

# US 87 TRUCK RELIEF ROUTE IN HOWARD COUNTY NEAR BIG SPRING, TX



**\*Additive Alternate Project:**  
 CSJ: 0908-12-029 BU 87 @ FM 700 Interchange  
 Current plans are to construct an at-grade Intersection at BU 87 and FM 700. If the low bid Allows a grade separation, the interchange will be constructed.

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Develop project that optimizes transportation system and...

- Minimizes ROW impacts/acquisitions
- Minimizes environmental impacts
- Improves safety
- Provides sustainability
- Enhances economic opportunities

## PROJECT HISTORY

- City and County interest on relief route 1980's
- Ports to Plains studies 1990's
- City of Big Spring, Chamber of Commerce, Howard County Commissioners' Court and TxDOT form a Task Force Jan. 2000
- Public Meeting presenting various alignments Feb. 2003
- Public Meeting presenting one alignment Jun. 2003
- Value Engineering Study Feb. 2004
- Public Meeting Feb. 2005
- Public Meeting presenting revised alignment Feb. 2006
- Meeting with Affected Property Owners (MAPO) July 2006
- FHWA approved Environmental Assessment (EA) Feb. 2009
- Public Hearing Nov. 2010
- Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued July 2011
- Public Meeting May 2012
- Public Meeting Dec. 2012
- Meeting with Affected Property Owners (MAPO) Oct. 2014
- Final Meeting with Affected Property Owners (MAPO) after re-evaluation of access and Right of Way (ROW) Boundaries Mar. 2015

## PROJECT DETAILS

**County:** Howard County  
**Connectivity:** Part of the Ports to Plains Corridor and the National Highway System  
**Project Limits:** From I-20 to FM 700  
**Length:** 7.5 miles (mostly new alignment, but areas of existing roadway)  
**Interchanges:** 4 Interchanges (I-20, SH 176, CR 21, \*FM 700)  
**Retaining Walls:** 16 retaining walls (MSE Walls, 2' to 25' in Height)  
**Detention Ponds:** 4 (projected) detention ponds  
**Culverts:** 17 crossings (new and upgrades to existing) and 3 bridge class culverts  
**Drainage:** Storm sewer and ditches on median and outside  
**Bridges:** 13 bridges (4 standard and 9 non-standard); (2-1210 ft. long TX54 concrete girder and plate girder, 2-686 ft. long TX54 concrete girder, 2-265 ft. long TX46 concrete girder, 2-280 ft. long TX46 concrete girder, 2-90 ft. long TX40 concrete girder, 1-568 ft. long TX54 concrete girder, 1-674 ft. long TX54 concrete girder, \*1-384 ft. long TX54 concrete girder)  
**Signs:** Large and small signs  
**Illumination:** Safety and overpass lighting  
**CSJ:** 0908-12-022; \*0908-12-029 (CCSJ: 0908-12-022, etc.)  
**Cost:** Construction Estimate: \$68.3 Million; ROW and Utility Estimate: \$18.0 Million  
**Railroad Coordination:** UPRR coordination  
**Plans Preparation %:** 95% of plans preparation completed as of May 20, 2016  
**Project Letting:** September 2016  
**Projected Project Construction Completion:** Spring 2020

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

The proposed US 87 Truck Relief Route will consist of a new four lane rural expressway providing two lanes in each direction with a wide median. The study for this project began in the 1980's when city and county officials expressed interest. The truck relief route is along the Ports to Plains Corridor which stretches from Canada, through the U.S. to Mexico. This corridor currently runs through downtown Big Spring and consists of approximately 30% trucks which creates traffic congestion. The new US 87 Truck Relief Route will allow vehicles on the Ports to Plains Route to travel at speed with less congestion while still allowing access to downtown Big Spring through Business US 87.



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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*"Our mission is your safety."*

