



WELCOME

Virtual Public Hearing

Pre-Recorded Presentation

SL 390/US 59 Relief Route (Future I-369)

Limits: 0.7 mile north of US 80 to I-20

Harrison County, Texas

CSJs: 1575-05-016, 1575-05-024, 0495-09-065, and 1575-05-025

In-Person Option:
Thursday, May 16, 2024, 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Open House begins at 4:30 p.m.
Presentation begins at 6:00 p.m.
Marshall Convention Center
2501 E. End Blvd. S., Marshall, TX 75672

SL 390/US 59 RELIEF ROUTE (FUTURE I-369)

May 2024

SCRIPT:

Hello, and welcome to the Texas Department of Transportation's virtual public hearing for the State Loop 390/US 59 Marshall Relief Route (Future I-369) project from 0.7 mile north of US Highway 80 to Interstate Highway 20 in Harrison County, Texas. This virtual public hearing is being held in conjunction with an in-person public hearing option. The in-person option will be held on **Thursday, May 16, 2024, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Marshall Convention Center at 2501 E. End Blvd. S., Marshall, TX 75672. The open house will begin at 4:30 p.m., and the presentation will start at 6:00 p.m.** Both hearings provide the opportunity to review project information and to provide written comments. My name is Samantha Champion, Planning Program Manager at Hicks & Company, representing TxDOT. This presentation has been pre-recorded. Thank you for your participation in this virtual public hearing. Public participation is important in the transportation planning process, and TxDOT appreciates your input on the proposed project. If you are viewing the presentation online, you may pause the presentation and navigate forward or backward using your video player.

Virtual Public Hearing Purpose



1. Inform the public of project status and present proposed design.
2. Notify the public that the draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for review.
3. Describe the project so the public can determine how they may be affected.
4. Provide the public the opportunity to provide input.
5. Develop a record of public participation.



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SCRIPT:

The purpose of this virtual public hearing with in-person option is to inform the public of the project status and present the proposed design; notify the public that the draft environmental assessment (or EA) is available for review; describe the proposed project so the public can determine how they may be affected; offer the public the opportunity to provide input; and develop a record of public participation.

