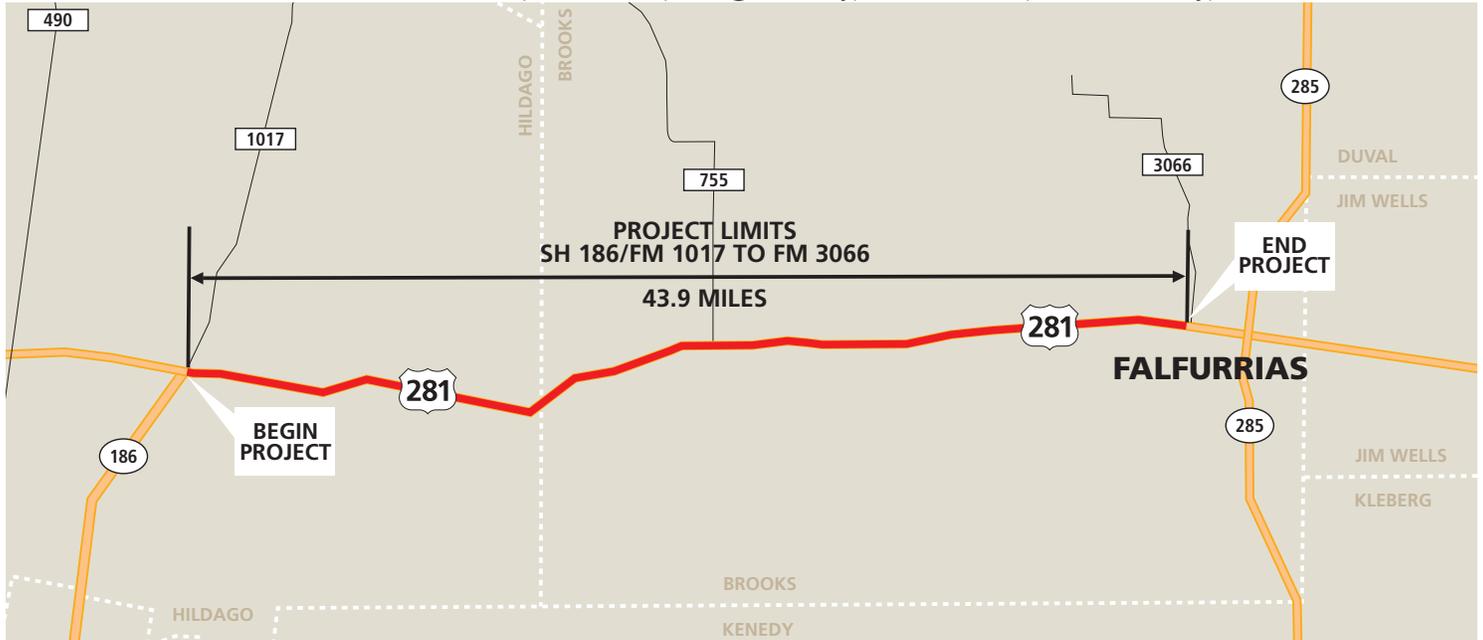
La revisión ambiental, consultas y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes Ambientales Federales para este proyecto se están o han sido llevadas a cabo por TxDOT conforme con 23 U.S.C. 327 y un Memorandum de Entendimiento con fecha del 16 de Diciembre del 2014 y ejecutado por la Administración Federal de Carreteras y TxDOT.

FACT SHEET

US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Proposed Improvements

Project Map and Limits

US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 (Hidalgo County) to FM 3066 (Brooks County)



Purpose and Need

What problems are we trying to address?

- Existing facility lacks capacity needed for future growth
- Existing facility lacks controlled access
- Reduce risk of accidents

What are we trying to do?

- Add capacity
- Improve mobility
- Improve safety

Proposed Project Scope

- Upgrade existing US 281 to interstate standards as part of future I-69C
- Improve roadway alignment (i.e. straightening curves), control of access, and frontage roads
- Construct 11 overpasses
- Other unique features to include: Border Patrol Checkpoint, rest area, weigh station, and four wildlife crossings

Project to be developed and constructed in multiple phases based on available funding.

Project Schedule*

*Schedule and dates are preliminary and subject to change.

- Schematic – Fall 2019
- Environmental Clearance – Spring 2020
- Acquire Right-of-Way & Adjust Utilities – Spring 2021
- Finalize Design – Summer 2022
- Ready to Bid (Letting) – Spring 2023
- Start Construction Phase 1 – Summer 2023

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 Dec. 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.



For more information on the proposed project, please contact:
Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager
Texas Department of Transportation Pharr District at (956) 702-6181 or visit
www.TxDOT.gov, keyword search "US 281 Hidalgo County and Brooks County".

HOJA INFORMATIVA

Mejoras propuestas para US 281 de SH 186/FM 1017 a FM 3066

Mapa y limites

US 281 de SH 186/FM 1017 (Condado Hidalgo) a FM 3066 (Condado Brooks)



Proposito y Necesidad

¿Cuáles problemas estamos tratando de resolver?

- La instalación existente no tiene la capacidad necesaria para el crecimiento futuro
- La instalación existente no tiene acceso controlado
- Reducir el riesgo de accidentes

¿Qué estamos intentando de hacer?

- Añadir capacidad
- Mejorar la movilidad
- Mejorar la seguridad

Descripción del Proyecto Propuesto

- Actualizar a la carretera US 281 existente a estándares interestatales como parte del futuro I-69C
- Mejorar la alineación de la carretera (enderezar las curvas), el control de acceso y las carreteras frontales
- Construir 11 pasos elevados.
- Otras características únicas que incluyen: punto de control de la Patrulla Fronteriza, área de descanso, estación de pesaje y cuatro cruces de vida silvestre

El proyecto se desarrollará y construirá en múltiples fases según los fondos disponibles.

Calendario del Proyecto*

*El calendario y las fechas son preliminares y sujetas a cambios.

- Esquema - otoño 2019
- Despeje Ambiental - primavera 2020
- Adquirir el derecho de paso y ajustar los servicios públicos - primavera 2021
- Diseño Final - verano 2022
- Licitación - primavera 2023
- Iniciar la fase de construcción 1 - verano 2023

La revisión del impacto ambiental, las consultas y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes federales ambientales vigentes para este proyecto se están llevando a cabo o se han llevado a cabo por TxDOT conforme al 23 U.S.C. 327 y un memorando de entendimiento de fecha 16 de diciembre de 2014. Asimismo, estas han sido ejecutadas por la Administración de Carreteras Federales y TxDOT.



Para más información sobre el Proyecto propuesta, por favor comuníquese con:
Melba Schaus, P.E., Project Manager
Departamento de Transporte De Texas, Distrito Pharr a (956) 702-6181 o visite
www.TxDOT.gov, y busque las palabras clave "US 281 Hidalgo County and Brooks County".



US 281 (Future I-69C) Public Meeting

G. Exhibits and Schematics



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WELCOME!

