



Notice of a Public Hearing

Notice

Draft Environmental Assessment Available for Public Review

and

Public Hearing

FM 16

From Four Miles West of FM 849 (CR 481-E), East to US 69 in Lindale

CSJ: 0522-04-032

Smith County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation is proposing roadway improvements for FM 16, from 4 miles west of FM 849 (CR 481-E), east to US Highway 69 in Lindale, Smith County, Texas. This notice advises the public that a draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting a public hearing on the proposed project. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 26, 2018, at the Lindale High School Cafetorium, 920 E. Hubbard, in Lindale. Displays will be available for viewing at 5 p.m. with the formal hearing starting at 6 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements and to receive public comment on the proposed project.

The proposed FM 16 facility would include the construction of a five-lane highway with two lanes in each direction and a continuous left turn lane from US 69 to County Road (CR) 436, and a three-lane highway, with one lane in each direction and a continuous left turn lane from CR 436 to the western terminus, 4 miles west of FM 849 (CR 481-E). The proposed right-of-way (ROW) would vary between 80 and 365 feet in width and would cover approximately 68.1 acres. The design speed is 45 mph from US 69 to Toll 49, and 60 mph from Toll 49 to the western terminus, 4 miles west of FM 849 (CR 481-E).

The proposed project would displace sixteen single family residences, one active commercial business, and one vacant commercial structure. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program, benefits and services for displacees, as well as information about the tentative schedules for ROW acquisition and construction can be obtained from the TxDOT district office at the address listed below. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses.

Currently, there are only sidewalks within the urban section of the project limits. Designated bike lanes would not be added with this project. Ten-foot shoulders within the rural section would accommodate cyclists.



Template for A Notice of a Public Hearing

Portions of the proposed project area are located within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 100-year floodplain, which is defined as the zone with a one percent chance of a flood event occurring in any given year. The hydraulic design for the proposed improvements would be in accordance with current TxDOT and Federal Highway Administration design policies and procedures. The project would not increase the base flood elevation without coordination and approval from the appropriate FEMA Floodplain Administrator. The proposed project is anticipated to impact waters of the US, including wetlands. The project includes 14 single and complete crossings of waters meeting the regulatory definition of waters of the U.S. Total impacts to these waters include 0.21-acre of wetlands and 430 linear feet of stream channel. This project is anticipated to receive a Nationwide Permit 14 under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. A Preconstruction Notification to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would be required. No Individual Permit would be required.

The draft EA, maps showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information will be displayed at the hearing. Project materials are also on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the Tyler District Office, 2709 West Front Street, Tyler, Texas 75702. This information will also be available online at <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/tyler/fm16.html>

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the project are requested and may be presented at the hearing, or submitted in person or by mail to the TxDOT Tyler District Office. Comments must be received on or before Thursday, July 12, 2018, to be part of the official hearing record.

The hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs, such the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact TxDOT at (903) 510-9100. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the hearing, please contact Steven Swindell, (903) 510-9245, or email steven.swindell@txdot.gov.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the Texas Department of Transportation (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.