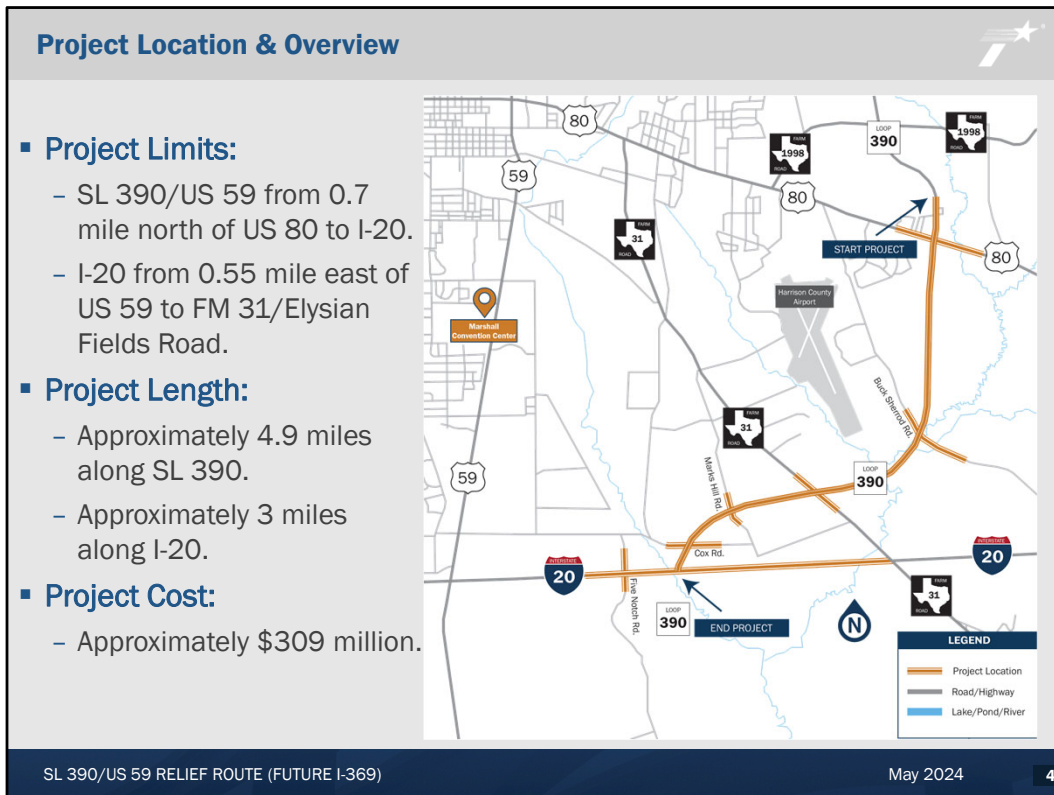


National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Assignment to TxDOT

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 a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

SCRIPT:

The proposed project is anticipated to be programmed with both state and federal funds. Because of this, TxDOT is required to assess potential environmental effects in accordance with federal standards. The process that is followed is called the National Environmental Policy Act process, otherwise known as NEPA. The NEPA process provides for analyses of the potential impacts to the natural and human environment and helps the decision maker to make an informed decision on a preferred alternative. On December 9, 2019, TxDOT received a signed Memorandum of Understanding from the Federal Highway Administration that permits TxDOT to assume responsibility from the Federal Highway Administration for reviewing and approving certain assigned NEPA projects. This review and approval process applies to this project.



SCRIPT:

This map shows the general vicinity of the proposed project. The proposed project would extend approximately 4.9 miles, from 0.7 mile north of US 80 to I-20, and would also include improvements to approximately three miles of I-20 from 0.55 mile east of US 59 to FM 31/Elysian Fields Road in Harrison County. At this time, the construction cost is estimated at approximately \$309 million.

Project Need and Purpose

Need & Purpose

Need:

- The project is needed due to congestion and associated travel delays along US 59 through Marshall.

Purpose:

- The purpose of the project is to alleviate congestion, thereby improving travel delays.

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SCRIPT:

The project is needed due to congestion and associated travel delays along US 59 through Marshall. The purpose of the project is to alleviate congestion, thereby improving travel delays.

The level of service, or LOS, measure was used to evaluate the effectiveness of US 59 to provide adequate capacity given projected traffic demands. US 59 in the Marshall area was operating at an LOS of C or better in 2012; however, by 2057, traffic is expected to increase by 113 percent on average over the length of US 59. As a result, portions of US 59 between I-20 and the existing SL 390 would operate at an LOS of E or F by 2057 if no improvements are implemented.

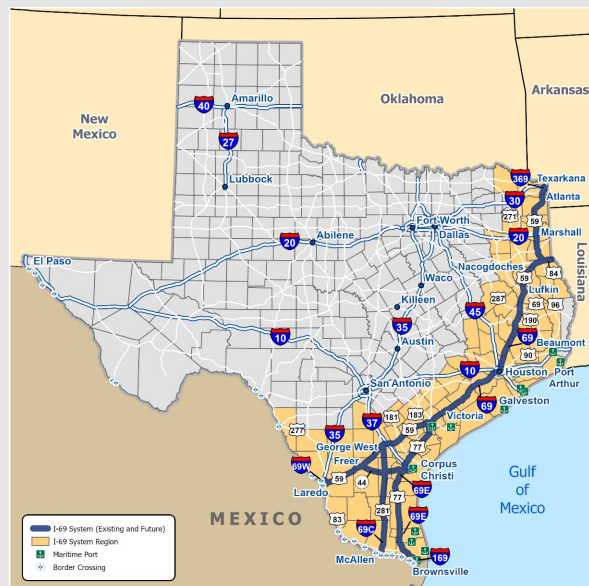
Additionally, US 59 is a major transportation route and does not currently meet interstate highway standards due to a lack of access control, a primary interstate requirement by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. This portion of SL 390 would be designed to meet interstate standards and eventually become part of the US 59 Relief Route and future I-369, part of the I-69 system through Texas.

