Notice Draft Environmental Assessment Available for Public Review and Public Hearing

FM 2206
From SH 42 East to SL 281 in Longview, Texas
CSJs: 2073-01-009 and 2073-01-010
Gregg County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation is proposing roadway improvements for FM 2206 in Gregg County, Texas from SH 42 East to SL 281 in Gregg County, Texas. Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter E, §2.107 and §2.108 and Code of Federal Regulations, Title 23, Chapter 1, Subchapter H, §771.111 and Title 40, Chapter V, §1506, this notice advises the public that a draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting a public hearing on the proposed project. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, August 23, 2016 at Pine Tree Middle School Cafeteria located at 600 Pine Tree Parkway in Longview. Displays will be available for viewing at 5 p.m. with the formal hearing starting at 6 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements and to receive public comment on the proposed project.

The proposed work includes widening the existing two lane pavement structure to four lanes with a flush median. In the urban area, the proposed section includes four 12-foot vehicle lanes (two in each direction), one 16-foot continuous two-way left turn lane plus two-foot curb and gutter offsets. Additional features include a 10-foot multi-use path on the north side of FM 2206 and five-foot sidewalk on the south. The urban section extends from Fisher Road east to SL 281 with a design speed of 45 mph. The rural section consists of four 12-foot vehicle lanes (two in each direction), one 16-foot continuous two-way left-turn lane and two 10-foot shoulders. The rural section extends from SH 42 east to Fisher Road with a design speed of 60 mph. The existing ROW varies within the project from 80 to 220 feet. The proposed ROW varies from 110 to 500 feet. The total project length is 3.7 miles.

The proposed project would displace 8 single family residences and 4 commercial structures. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program, benefits and services for displaceses, as well as information about the tentative schedules for ROW acquisition and construction can be obtained from the TxDOT district office at the address listed below. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses.

Portions of the proposed project area are located within the Federal Emergency Management Agency 100-year floodplain, which is defined as the zone with a one percent chance of a flood event occurring in any given year. The hydraulic design for the proposed improvements would be in accordance with current TxDOT and Federal Highway Administration design policies and procedures. The project would not increase the base flood elevation and would permit the conveyance of the design year flood, without causing substantial damage to the roadway or other property. The proposed project is anticipated to impact waters of the US, including wetlands. The project includes 11 single and complete crossings of waters meeting the regulatory definition of waters of the U.S. Total impacts to these waters include 0.03-acre of wetlands and 1,105 linear feet of stream channel. This project is anticipated to receive coverage by Nationwide Permit 14 under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. A Preconstruction Notification to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would be required. No Individual Permit would be required.
The draft EA, maps showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information will be displayed at the hearing. Project materials are also on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the Tyler District Office, 2709 West Front Street, Tyler, Texas 75702 and the TxDOT Longview Area Office, 4549A Loop 281 W., Longview, Texas 75604. This information will also be available online at http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/tyler/fm2206.html. Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the project are requested and may be presented at the hearing, or submitted in person or by mail to the TxDOT Tyler District Office. Comments must be received on or before Wednesday, September 14, 2016, to be part of the official hearing record.

The hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs, such as the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact TxDOT at (903) 510-9100. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the hearing, please contact Brooke Droptini, (903) 510-9100 or email brooke.droptini@txdot.gov.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and TxDOT.