US 281 Hidalgo & Brooks Counties SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Public Meeting

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Lasater Elementary Cafeteria

Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Presentation and Comment Period: 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 25, 2018

Brewster School Cafeteria

Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Presentation and Comment Period: 6:00 p.m.

Why Am I Here?

- Learn about the proposed project
- Provide comments on the proposed project



Project Purpose and Need

What problems are we trying to address?

- Existing facility lacks capacity needed for future growth
- Existing facility lacks controlled access
- Reduce risk for accidents

What are we trying to do?

- Add capacity
- Improve mobility
- Improve safety



Proposed Project Scope

- Upgrade existing US 281 to interstate standards as part of future I-69C
- Provide improved roadway alignment (i.e. straightening out curves), control of access, and frontage roads
- Construct 11 Overpasses
- Other unique features include
 - Border Patrol Checkpoint
 - Rest Area
 - Weigh Station
 - 4 Wildlife Crossings



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION





Preliminary Project Schedule*

US 281: SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 – Ongoing Public Involvement

**Finalize
Schematic**

Fall
2019

**Environmental
Clearance**

Spring
2020

**R.O.W.
Acquisition
& Utility
Adjustments**
Spring 2021

**Finalize
Design**

Summer 2022

Letting

Spring 2023

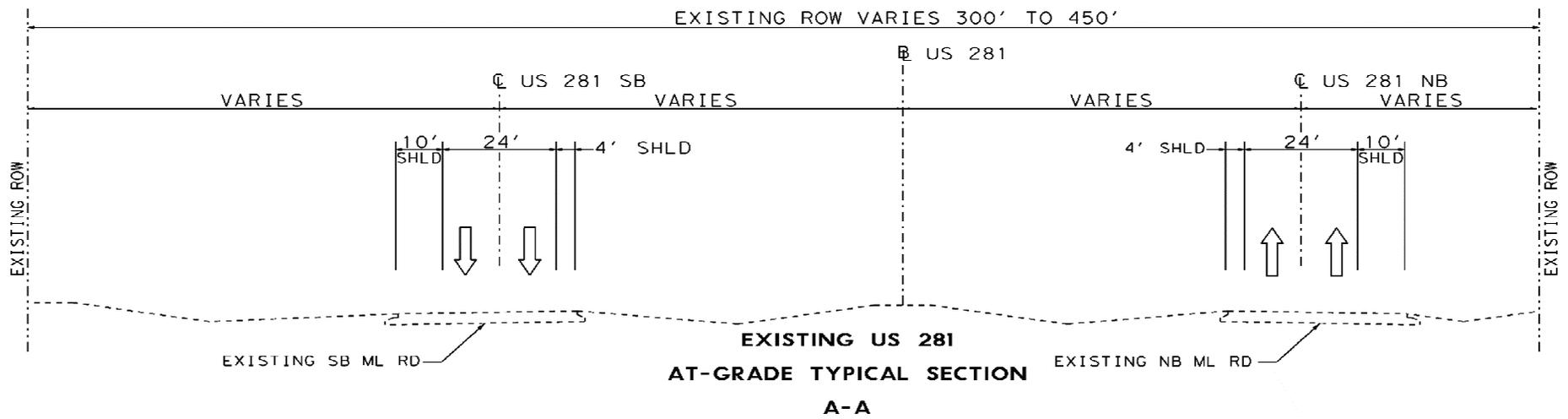
**Begin
Construction**

Summer
2023

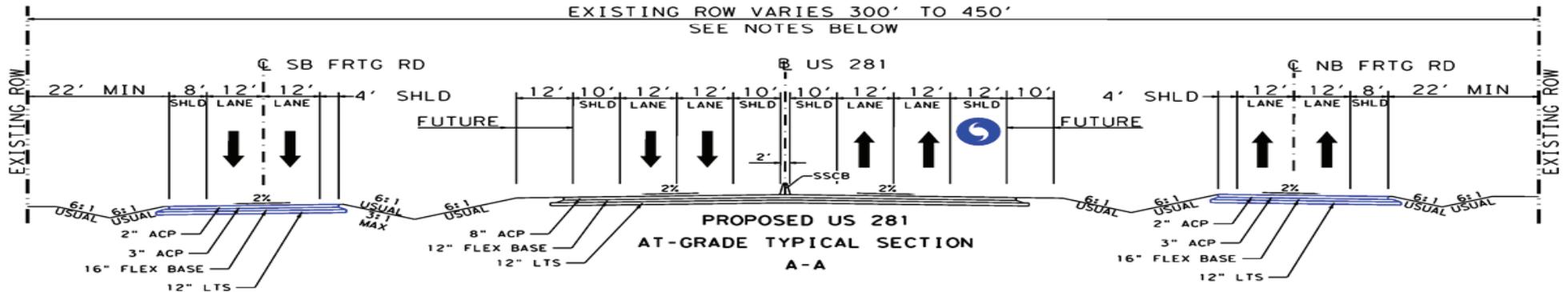
- **This project schedule and dates are preliminary and subject to change. Construction reflects initial phase only. Corridor to be completed in phases.**

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.

Existing Typical Section

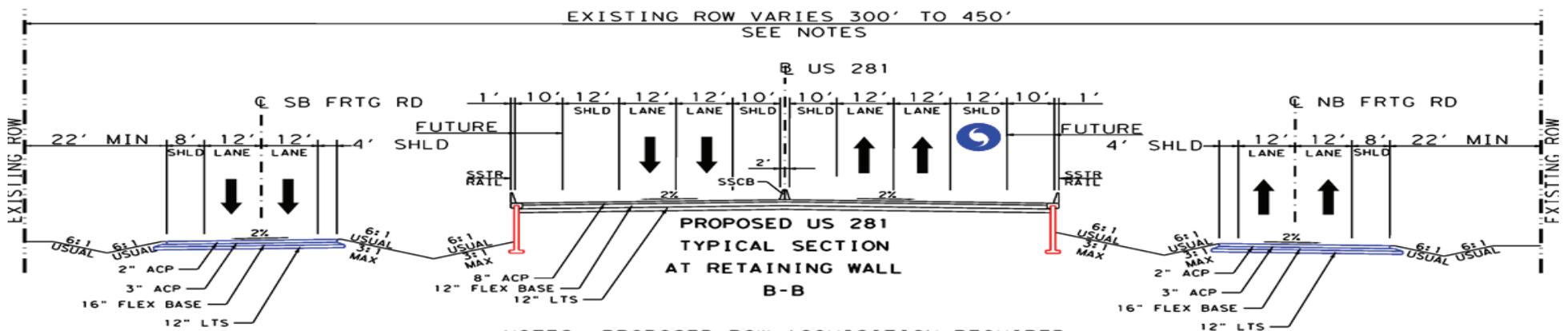


Proposed Typical Sections



NOTES: PROPOSED ROW ACQUISITION REQUIRED

1. FROM N. OF SH 186 TO EL RUCIO
ADDITIONAL ROW VARIES FROM 0' TO 430'
2. REST AREA - EXIST ROW = 510'
ADDITIONAL ROW VARIES FROM 0' TO 245'