I-69 System in Texas

■ The I-69 System in Texas includes the following corridors:

- US 59 from Laredo to Texarkana.
- US 77 from the Rio Grande Valley to Victoria.
- US 281 from the Rio Grande Valley to George West.
- US 84 from US 59 to Louisiana border.
- SH 550 from I-69E to SH 48.
- SH 44 from Freer to Corpus Christi.

To date, more than 166 miles of the I-69 system route are designated (I-69, I-69W, I-69C, I-69E, I-169, I-369).



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Script:

The I-69 System in Texas includes the following corridors:

- US 59 from Laredo to Texarkana;
- US 77 from the Rio Grande Valley to Victoria;
- US 281 from the Rio Grande Valley to George West;
- US 84 from US 59 to the Louisiana border;
- SH 550 from I-69E to SH 48; and
- SH 44 from Freer to Corpus Christi.

To date, more than 166 miles of the I-69 system route are designated, including I-69, I-169, and I-369.

Route Study History


- In 2008, the Texas Transportation Commission:**
 - Created the I-69 Advisory Committee and five I-69 Segment Committees.
 - The I-69 Segment 1 Committee recommended the US 59 Relief Route in Marshall.
- In 2014, TxDOT:**
 - Conducted the I-69 System (I-369) Harrison County/Marshall Route Study.
 - Using a local Working Group, identified goals and recommendations for the Marshall area.
 - Identified 13 potential interstate route options and preliminary recommendations.
 - Conducted public outreach activities and presented interstate route options and preliminary recommendations to local citizens.
 - Gathered feedback and identified a final interstate route option to be studied in further detail.
- Since August 2021, TxDOT:**
 - Revised the project design and presented the revisions to the public in September 2023.


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SCRIPT:

The proposed project history dates to 2008. The Texas Transportation Commission created the I-69 Advisory Committee and five I-69 Segment Committees. The I-69 Segment 1 Committee recommended a US 59 Relief Route in Marshall.

In 2014, TxDOT conducted the I-69 System (I-369) Harrison County/Marshall Route Study using a local working group which identified Marshall area goals and provided input and recommendations. The route study identified 13 potential interstate route options and preliminary recommendations. The working group conducted public outreach activities to present the interstate route options and preliminary recommendations to local citizens and gather feedback. The study identified a final interstate route option recommendation to be studied in detail. This project is part of that final interstate route option recommendation.

After the public meeting in August 2021, TxDOT revised the proposed project design, and it was presented to the public at the last public meeting in September 2023.

