



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

West Ninth Avenue Extension and overpass construction Project (W Martin Luther King Jr Ave) From Loop 121 to University Drive

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a public hearing to discuss extending West Ninth Avenue over Nolan Creek from west of Harris Street to just east of Cliff Drive as well as to discuss improvements to the existing segments of West Ninth Avenue (between Loop 121 and Cliff Drive and west Harris Street and University Drive) in Belton, Bell County, Texas.

The hearing is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 13, 2014. The hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Belton City Council Chamber, T. B. Harris Community Center, 401 N. Alexander, Belton, Texas, 76513.

The purpose of this project is to extend West Ninth Avenue (also known as W. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.) approximately 1,600 linear feet from its current eastern terminus (approximately 600 feet west of Harris Street) to its current western terminus (just east of Cliff Drive) in order to provide an additional east-west thoroughfare within the City of Belton (COB). The proposed facility would also provide a five foot bike lane, measured from the face of the curb into the street pavement, along both sides of the pavement, and six foot sidewalks behind the road curbs on each side of the road to University Drive. The proposed facility would provide the connectivity of future bike and pedestrian improvements that will to be constructed within the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor (UMHB) campus and/or to the south of West Ninth Avenue, just east of the project limits. This project traverses the floodplain of Nolan Creek.

The proposed construction of West Ninth Avenue would be completed within ROW that is currently owned by the COB. The total project area would include approximately 8.52 additional acres of ROW and easements). The additional ROW for this project was obtained through private land owner dedications to the COB.

Maps and other drawings showing the proposed location and design will be displayed at the hearing. The Environmental Assessment for the project will also be available for inspection at the hearing. Other information about the proposed project is on file and available for inspection at the TxDOT Waco District Office located at 100 South Loop Drive, Waco, TX 76704.

All interested citizens are invited to attend this hearing and present their comments. Persons interested in attending the hearing who have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact Mr. Michael Rhodes at (254) 867-2739 as soon as possible so arrangements can be made. Since the hearing will be conducted in English, any requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least one week prior to the hearing. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

Verbal and written comments regarding the proposed project are requested. Comments may be presented either at the hearing or in writing after the hearing. Comments must be received no later than 5:00 pm, Thursday, Oct. 23, following the hearing in order to be included in the public hearing record. Written statements may be submitted to Mr. Kevin W. Dickey, P.E., Director of Transportation Planning and Development, Texas Department of Transportation, 100 South Loop Drive, Waco, TX 76704-2858.