



Notice

Opportunity for a Public Hearing

**SH 72
From FM 237 to US 87
CSJs: 0270-01-051, 0270-10-014
DeWitt County, Texas**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing to widen and reconstruct State Highway (SH) 72 from Farm-to-Market (FM) 237 to United States Highway (US) 87 in DeWitt County, Texas. This notice advises the public that TxDOT is affording an opportunity for a public hearing on the proposed project.

The proposed improvements to SH 72 from FM 237 to west of Douglas Street include the addition of one 12-foot-wide lane in each direction, a 4-foot-wide flush median between oncoming lanes, and 10-foot-wide shoulders. Additional turn lanes would be provided on SH 72 at FM 237, Blackwell/ Bell Road, and US 87 in Cuero. The proposed ROW is typically 140 feet wide. The proposed improvements to SH 72 from west of Douglas Street to US 87 in Cuero include reducing the 12-foot wide travel lanes to 11.5 feet, the addition of one 11-foot-wide lane in each direction, and a curb and gutter drainage system. No additional right of way (ROW) would be required from west of Douglas Street to US 87 in Cuero. The total length of the proposed project is approximately 14.0 miles.

Approximately 55.26 acres of proposed ROW would be acquired for the proposed project. No sidewalks or easements are currently proposed. No temporary or permanent easements are anticipated. The Guadalupe River bridge crossing located 1.1 miles west of the project's eastern termini at US 87 in Cuero, is currently under construction as a separate project. Although included in the limits of this project, no additional work will be done on the Guadalupe River bridge crossing. The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require additional right-of-way and potentially displace two non-residential structures. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program and services and benefits for displacees and other affected property owners, as well as information about the tentative schedule for ROW acquisition and construction, can be obtained from the TxDOT District office by calling (361) 293-4436.

The proposed project would have no adverse effect on historic properties. The project would require right-of-way acquisition from the Burda Ranch, which is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The acquisition of 0.54 acres of new ROW from the property constitutes a *de minimis* use of a historic site under the U.S. Department of Transportation Act Section 4(f) regulations (23 CFR 774).

Any environmental documentation or studies, maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are available online at www.txdot.gov and keyword search "SH 72 from FM 237". If you do not have internet access, you may call (361) 293-4436 to ask questions about the project and access project materials at any time during the project development process. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al (361) 293-4436.

Any interested person may submit a written request for a public hearing on this project. Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are also requested. Written hearing requests and comments may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Yoakum District Office, 403 Huck Street, Yoakum, Texas 77995, or by email to Jeffery.Vinklarek@txdot.gov. All hearing requests and comments must be received **on or before May 7, 2020**. A hearing will be held if ten or more individuals submit timely written requests for a hearing, or if an agency with jurisdiction over the project submits a timely written request for a hearing that is supported by reasons why a hearing will be helpful. Responses to comments received will be available online once they have been prepared at www.txdot.gov and keyword search "SH 72 from FM 237".

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project, please contact Jeffery Vinklarek by mail to the TxDOT Yoakum District Office, 403 Huck Street, Yoakum, Texas 77995, or by email to Jeffery.Vinklarek@txdot.gov.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.