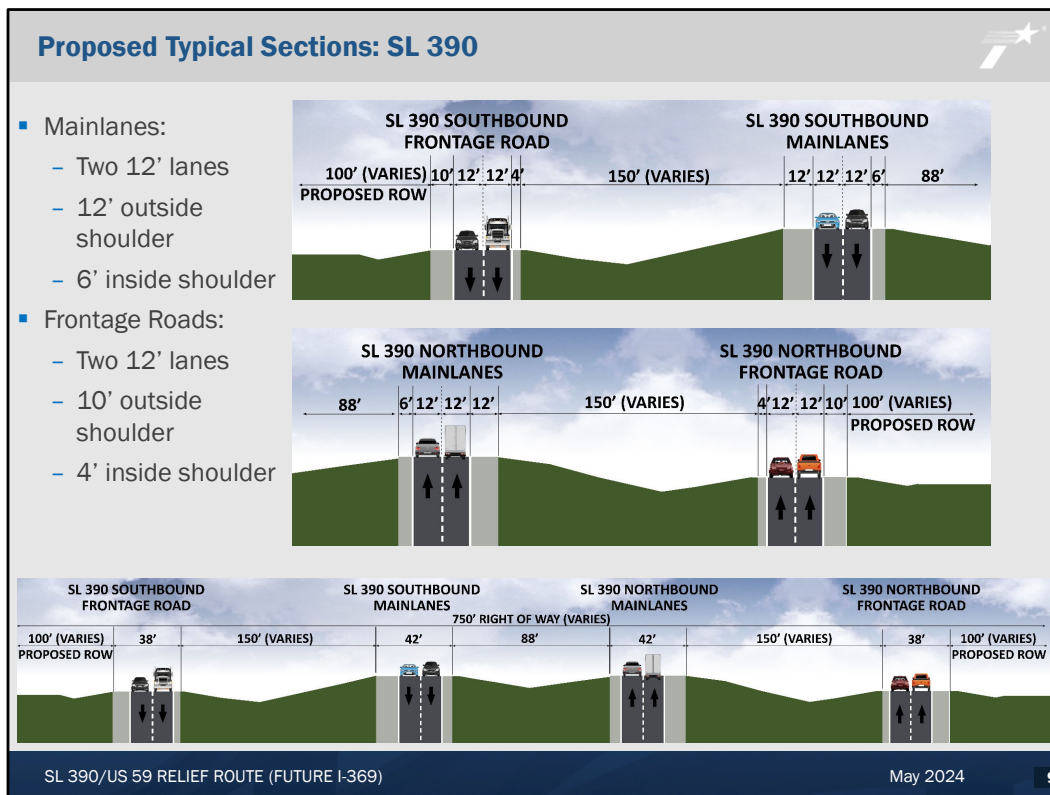
Proposed Project Improvements Overview


- The proposed project activities would consist of construction of:
 - A new location, controlled-access freeway with two 12-foot mainlanes in each direction with inside and outside shoulders.
 - One-way frontage roads with two 12-foot travel lanes on either side of SL 390 and along I-20.
 - On- and off-ramps throughout the length of SL 390.
 - Bridges over Eight Mile Creek, Parker Creek, and associated tributaries.
 - An underpass at US 80, Buck Sherrod Road, and I-20.
 - A double roundabout at FM 31/Elysian Fields Road.
- The proposed project activities would also reconstruct the mainlanes along FM 31/Elysian Fields Road and I-20.
- The proposed project would be constructed in phases.

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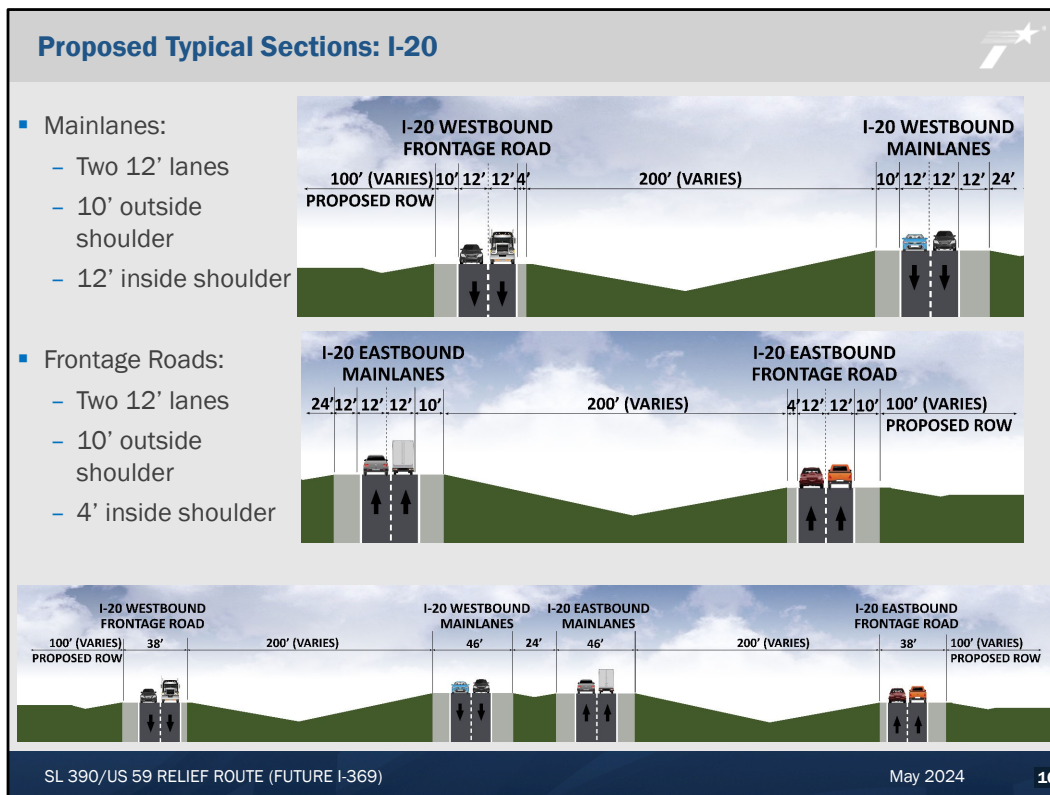
SCRIPT:

The proposed improvements would include the construction of a new location, controlled-access freeway with two 12-foot mainlanes in each direction, inside and outside shoulders, grassy medians, one-way frontage roads with two 12-foot travel lanes on either side of the proposed roadway and along I-20, and on- and off-ramps throughout the length of the SL 390 project. Bridges would be constructed over Eight Mile Creek, Parker Creek, and associated tributaries. Improvements to existing cross-streets include the construction of an underpass at US 80, Buck Sherrod Road, and I-20, as well as a double roundabout at FM 31/Elysian Fields Road. The improvements would also include the reconstruction of the mainlanes of FM 31/Elysian Fields Road and I-20. It is anticipated that the project will be constructed in phases. Next, we will review typical sections of the proposed improvements.



SCRIPT:

Shown here are illustrations of a typical section of the SL 390 project. A typical section is a cross-section of what the road would look like with the proposed design modifications. At the bottom of your screen is an overview of the proposed improvements, including both the southbound and northbound mainlanes and frontage roads. At the top of your screen are zoomed in typical sections of the southbound and northbound sections of the roadway. The roadway would include two 12-foot mainlanes in each direction—the mainlanes would include 12-foot outside shoulders and 6-foot inside shoulders. The mainlanes and frontage roads would be separated by grassy medians. The one-way frontage roads would include two 12-foot travel lanes on either side of the proposed roadway along with 10-foot outside shoulders and 4-foot inside shoulders. On- and off-ramps would be constructed throughout the length of project. SL 390 would be constructed within a typical right of way width of 750 feet, depending on location.



SCRIPT:

Shown here are illustrations of a typical section of the proposed construction of the mainlanes along I-20. At the bottom of your screen is an overview of the proposed improvements, including both the westbound and eastbound mainlanes and frontage roads. At the top of your screen are zoomed in typical sections of the roadway, including both the westbound and eastbound sections of the roadway. The roadway would include two 12-foot mainlanes in each direction—the mainlanes would include 10-foot outside shoulders and 12-foot inside shoulders. The mainlanes and frontage roads would be separated by grassy medians. The one-way frontage roads would include two 12-foot travel lanes on either side of the proposed roadway along with 10-foot outside shoulders and 4-foot inside shoulders.

Environmental Overview – Environmental Assessment and Studies

- A draft environmental assessment is available for review Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the Atlanta District Office at 701 E. Main St., Atlanta, TX 75551, or by calling (903) 799-1309 for an appointment.
- Environmental technical reports assessing potential impacts were completed for the following resource categories:
 - Community resources, including Environmental Justice populations
 - Historic-age resources
 - Archeological resources
 - Traffic noise
 - Biological resources, including threatened and endangered species and their habitats
 - Water resources, including waters of the U.S. and wetlands
 - Hazardous materials
 - Air quality
 - Indirect and cumulative impacts

Draft Environmental Assessment
SL 390/US 59 Relief Route (Future I-369),
Atlanta District
From 0.7 Mile North of US 90 to I-20
CSJ# 1575-05-024, 1575-05-025, 1575-05-026 and 0495-09-065
Harris County, Texas
April 2024

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 a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 6, 2016, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

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SCRIPT:

A draft environmental assessment has been completed and is now available for public review. The environmental assessment can be viewed online at www.txdot.gov, keyword search “SL 390/US 59 Relief Route” or in-person, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the Atlanta District Office at 701 E. Main St., Atlanta, TX 75551. Call (903) 799-1309 for an appointment.

