



# Community Impacts Assessment Technical Report Form

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**Project Name:** State Loop (SL) 335 Segment C-1

**CSJ Number:** 2635-04-034

**District(s):** Amarillo

**County(ies):** Potter

## COMMUNITY PROFILE

Attach a map showing the community study area boundaries as well as the locations of any community facilities in the area (schools, places of worship, health care facilities, recreation centers, social services, libraries, etc).

### I. General Information

**What is the location of the community that may be impacted?**

The impacted communities are located in the west and northwestern portion of the City of Amarillo and its extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ). The study area runs along State Loop (SL) 335 from Southwest (SW) 9th Avenue at the southern end, which travels east into the medical district and urban core of Amarillo, and Farm-to-Market (FM) 1719 (Western Street), which runs north-south passing through the urban core as well. The western most portion of the study area is primarily ranch and grassland, while the communities south of Tascosa Road and SL 335 are a mix of large lot homes and newer residential developments.

### II. Project Description

**Briefly describe the proposed project.**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing to widen SL 335 from SW 9th Avenue to FM 1719 in Potter County, Texas, located northwest of the City of Amarillo. The proposed ultimate project configuration would improve the existing two-lane roadway to a four-lane, controlled-access freeway with frontage roads, ramps, and bridges over intersecting cross streets. Phased construction leading to the ultimate project configuration is anticipated as funding becomes available with an interim configuration of four lanes minimum.

### III. General Character of the Community

**What is the name and general character of the community (scattered rural, planned suburban, urban, mixed use)?**

The communities in the study area are primarily single family residential developments along with large lot homes. A private gated community is located off of SL 335 with direct access from Stoneridge Drive approximately 1 mile north of SW 9th Ave. Directly north and south of SL 335 and Tascosa Rd consists of large lot homes and light industrial businesses. Less than half a mile south of SL 335 on Tascosa Rd is a small gated community by the name of "Tascosita", which consists of approximately 20 single family homes. There is a planned development community located just south of SL 335 and N Coulter St. A large gasoline distribution center is located at the northwest corner of the intersection of SL 335 and FM 1719.

**Describe the community facilities (shown on attached map) in the area:**

Name of Facility	Type of Facility	Public or private?	Does the facility serve a specific population? If so, who?	Additional details, if necessary
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Name of Facility	Type of Facility	Public or private?	Does the facility serve a specific population? If so, who?	Additional details, if necessary
De Zavala Middle School	School	Public	Yes, children	Located on N Coulter St approximately 1 mile south of SL 335.
Woodlands Elementary School	School	Public	Yes, children.	Located on N Coulter St approximately 1.2 miles south of SL 335.
Christ Lutheran Church	Place of Worship	Public	No	Located on N Coulter St approximately 1.25 miles south of SL 335.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints	Place of Worship	Public	No	Located on the NW corner of the intersection of Tascosa Rd and Coulter St.
Wildcat Bluff Nature Center	Nature Center	Private	No	Hike and bike trail just west of SL 335, begins at W. Amarillo Blvd and ends at Wildcat Bluff Nature Center at N. Soncy Road.

IV. Data

1. What data sources were used?

Yes U.S. Census Bureau

Yes American Community Survey (ACS)

No Texas State Data Center

Yes Other

If other, describe:

[Empty text box for describing other data sources]

Attach tables or thematic maps detailing race (including Hispanics), language, income, disability, gender, and age data for the affected community study area. Tables and maps may be downloaded from FactFinder and the ACS Summary File. Instructions for navigating Fact Finder and ACS Summary File can be found in the Toolkit. A list of tables to use can be found in the Toolkit. If you prefer to use template tables see the Demographic Table Template in the Toolkit.

