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Notice of Public Hearing
US 87 Railroad Underpass Project
CSJ: 0040-03-059

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a public hearing on January 20, 2015, at Dalhart City Hall, 205 Rock Island Avenue, Dalhart, Texas 79022. The purpose of the hearing is to present the final proposal of US 87 from US 54 to Lincoln Street in the northwest portion of the City of Dalhart in Dallam County, Texas and to receive public comments. An open house will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. with exhibits displayed for an opportunity of interested citizens to review and ask questions. The formal public hearing will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a presentation of the project followed by an oral comment period.

The existing US 87 is a four-lane divided highway from US 54 going northwest under the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR), which has a 13.5-foot clearance and considered a low clearance bridge, and then continuing on with multiple access points and intersection conflicts including the two lane roadways of US 385 (Chicago Street), Denrock Avenue, Pine, Omaha and Elm Streets.

The improvements would include lowering US 87 up to two feet under the UPRR bridge and the addition of a detention facility to improve drainage particularly during flooding situations. Under the UPRR bridge, US 87 would be one 12-foot lane and one 14-foot shared use lane in each direction. A 10-foot sidewalk would be constructed on both sides of US 87 between US 54 and US 385. The existing sidewalk would be improved at the underpass to separate and protect pedestrians from the traffic lanes. In addition, Denrock Avenue from east of the BNSF railroad bridge underpass to US 87 and US 385 approach east of the US 87 would be lowered and realigned to provide a new four way intersection at US 87. Direct access to US 87 from Pine Street would be removed via the addition of a cul-de-sac and direct access to US 87 from North Elm Street would also be removed by closing that road at the end nearest US 87. Omaha Street access point to US 87 would be improved to maintain access to those businesses and residences impacted by the proposed cul-de-sac at the south end of Pine Street. No additional lanes are proposed.

The existing project right-of-way width ranges from approximately 60 feet (US 385, Pine Street, Omaha Street) to 135 feet (areas of US 87). The US 54 typical section is 80 feet; Denrock Avenue typical section is 100 feet; and US 87 under the UPRR bridge is 131.6 feet wide. The proposed additional width needed for the improvements to US 385 ranges from approximately 70 to 90 feet and will be covered by a railroad agreement. Some areas of US 87 are 135 feet wide. US 87 under the UPRR bridge is 131.6 feet wide which would not change in width. Approximately 0.4 acres of new right-of-way would be required for the proposed project. No displacements of businesses, farms or non-profit organizations would result from the proposed project.

Maps and other drawings showing the proposed project will be displayed at the hearing. Environmental documentation for the project will also be available for inspection at the hearing. A tentative construction schedule and other information about the proposed project are on file and available for inspection at TxDOT's District Office located at 5715 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, Texas and at www.txdot.gov under the Public Meetings and Hearings section.

All interested citizens are invited to attend this public hearing. The public hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the meeting who have special communication or accommodation needs, or need an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Terry Nix at 806.356.3273. Requests should be made no later than two days prior to the public meeting. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding this project are requested. Comments may be presented either at the hearing or in writing after the hearing. Written statements and other exhibits may be mailed to Ronald Johnston, P.E., Amarillo District Engineer, PO Box 7368, Amarillo, Texas 79114-7368. Comments must be received no later than 10 days following the hearing in order to be included in the public hearing record. The deadline for receipt of comments is January 30, 2015.

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."