NOTES: PROPOSED ROW ACQUISITION REQUIRED

1. FROM N. OF SH 186 TO EL RUCIO
ADDITIONAL ROW VARIES FROM 0' TO 430'
2. REST AREA - EXIST ROW = 510'
ADDITIONAL ROW VARIES FROM 0' TO 245'





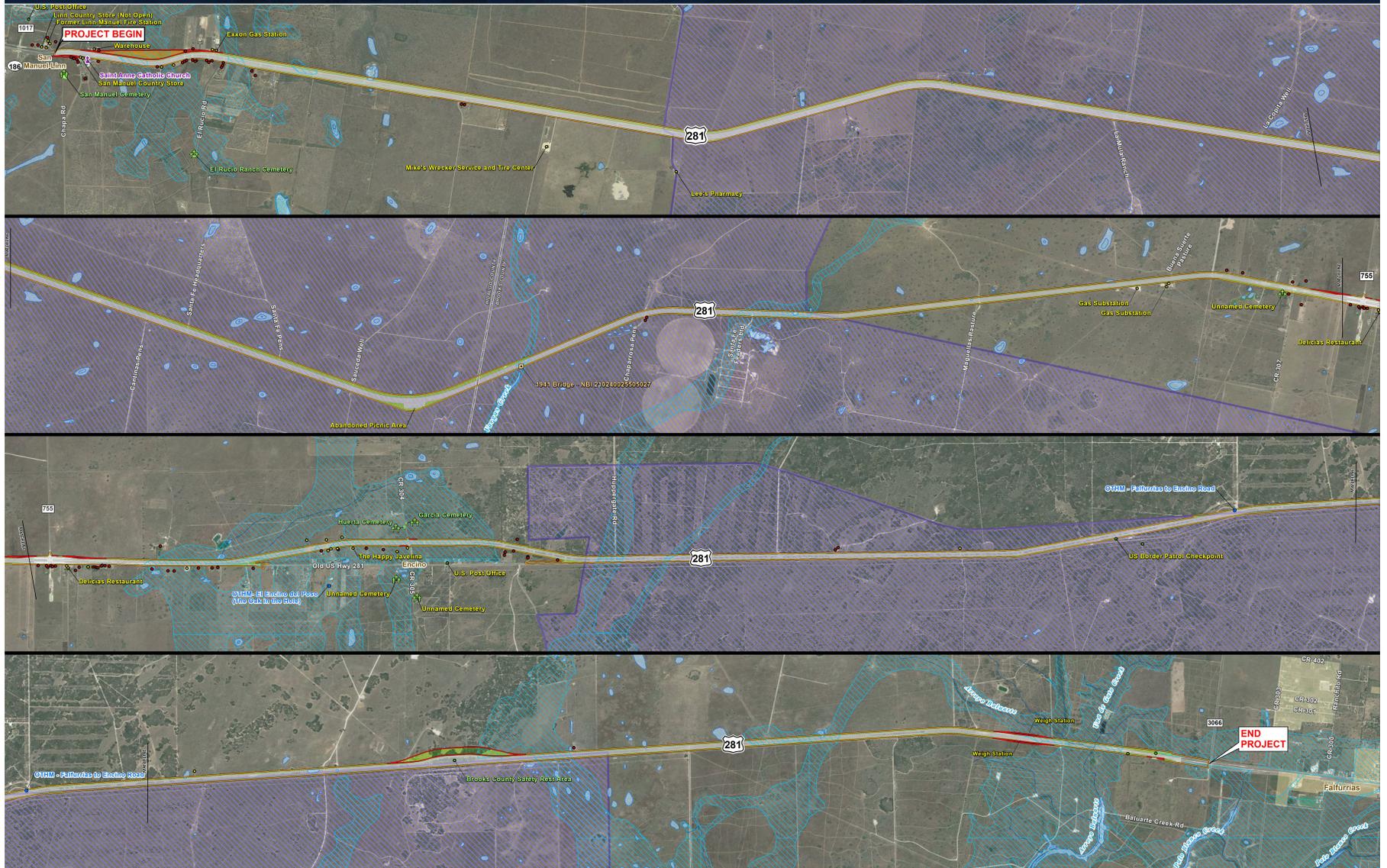
How Can I Make Comments?

- Mail or drop off written comments to:
TxDOT Pharr District
Attn: US 281
600 W. Interstate 2
Pharr, TX 78577
- Submit a written comment form tonight
- Fax comments to **(956) 702-6110**
- Email comments to
Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov
- Visit www.txdot.gov and search “US 281 Hidalgo County and Brooks County” to view information and provide comments
- Comments must be received or postmarked by
Friday, November 9, 2018



Next Steps

- Compile and consider community input from tonight's public meeting and commenting period
- Finalize project design details with community input
- Environmental Clearance anticipated Spring 2020



	<p>Base Map: 2017 Google Imagery</p> <p>Data Sources: FEMA, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Hydrography Data, Texas Historical Commission, Field Observations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> █ Place of Worship █ Commercial Structure █ Residential Structure █ Other Structure █ Cemetery █ 1941 Historic-age Bridge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Official Texas Historical Marker Proposed Right-of-way Existing Right-of-way County Boundary Historic Cemetery ~ Stream / River 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100-year Floodplain National Wetland Inventory Feature King Ranch (NRHP-listed) Property Boundary 	<p>Land Use / Land Cover</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential Commercial Woodland Scrubland Maintained Right-of-way 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transportation
	<p>1 in = 0.25 miles</p> <p>0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles</p>					

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 Dec. 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

La revisión ambiental, consultas y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes ambientales federales correspondientes para este proyecto, han sido o se están llevando a cabo por TxDOT en cumplimiento a 23 U.S.C. 327 y un Memorando de entendimiento con fecha del 16 de diciembre de 2014, y ejecutado por FHWA y TxDOT.



US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Alternative Evaluation Matrix

Criteria	Unit of Measurement	No-Build	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
Meets Purpose and Need	Yes/No	No*	Yes	Yes
Proposed New Right-of-Way	Acres		70.11	56.66
Safety				
Addresses High-Speed Left Exits at Rest Area	Yes/No		Yes	No
Improves Rest Area by Including Truck Parking	Yes/No		Yes	No
Human Environment Impacts				
Commercial Structures	Number		1	2
Residential Structures	Number		2	3
"Other" Structures	Number		4	4
NRHP-listed King Ranch Impacts - Potential 4(f)	Yes/No		No	Yes

*The No-Build Alternative did not meet the purpose and need for the project; therefore, it was not carried through the evaluation. However, it will be used as a baseline through the NEPA process for evaluating impacts.