2. What is the current DHHS poverty level? \$25,750.00

3. No Do any of the census geographies show over a 50% minority population?

4. No Do any of the census geographies show a median income below the DHHS poverty level?

5. Yes Do any of the census geographies show presence of persons who speak English "less than very well"?



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**Describe:**

The following data was analyzed at the census tract level due to an unavailability of specific information at the block group level. Please refer to the Census Tract Map in the appendix for specific limits of the census tracts.

ACS 2013 - 2017 estimates indicate the following percentages of population speaking English "less than very well":

Census Tract 133: 72 people representing 1.4% of the total population (0.2% French, 0.1% Hindi, 0.8% Vietnamese, 0.2% Arabic, <0.1% Tagalog).

Census Tract 134: 56 people representing 1.9% of the total population (1.7% Spanish or Spanish Creole, 0.3% Vietnamese).

Total LEP Study Area: 126 people representing 1.6% of the total population (0.6% Vietnamese, 0.6% Spanish or Spanish Creole, 0.2% French, 0.2% Arabic, <0.1% Hindi, <0.1% Tagalog)

Spanish or Spanish Creole is spoken by an estimated 36.5% (46 people) of total LEP population (126 people); 38% speak Vietnamese (48 people); 9.5% speak Arabic (12 people); 9.5% speak French (12 people), 5.5% speak Hindi (7 people), and 0.8% speak Tagalog (1 person).

**V. Site Visit**

1. Yes **Was a site visit conducted?**

*If yes, attach documentation, notes, and photographs from the field visit.*

2. No **Were there any signs observed in languages other than English?**

3. No **Were there places of worship, businesses, or services that target or serve specific minority groups?**

4. No **Were there signs of disabled persons such as ramps on homes or public transportation vehicles or stops specifically designed for disabled persons?**

5. Yes **Were there signs of other vulnerable populations such as children or elderly (presence of day cares, elementary schools or assisted living facilities)?**

**Describe:**

The study area between Tacosa Road and FM 1719 is mainly comprised of a large single-family residential development that is serviced by two schools: De Zavala Middle school and Woodlands Elementary School.

6. No **Were there any signs of low-income families or neighborhoods (subsidized housing, homes or cars in need of repair, used goods stores, low-cost health care facilities)?**

7. Yes **Are there signs of other modes of transportation?**

No **Are there bus or train stops?**

No **Are there marked bike lanes or bicycle lane signage?**

No **Did you observe cyclists in the area?**

Yes **Are there sidewalks?**

**Describe:**

The Old Soncy Trail from the Wildcat Bluff Nature Center south to Business I-40 is the only existing bicycle and pedestrian facility within the proposed project limits.



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No Did you observe "goat paths" or dirt pathways adjacent to the project area?

8. Yes Is there any additional information about this community that will be helpful?

**Describe:**

The study area has been observed to be experiencing new planned development consisting of single family homes south of Tascosa Road with speculative plans for residential development on both sides of SL 335 from Tascosa Road east to FM 1719.

9. Yes Is public involvement planned for this project?

### Results from the Scope Development Tool

- 1. No Did the Scope Development Tool identify the need for a residential displacements analysis?
- 2. No Did the Scope Development Tool identify the need for a commercial displacements analysis?
- 3. No Did the Scope Development Tool identify the need for an other displacements analysis?
- 4. No Did the Scope Development Tool identify the need for an access and travel patterns analysis?
- 5. Yes Did the Scope Development Tool identify the need for a community cohesion analysis?

**Select the level of analysis identified on the Scope Development Tool:**

- Medium risk community cohesion analysis
- High risk community cohesion analysis

### Community Cohesion

Consider the community facilities and vulnerable populations other than EJ populations listed in your Community Profile answers.

1. **If there is an existing roadway or other separation, how will the proposed project change that separation?**

The existing SL 335 barrier will become wider, although changes in cohesion are not anticipated. The land adjacent to the project area is largely undeveloped rural land so the project is not increasing a barrier between residential areas and community facilities.

