

**TxDOT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED MAINLANE IMPROVEMENTS
LOOP 375 FROM US 54 TO BU 54
CSJ: 2552-01-036 and 2552-01-038**



The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority (CRRMA) will conduct a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, February 15, 2011**, for the proposed improvements to Loop 375 (Woodrow Bean/Transmountain Drive) in the City of El Paso, El Paso County, Texas. This project is approximately 2.7 miles long and extends from US 54 (Patriot Freeway) to BU 54 (Dyer Street) in El Paso County.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to present the anticipated social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed project. The Public Hearing will be held at **Parkland High School** at 5932 Quail Avenue, El Paso, TX 79924. Prior to the Public Hearing, an Open House will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., to allow for questions and review of project exhibits. TxDOT staff will be available to answer questions during the Open House. The formal Public Hearing presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by a public comment period.

The proposed Loop 375 facility (Preferred Alternative) will be constructed from approximately one mile west of US 54 to Dyer Street and will include a four-lane urban freeway divided by a concrete median barrier. The proposed Loop 375 will tie-in directly to the existing Loop 375 west of US 54 and at Dyer Street. Access to the frontage roads will be provided using eastbound and westbound access ramps. Beginning west of US 54 the proposed Loop 375 will be depressed below US 54 and its frontage roads (Gateway Boulevard North and Gateway Boulevard South). The proposed Loop 375 will provide additional grade separations over Kenworthy Street, Rushing Road and Alcan Street and tie into the existing Loop 375 near Dyer Street. The eastbound frontage roads will be reconstructed from US 54 to just east of Rushing Road and will be reduced from three lanes to two lanes. The remainder of the eastbound frontage road and all of the westbound frontage road will remain; however, the number of lanes will be reduced from three lanes to two lanes for the majority of the project. As part of this proposed project, local access will be altered as well. The existing local road crossings at Galveston Road, Kellogg Road, Odessa Road, Girl Scout Way, and Audubon Road will be severed as well as three additional crossings at commercial properties. In addition, the currently severed Alcan Road will be grade separated to provide access across Loop 375. The local street crossings will be enhanced by providing u-turn lanes at Kenworthy Street and Rushing Road as well as the east side of US 54.

The proposed project exists in order to alleviate heavy congestion during peak hours and improve traffic operations. Without the proposed improvements, Loop 375 would exceed its current design capacity and commuters would experience an unacceptable level of service, deteriorating roadway conditions and increased safety concerns. Existing right-of-way east of US 54 ranges from 200 to 260 feet in width. The proposed project will not require any new right-of-way or result in any relocations or displacements. A 9.2 acre permanent easement and a 4.9 acre temporary easement will be needed from Fort Bliss near the National Border Patrol Museum and El Paso Museum of Archeology west of US 54.

The project's tentative construction schedule, environmental document along with maps and drawings showing the project's location and geometric design will be presented at the Public Hearing. This information is also available for public inspection and reproduction at the TxDOT El Paso District Office, located at 13301 Gateway Boulevard West, El Paso, TX 79928.

All interested persons are invited to attend this Public Hearing. Persons requiring special communication or accommodation needs should contact the TxDOT El Paso District Public Information Officer, Blanca M. Del Valle, at (915) 790-4200 at least two (2) working days prior to the Hearing so appropriate arrangements can be made. Every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs will be made. The public hearing will be conducted in English and Spanish interpretation will be provided.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the proposed project may be presented at the Public Hearing. Written comments submitted after the Public Hearing may be presented by mail to:

Mr. Brian Swindell, P.E., HDR Engineering, Inc., 4500 W. Eldorado Parkway, Suite 3500, McKinney, TX 75070.

Written comments submitted after the Public Hearing must be postmarked on or before **Friday, February 25, 2011**, to be included in the Public Hearing record. For additional information please contact Mr. Brian Swindell, P.E. with HDR Engineering, Inc. at 214-733-5903.