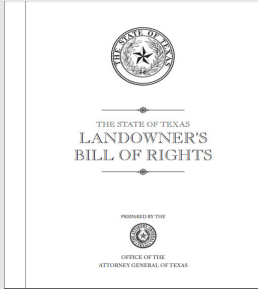
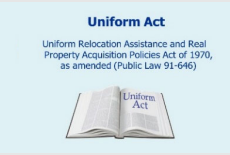
Additionally, environmental technical reports assessing potential impacts were completed for the following resource categories:

- Community resources, including Environmental Justice populations
- Historic-age resources
- Archeological resources
- Traffic noise
- Biological Resources, including threatened and endangered species and their habitats
- Water resources, including waters of the U.S. and wetlands
- Hazardous materials
- Air quality
- Indirect and Cumulative Impacts

These technical reports can also be viewed online at www.txdot.gov, keyword search “SL 390/US 59 Relief Route.”

Proposed Right of Way

- Approximately 563 acres of new right of way would be required to construct the proposed improvements.
- Potential displacements include 24 residences, 4 commercial buildings, and 2 utility relocations.
- Early right-of-way acquisition has begun; right-of-way acquisition will continue through 2026.

Right-of-Way Brochures are available on the TxDOT Website:
<https://www.txdot.gov/business/right-of-way/landowner-bill-of-rights.html>
 or on the virtual public hearing webpage at
www.txdot.gov, search: **SL 390/US 59 Relief Route**

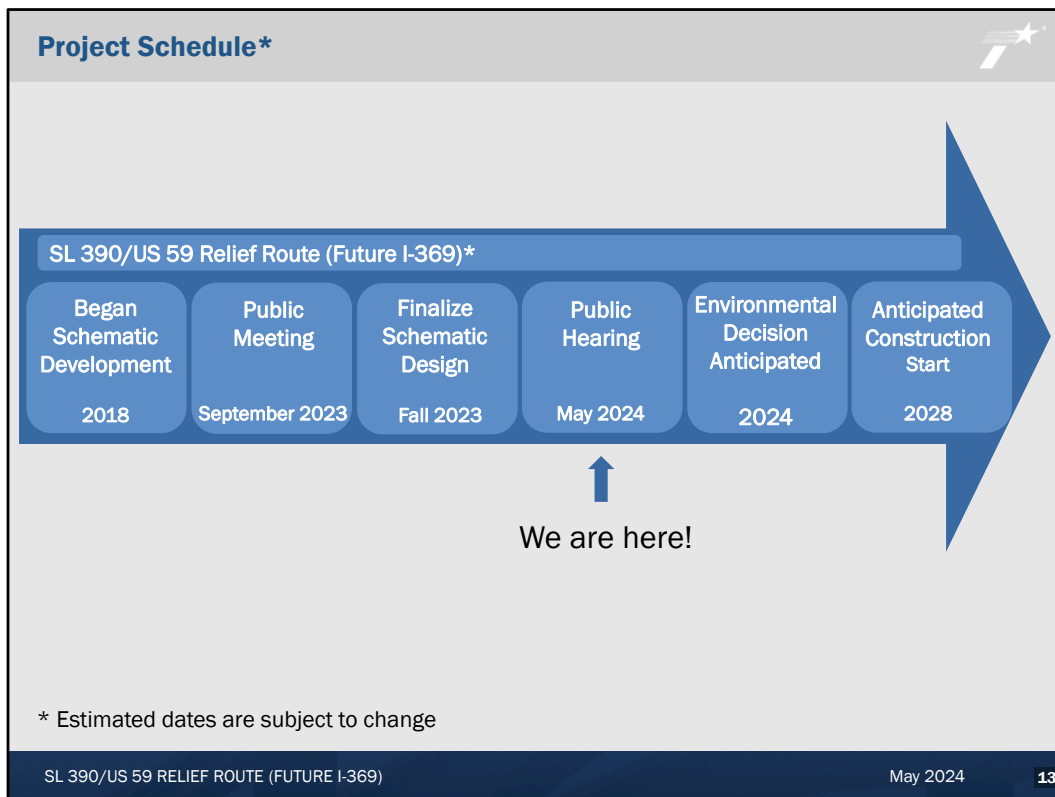
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SCRIPT:

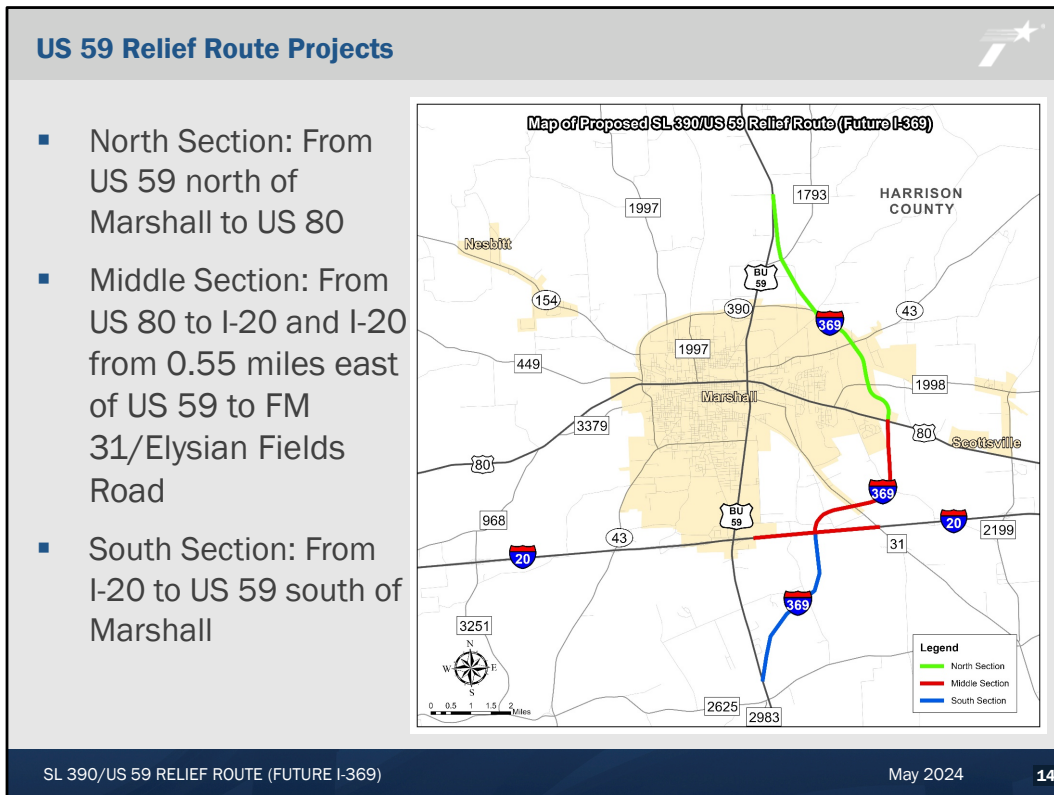
The proposed project would require approximately 563 acres of new right of way. Potential displacements include 24 residences, four commercial buildings, and two utility relocations. Early right-of-way acquisition has begun and will continue through 2026. All right of way acquisition would be done in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, commonly referred to as the Uniform Act. Brochures, including three booklets titled "The Purchase of Right of Way," "Relocation Assistance," and the "Landowner's Bill of Rights," are available for you on the public hearing webpage at www.txdot.gov, search: SL 390/US 59 Relief Route or at the web address shown on your screen. These documents contain detailed information on the process and requirements for appraisal and negotiations, as well as detailed information to inform you of your rights as a property owner. In all cases, the property owner would be reimbursed for fair market value of their property and any reasonable, incidental expenses necessarily incurred in transferring title of the acquired property to the State.