2. **How would the proposed project change the way that people within the community access other parts of the community and participate in local activities?**

No anticipated change is expected from the proposed project since current access will be maintained. The proposed improvements would increase regional and local mobility. Additionally, bike/pedestrian facilities would be introduced and/or maintained along the proposed project, providing connectivity for these travel modes. Changes in access would limited to the separation of eastbound and westbound travel lanes by medians; however, this change would facilitate safer and more efficient access to residences, community facilities, and businesses along and near the corridor. Additionally, the construction of a new overpass and frontage roads at SL 335 and N Coulter St. would allow for continuous flow for east and west bound traffic on SL 335 while providing frontage road intersections for safe access to N Coulter St.



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3. How will the proposed project change the way that people use local services and facilities change?

Substantial changes are not anticipated since the existing roadway would remain in place.

NOTE: The conclusion statement should be included in the NEPA document if one is being produced. Upon completion, upload this Documentation Standard to the Community Impacts and EJ section of the Documents page in ECOS.

Conclusion: Based on the information above, how will the proposed project impact community cohesion?

The proposed improvements would increase regional and local mobility. Additionally, bike/pedestrian facilities would be introduced and/or maintained along the proposed project, providing connectivity for these travel modes. The addition of travel lanes and raised medians could increase the sense of separation between the north and south sides of the roadway; however, the land adjacent to the project area is largely undeveloped rural land so the project is not increasing a barrier between residential areas and community facilities. The separation of the eastbound and westbound travel lanes by the medians would facilitate safer and more efficient access to residences, community facilities, and businesses along and near the corridor. Additionally, the proposed project would accommodate the growing traffic demand as a result of an increase in housing developments within the community. Overall, the proposed project would increase mobility throughout the community study area by providing an urban highway for the growing community.

Limited English Proficiency

1. Yes Were there LEP persons identified in the project area?

What languages do they speak?

Spanish or Spanish Creole is spoken by an estimated 36.5% (46 people) of total LEP population (126 people); 38% speak Vietnamese (48 people); 9.5% speak Arabic (12 people); 9.5% speak French (12 people), 5.5% speak Hindi (7 people), and 0.8% speak Tagalog (1 person).

2. What public involvement techniques were used or is planned to be used?

Please note in the response whether public involvement notices are available to view under the Public Involvement or Community Impacts section of ECOS.

Individual meetings were held with affected property owners (MAPOs) in early 2019 leading up to a public open house held on May 21, 2019. Special communication or accommodation needs were offered in notices for both the MAPOs and the public open house. Since no requests were made, meeting materials were in English only. Efforts will continue to be made throughout the project development process to engage LEP populations by, upon request, providing meeting materials and notices in the requested language, and accommodating the need for an interpreter.

3. No Was assistance in a language other than English requested or is it anticipated to be requested?

4. How were LEP persons accommodated during the public involvement process?

Please note in the response if copies of public involvement materials are available to view under the Public Involvement or Community Impacts section of ECOS.

Special communication or accommodation needs were offered in notices for both the MAPOs and the public open house.

5. Yes Is any more public involvement planned?



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Yes Will LEP persons continue to be accommodated?

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**Conclusion: Based on the information above and public involvement documentation, were LEP persons given the opportunity for meaningful involvement in the NEPA process?**

Within the study area block groups, 1.6 percent of the population speaks English 'less than very well', indicating a presence of LEP populations in the study area. Throughout the project limits, signage is displayed in English, with no evidence of other languages observed. No requests for special accommodations were made for the public open house (held May 21, 2019) or the MAPOs. Efforts will continue to be made throughout the project development process to engage LEP populations by, upon request, providing project and meeting materials and notices in English and requested language.

**Prepared By:**

Rachel Cepeda  
*Preparer Name*

Transportation Planner  
*Title*

Rachel Cepeda  
*Preparer Signature*

Digitally signed by Rachel Cepeda  
Date: 2019.08.20 10:43:53 -05'00'

August 20, 2019  
*Date*