US 281 from SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 Alternative Ranking Matrix

Criteria	Rank*	No-Build**	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
Meets Purpose and Need	0 to 2		2	2
Proposed New Right-of-Way	0 to 2		1	2
Safety				
Addresses High-Speed Left Exits at Rest Area	0 to 2		2	0
Improves Rest Area by Including Truck Parking	0 to 2		2	0
Human Environment Impacts				
Commercial Structures	0 to 2		2	1
Residential Structures	0 to 2		2	1
"Other" Structures	0 to 2		1	1
NRHP-listed King Ranch Impacts - Potential 4(f)	0 to 2		2	0
<i>Total Relative Ranking</i>			14	7

* lower # = less desirable, higher # = more desirable

** The No-Build Alternative did not meet the purpose and need for the project; therefore, it was not carried through the evaluation. However, it will be used as a baseline through NEPA.



US 281 (Future I-69C) Public Meeting

H. Presentation



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



US 281 PUBLIC MEETING
FROM: SH 186/FM 1017
TO: FM 3066





Safety: Mission

ZERO 



Safety Never Stops!

Public Meeting Agenda

- **Welcome & Introductions**

Homer Bazan– TxDOT Director of Transportation Planning & Development

- **Technical Overview**

Melba Schaus, P.E. – TxDOT Project Manager

- **Next Steps in Project Development**

Homer Bazan- TxDOT Director of Transportation Planning & Development

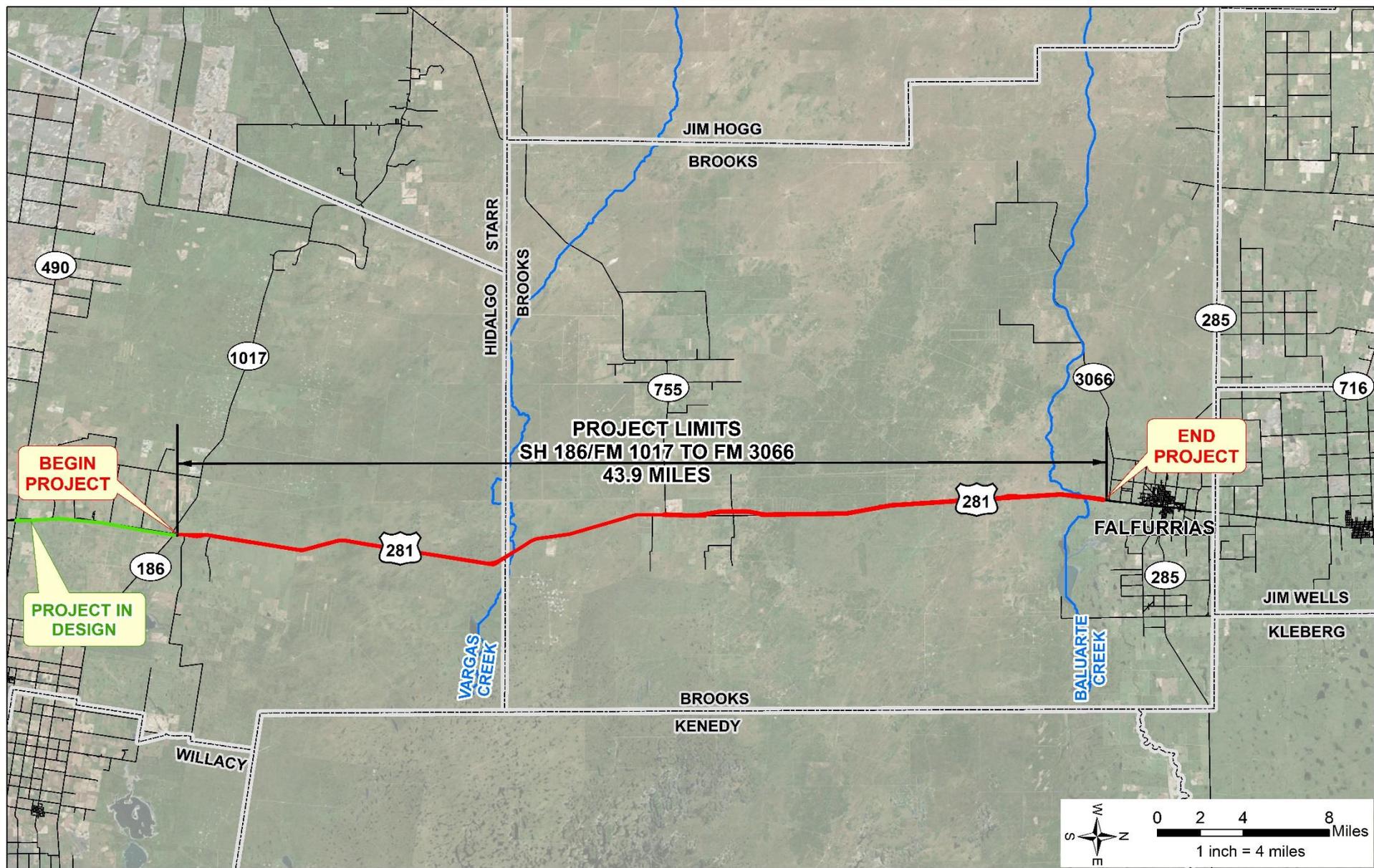
- **Public Comment**

- **Adjournment**

Public Meeting Purpose

- Encourage and maintain effective communication with the public
- Provide project information
- Follow an important step in environmental process
- Receive public input and comments

US 281 Corridor through Hidalgo and Brooks County



Provide Your Comments

- Sign up to speak tonight
- Leave comments at registration table tonight
- Mail or drop off comments:

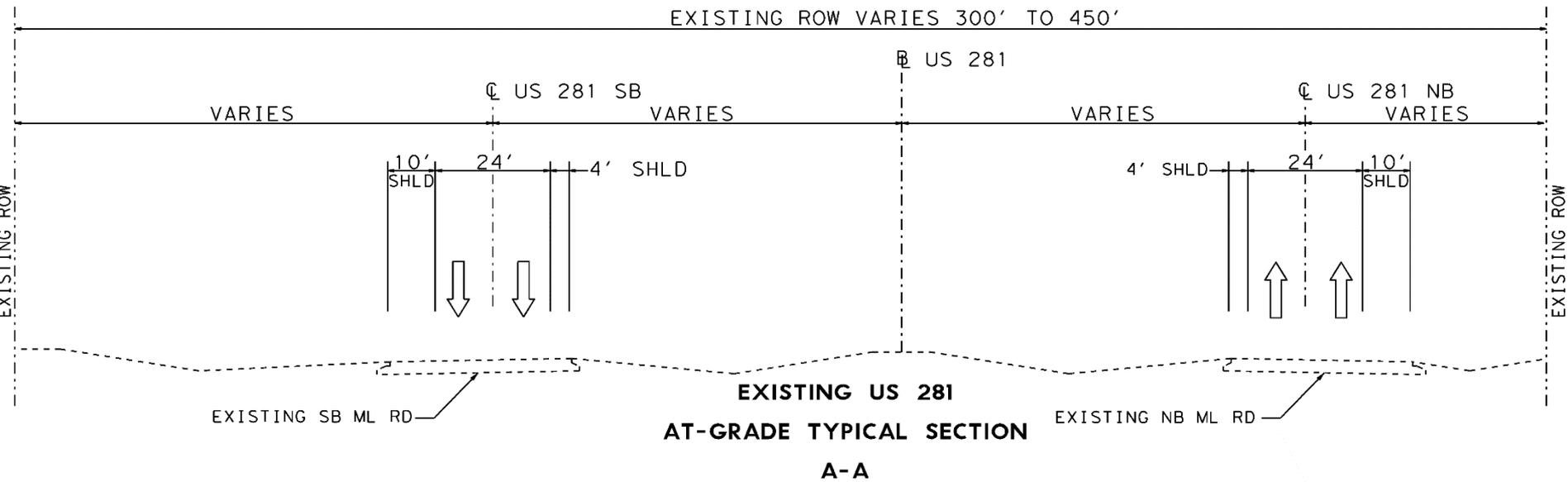
TxDOT Pharr District
600 W. Interstate 2
Pharr, TX 78577