SCRIPT:

We want to review the current estimated project timeline. Please note that all future dates are subject to change.

- The schematic development began in 2018.
- Previous public involvement events included an open house public meeting that was held January 2019 and two virtual public meetings with in-person options that were held August 2021 and September 2023.
- After the comment period for *this* public hearing ends, the project team will review the comments received, make appropriate design changes if applicable, and prepare official public hearing documentation. Public hearing documentation will be posted to the project hearing webpage as soon as it is prepared.
- The next steps include finalizing the Draft Environmental Assessment (or EA) and preliminary design and receiving an environmental decision in 2024.
- The construction for Phase I is anticipated to start in 2028 but is subject to change.




SCRIPT:

This public hearing has been an opportunity for us to share the State Loop 390/US 59 Relief Route (Future I-369) project with you, shown in red on this figure. There are two adjacent sections proposed for future development: The North Section shown in green from US 59 north of Marshall to US 80 and the South Section shown in blue from I-20 to US 59 south of Marshall. Although the design has yet to begin for these two adjacent sections, they were part of the preliminary recommended route in the 2014 Route Study. These two sections would be developed in the future and, once all three sections are constructed, this roadway would be designated as I-369 as shown on this map.


How to Provide Comments

Please submit your comments regarding the proposed SL 390/US 59 Relief Route (Future I-369) project by using any of the three methods below. Comments must be received or post-marked by **Friday, May 31, 2024**.




Email Us

Adrian.Walton@txdot.gov




Mail-In Comments


TxDOT Atlanta District
Attn: Adrian Walton, P.E.
701 E. Main St.
Atlanta, TX 75551



Comment Online

Visit the Virtual Public Hearing webpage and use the online comment form by visiting www.txdot.gov, search “SL 390/US 59 Relief Route” or access the comment form by scanning the QR code.





Call Us

(903) 884-4169

You may call Adrian Walton at (903) 799-1309 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. or email at Adrian.Walton@txdot.gov at any time in the project development process.

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SCRIPT:

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted directly online on the project website. You can email comments to Adrian.Walton@txdot.gov. You can mail written comments to the TxDOT Atlanta District Office, attention: Adrian Walton, P.E., 701 E. Main St., Atlanta, TX 75551. You can also visit the virtual public hearing webpage and submit comments directly online or access the comment form by scanning the QR code. You can also provide verbal testimony over the phone by calling (903) 884-4169. Comments are welcome at anytime; however, comments must be received on or before Friday, May 31, 2024, to be included in the public hearing official record. The hearing documentation and responses to comments received will be available online at www.txdot.gov, search: SL 390/US 59 Relief Route once they have been prepared. If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or virtual hearing with in-person option, please contact Adrian Walton, P.E., at Adrian.Walton@txdot.gov or at (903) 799-1309.



SCRIPT:

November 7, 2000, was the last deathless day on roadways in Texas. That means for nearly 23 years, at least one person has died every single day. We all have a part to play to change that. This message is that reminder – to End the Streak of deaths on Texas highways. We need drivers and passengers to act more responsibly and help us reach our goal of zero deaths by 2050. Texans can play a major role in ending fatal crashes with a few simple driving habits: wear seatbelts, drive the speed limit, put away the phone and other distractions, and never drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs. So please do your part and share this message with your friends and family.

Conclusion of Virtual Public Hearing



Thank you for your participation in the
SL 390/US 59 Relief Route (Future I-369) project
Draft Environmental Assessment and Virtual Public Hearing with
In-Person Option!

***Please remember to submit your comments by
Friday, May 31, 2024.***



SL 390/US 59 RELIEF ROUTE (FUTURE I-369)

May 2024

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SCRIPT:

Thank you for your participation in the State Loop 390/US 59 Relief Route (Future I-369) project draft environmental assessment and virtual public hearing with in-person option. Please remember to submit your comments by Friday, May 31, 2024.