



Notice of Public Hearing Proposed US 87 Truck Relief Route west of Big Spring, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 18, 2012. The meeting will be held at the Dora Roberts Civic Center at 100 Whipkey Drive, in Big Spring, Howard County, Texas. The purpose of the hearing is to discuss the changes in design to the proposed US 87 Truck Relief Route and how they affect the social, economic, and environmental concerns of the citizens of Big Spring and the surrounding areas. TxDOT personnel will also discuss the preferred alignment of the proposed truck relief route from the intersection of US 87 and FM 700 north of Big Spring to the intersection of US 87 and RM 33 south of Big Spring, while focusing on the IH 20 intersection and the southern half of the project. Beginning at 5:00 PM exhibits, environmental documentation, plans, and maps of the proposed route will be on display at the Dora Roberts Civic Center until the beginning of the meeting. Registration for the meeting will open at 5:30 PM and the meeting will begin at 6:30 PM. The public is invited to view the exhibits beginning at 5:00 PM. Members of TxDOT Abilene District staff will be available from 5:00 PM until the beginning of the meeting to answer questions and take comments. There will be an opportunity at the conclusion of the proposed project presentation for the public to comment either orally or in writing. Comments will also be accepted for ten days after the date of the meeting.

The proposed project would consist of acquisition of new right-of-way, varying in width from 250 feet minimum to 360 feet maximum, construction of a four lane divided controlled by design access roadway 14 miles in length, bridges, intersection connections, drainage structures, and landscaping that would remove through truck traffic from the current alignment of US 87 through Big Spring. Upon completion of the proposed roadway the current alignment of US 87 would be re-designated as Business US 87. The proposed project will require the acquisition and relocation of residences and commercial operations. The state Relocation Assistance Program which includes property and damages compensation, location and acquisition of replacement residences and commercial structures will be presented during the meeting. Portions of the proposed alignment will intersect mapped floodplains. The proposed project design would not increase the base flood elevation to a level that would violate applicable floodplain regulations and ordinances. The current estimated total project cost is \$148,000,000.00 and will be implemented in three phases. In chronological order, the IH 20 intersection and US 87 overpass will be constructed. This will be followed by the southern portion from IH 20 to RM 33. The northern section will be the final project that will connect FM 700 to the IH 20 intersection. Schematic layouts showing the location and design for the proposed project, the environmental assessment and re-evaluation, the tentative construction schedule, and other related information shall be available for inspection and copying at the Big Spring Area Office located at 1301 North SH 350 in Big Spring and the Abilene District Office located at 4250 North Clack in Abilene. Citizens not able to attend the meeting may view the information and comment prior to the meeting date and for ten days after the date of the meeting at either of the two locations.

If there are any questions concerning the meeting location and time please contact Mr. Jesse Mendoza, P.E., Big Spring Area Engineer at (432) 263-4768.



All interested citizens are invited and encouraged to attend the public meeting. The civic center is handicap accessible. Anyone wishing to attend the hearing with special needs, including a translator, please contact Ms. Darah Waldrip at (325) 676-6817 at least five days prior to the meeting date.