- Fax comments to (956) 702-6110
- Email comments to [Robin. Gelston@txdot.gov](mailto:Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov)
- Friday, November 9, 2018 Comment Period Deadline

Project Overview

- SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 (43.9 miles)
- Located in Northern Hidalgo County and Brooks County
- Upgrade to Interstate Standards
- 11 proposed overpasses
- Total Construction Cost = \$500 Million
- Preliminary Utility and ROW Cost = \$9.5 Million

US 281 Existing Typical Sections



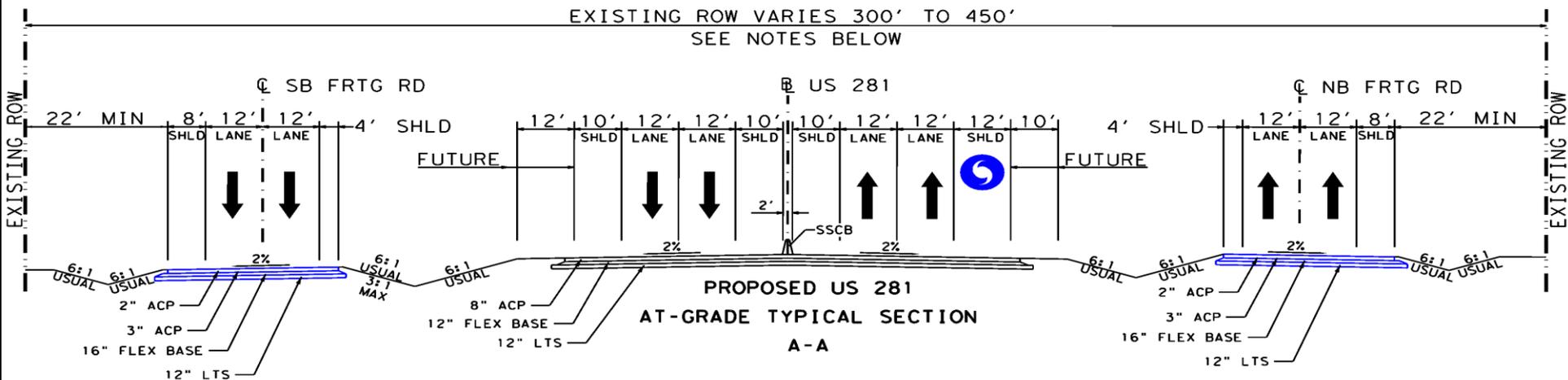
- **Project Need:**

- Existing facility lacks capacity needed for future growth
- Existing facility lacks controlled access
- Reduce risk for accidents

- **Project Purpose:**

- Add capacity
- Improve mobility
- Improve safety

US 281 – Proposed At-Grade Typical Section

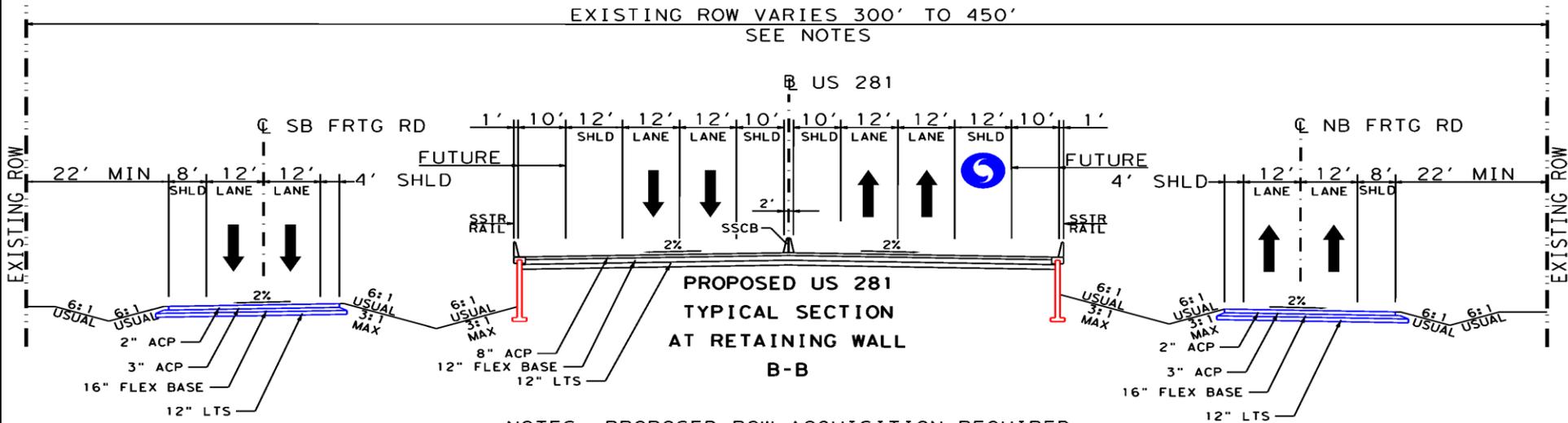


NOTES: PROPOSED ROW ACQUISITION REQUIRED

1. FROM N. OF SH 186 TO EL RUCIO
ADDITIONAL ROW VARIES FROM 0' TO 430'
2. REST AREA - EXIST ROW = 510'
ADDITIONAL ROW VARIES FROM 0' TO 245'



