



# **Finding of No Significant Impact for a NEPA Assigned Federal Aid Project**

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**Proposed Action:** FM 1626

**Project Limits:** From Brodie Lane to Manchaca Rd (FM 2304)

**City:** Austin                      **County:** Travis                      **State:** Texas

**TxDOT CSJ(s):** 1539-02-026

In accordance with 23 CFR Section 771.119 and Section 771.121, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has determined that the above-referenced project will not have a significant impact on the human or natural environment.

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Preferred Alternative is based on the final Environmental Assessment dated February 2016 and the entire project record. This decision documents the selection of the Build Alternative, presented in the final EA as the Preferred Alternative, which is described as:

A facility that would consist of four 12-foot-wide travel lanes (two in each direction) separated by a continuous left turn lane. The continuous left turn lane would range in width from 14 feet (usual) to 23.5 feet (at the intersection with Brodie Lane). Five-foot-wide shoulders would be constructed and curb, gutter and storm sewer would be installed to handle drainage from the roadway. The overall roadway width would be 73 feet (usual). The shoulders would accommodate bicycle traffic. Six-foot-wide sidewalks would be constructed parallel to the roadway for pedestrians. On the north side of the roadway, the sidewalk would extend the entire distance of the project. On the south side of the roadway, the sidewalk would extend from Manchaca Baptist Church to the FM 1626/Manchaca Road intersection.

A Notice of Availability of the draft EA was issued on December 15, 2015.

A public hearing for this project was held on January 14, 2016. Input received at the public hearing included comments regarding bicycle and pedestrian concerns, ROW acquisition, and driveway access. The project team has thoroughly considered the comments received as a result of the public involvement process and the FM 1626 project has changed as a result of public comment. Based on public input, the project schematics have been updated to include an extended right turn lane on westbound FM 1626 at Manchaca Road, and to reflect two points of access for a driveway located at 1707 W FM 1626.

A Public Hearing Summary and Analysis report and certification that the required hearing was held has been prepared and is available for review on request.

The final EA, the Public Hearing Summary and Analysis report, and reports contained in the file of record have been independently evaluated by TxDOT and determined to adequately and accurately discuss the need, purpose, alternatives, environmental issues, impacts of the proposed project, and appropriate mitigation measures. These documents provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. These documents are incorporated by reference into this decisional document.

Based upon TxDOT's review and consideration of the analysis and evaluation contained in the EA for this project, and after careful consideration of all social, economic, and environmental factors, including input from the public involvement process, TxDOT hereby issues this Finding of No Significant Impact for the FM 1626 project from Brodie Lane to Manchaca Rd (FM 2304).



**Finding of No Significant Impact for a NEPA Assigned Federal Aid Project**

TxDOT will ensure adherence and completion of all project commitments described in the final EA February 2016, Section 7.0. TxDOT will ensure that any and all local, state, or federal permit requirements and conditions are met and otherwise complied with.

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 the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division Director

2/24/16

Date