US 281 - Proposed Retaining Walls Typical Section



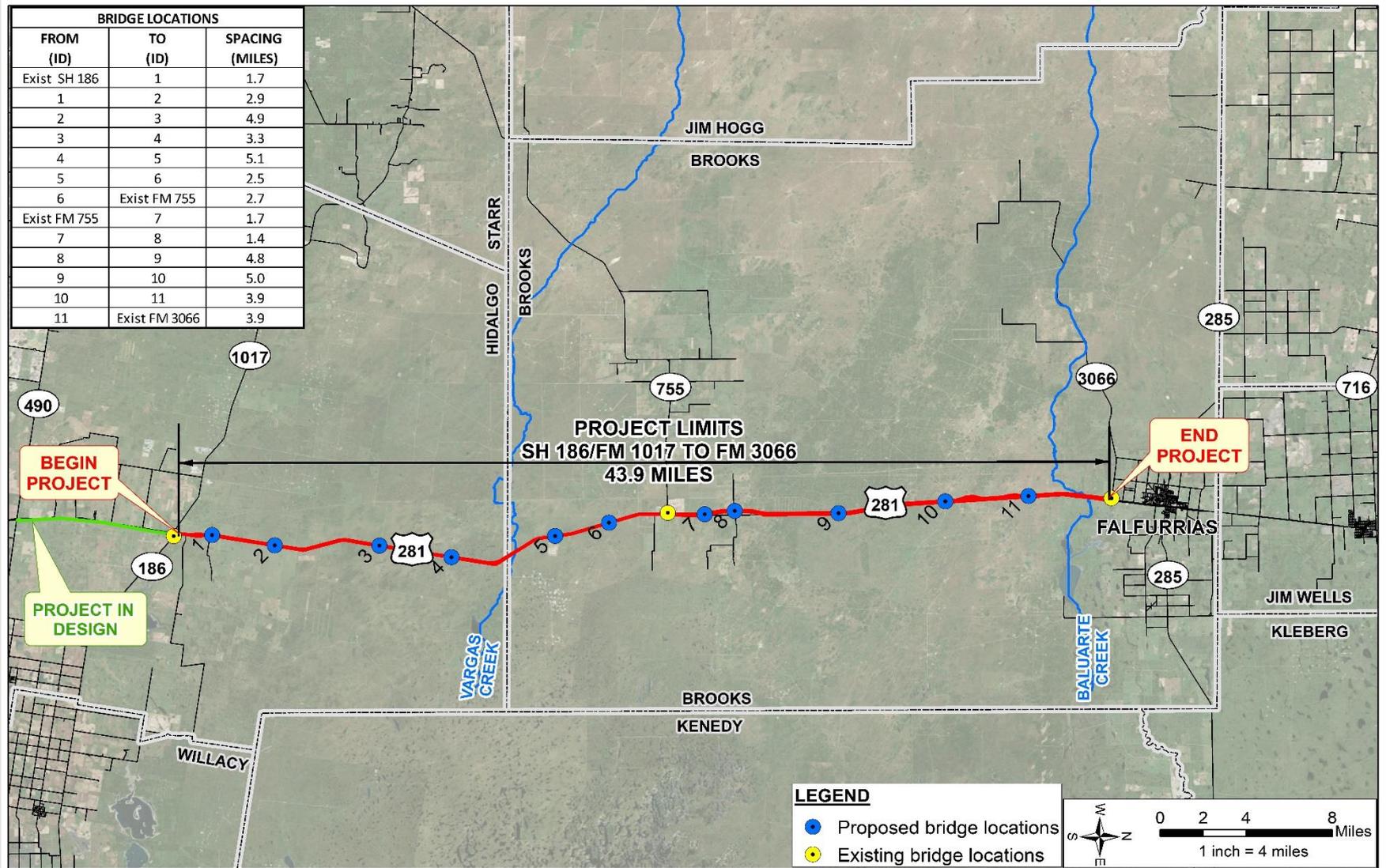
NOTES: PROPOSED ROW ACQUISITION REQUIRED

1. FROM N. OF SH 186 TO EL RUCIO
ADDITIONAL ROW VARIES FROM 0' TO 430'
2. REST AREA - EXIST ROW = 510'
ADDITIONAL ROW VARIES FROM 0' TO 245'

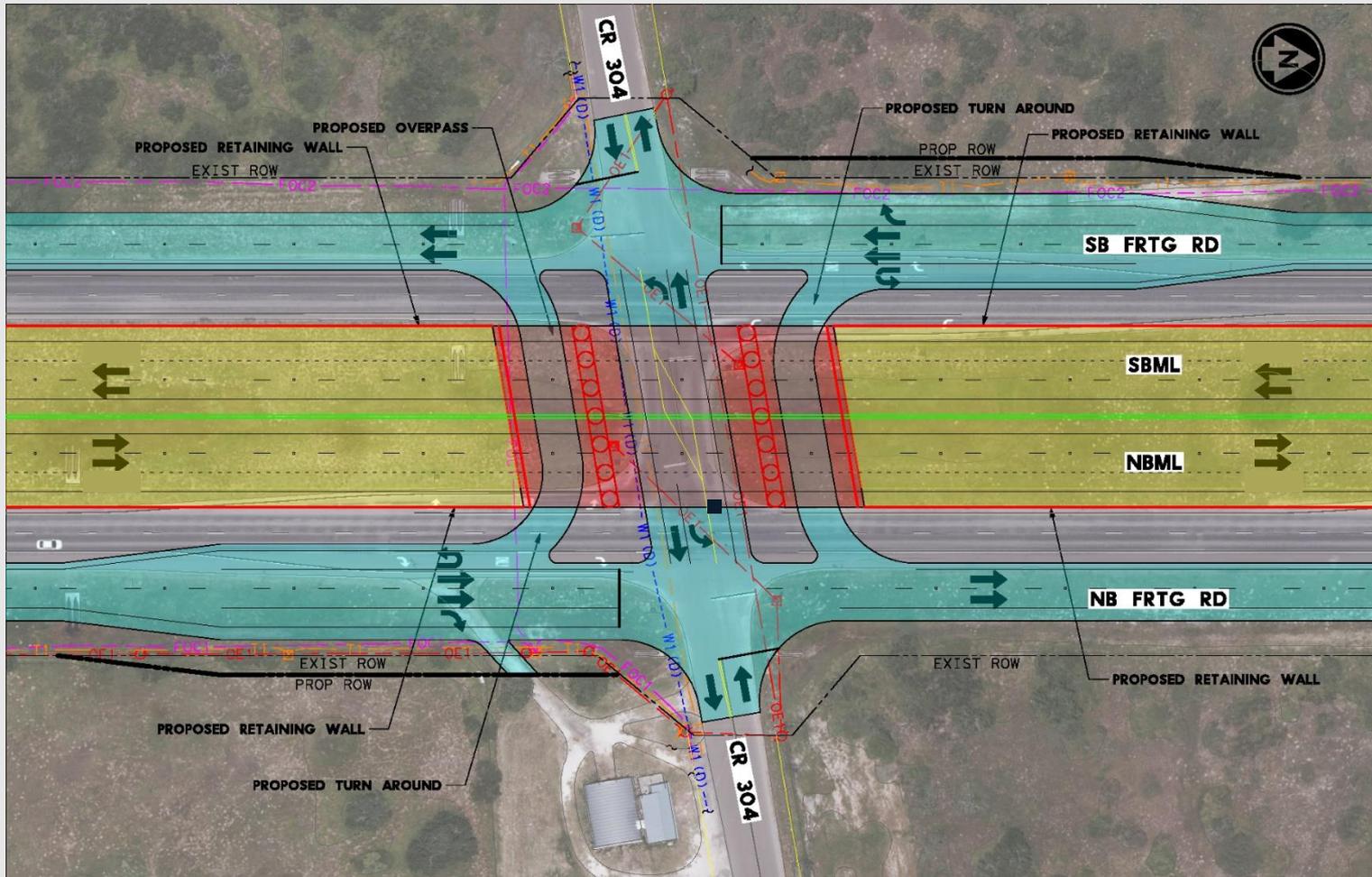
PROJECT SCOPE

- Upgrade existing US 281 to interstate standards as part of future I-69C
- Add Discontinuous Frontage Roads and control access
- Construct 11 Overpasses with a maximum distance of approximately 5 miles apart
- Utilize existing ROW where feasibly possible by providing retaining walls at overpasses.
 - All retaining wall and bridges will be constructed to ultimate width to allow for 3 lanes of traffic each direction
- Other unique features include:
 - Border Patrol Checkpoint
 - Rest Area
 - Weigh Station
 - 4 Wildlife Crossings

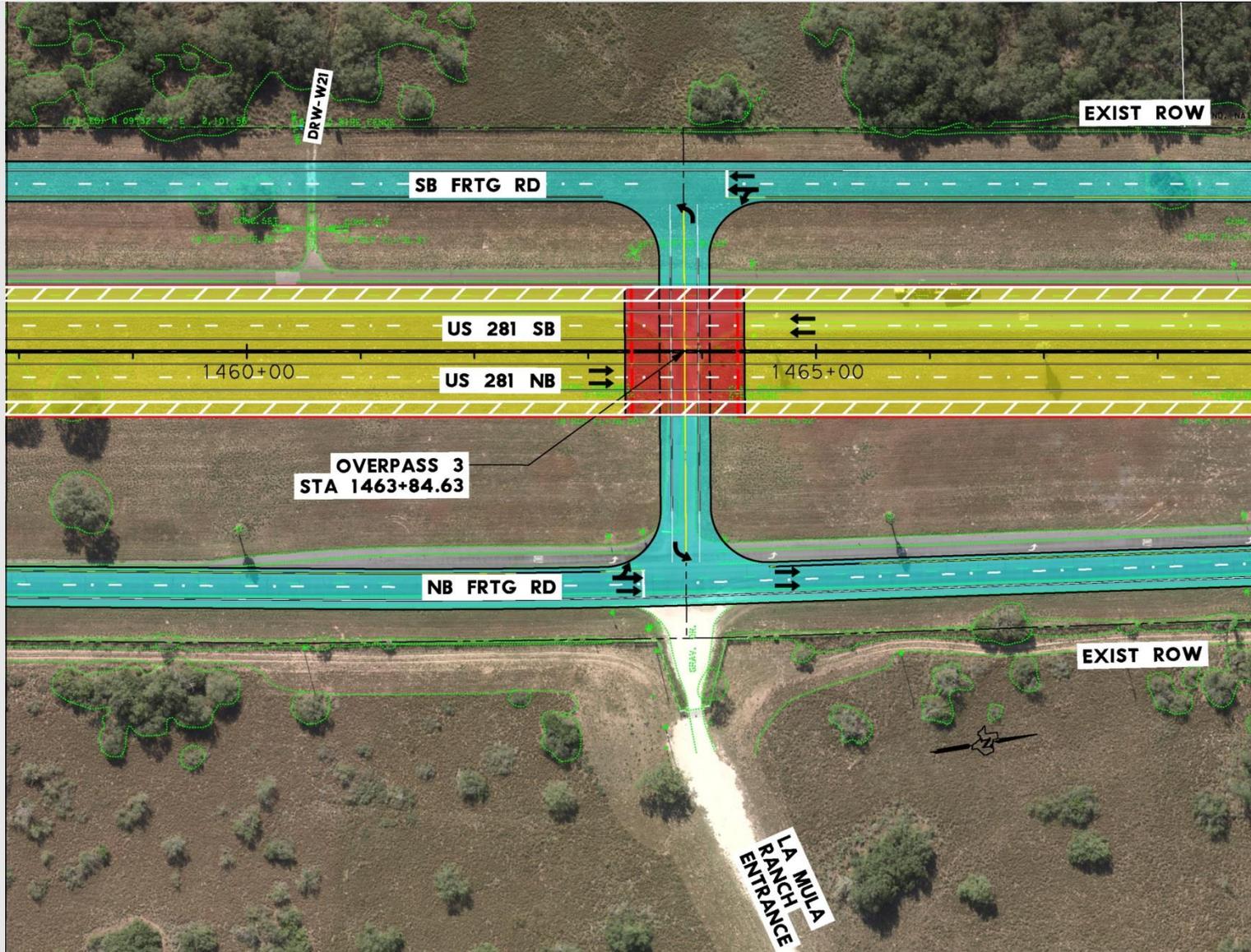
Project Area – SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066 (43.9 miles)



US 281 – Proposed 3 Span Bridge Overpass At CR 304



US 281– Proposed Single Span Bridge at Overpass #3



Alternatives Evaluation Matrix

- US 281 – SH 186/FM 1017 to FM 3066

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Unit of Measurement</i>	No-Build	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
Meets Purpose and Need	Yes/No	No*	Yes	Yes
Proposed New Right-of-Way	Acres		70.11	56.66
Safety				
Addresses High-Speed Left Exits at Rest Area	Yes/No		Yes	No
Improves Rest Area by Including Truck Parking	Yes/No		Yes	No
Human Environment Impacts				
Commercial Structures	Number		1	2
Residential Structures	Number		2	3
"Other" Structures	Number		4	4
NRHP-listed King Ranch Impacts - Potential 4(f)	Yes/No		No	Yes
*The No-Build Alternative did not meet the purpose and need for the project; therefore, it was not carried through the evaluation. However, it will be used as a baseline through the NEPA process for evaluating impacts.				

Project Schedule*

US 281: SH 186/ FM 1017 to FM 3066 – Ongoing Public Involvement

**Finalize
Schematic**

Fall 2019

**Environmental
Clearance**

Spring 2020

**ROW
Acquisition &
Utility
Adjustments**
Spring 2021

**Finalize
Design**

Summer 2022

Letting

Spring 2023

**Begin
Construction**

Summer 2023

- This project schedule and dates are preliminary and subject to change. Construction reflects initial phase only. Corridor to be completed in phases.**

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.



- **Use the microphone**
- **State your name & address**
- **State your interest in the project**
- **Give your comments on the project**

Provide Your Comments

- Leave comments at registration table tonight
- Mail or drop off comments:

Pharr District Engineer
TxDOT Pharr District
600 W. Interstate 2
Pharr, TX 78577
- Fax comments to (956) 702-6110
- Email comments to Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov
- Visit www.txdot.gov and search “*US 281 Hidalgo County and Brooks County*” to view information and provide comments
- Friday, November 9, 2018 Comment Period Deadline

***Thank You for Your
Participation!***





US 281 (Future I-69C) Public Meeting

I. Photos

US 281 Open House
October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School
Falfurrias, TX 78355



US 281 Open House
October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School
Falfurrias, TX 78355



US 281 Open House
October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School
Falfurrias, TX 78355



US 281 Open House
October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School
Falfurrias, TX 78355



US 281 Open House
October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School
Falfurrias, TX 78355



US 281 Open House
October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School
Falfurrias, TX 78355



US 281 Open House
October 23, 2018
Lasater Elementary School
Falfurrias, TX 78355



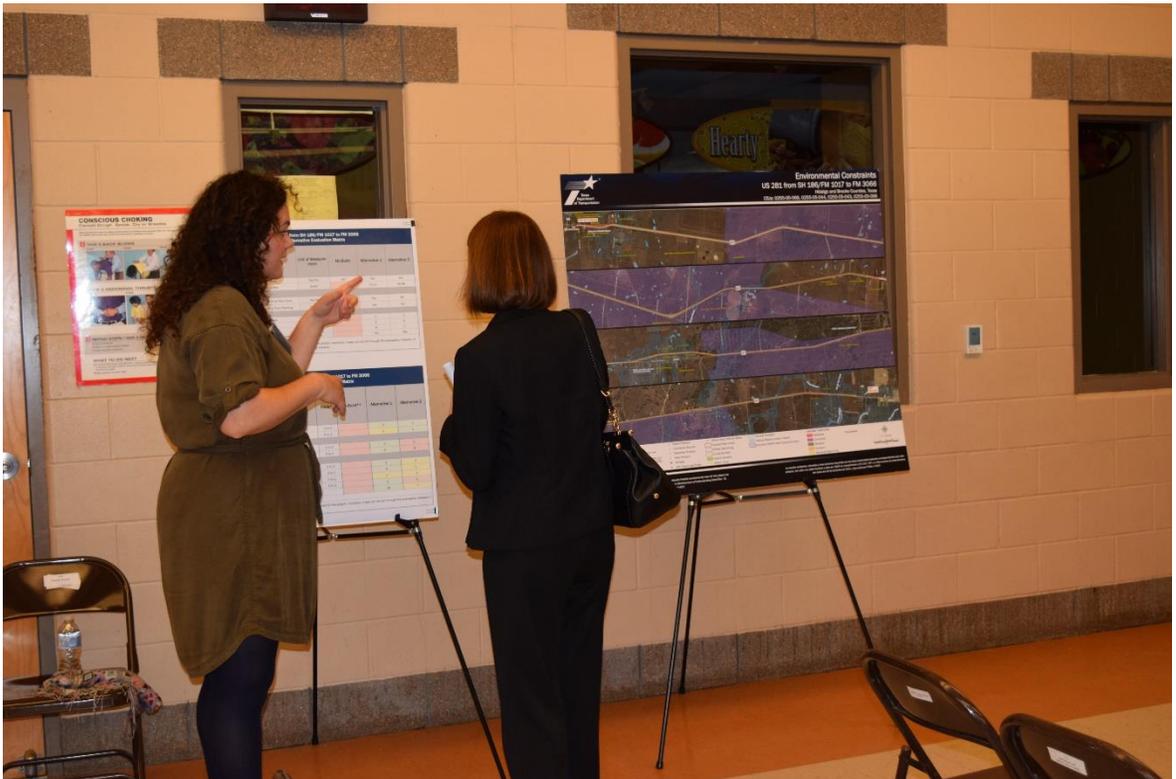
US 281 Open House
October 25, 2018
Brewster Elementary School
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541



US 281 Open House
October 25, 2018
Brewster Elementary School
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541



US 281 Open House
October 25, 2018
Brewster Elementary School
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541



US 281 Open House
October 25, 2018
Brewster Elementary School
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541



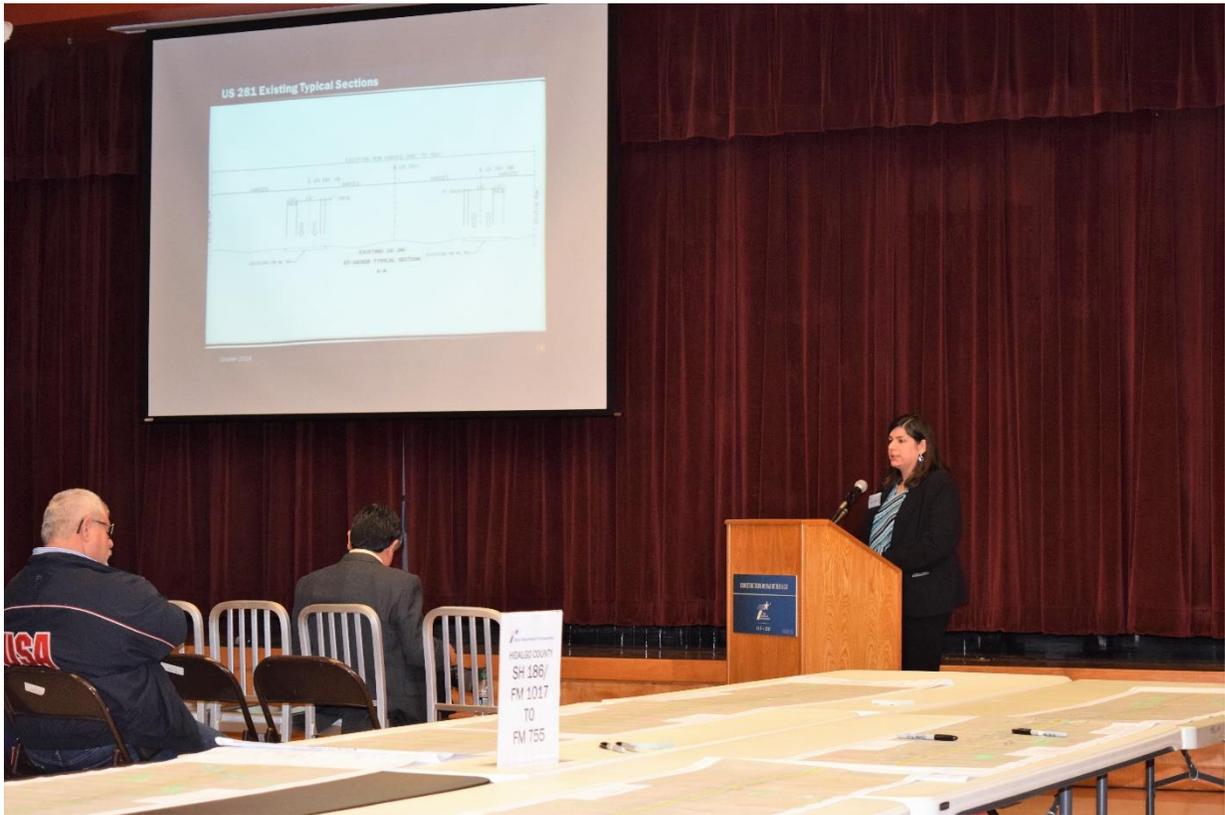
US 281 Open House
October 25, 2018
Brewster Elementary School
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541



US 281 Open House
October 25, 2018
Brewster Elementary School
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541



US 281 Open House
October 25, 2018
Brewster Elementary School
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541



US 281 Open House
October 25, 2018
Brewster Elementary School
22420 FM 1017
Edinburg, Texas 78541

