

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

## Table of Contents

Virtual Public Meeting Questions .....	1
Project Specific Questions .....	2
Right-of-Way (ROW) Acquisition Questions.....	4
Project Cost and Schedule Questions.....	4
Miscellaneous Questions .....	5
Contact Information .....	6

## VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING QUESTIONS

**Q: How do I get assistance with special communication or accommodation needs?**

- TxDOT makes every reasonable effort to accommodate the needs of the public. This meeting will be conducted in English. If you have special communication or accommodation needs, or have a need for an interpreter, a request can be made. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can also be made to accommodate most needs. Please call (903) 799-1342 at least two working days prior to the meeting. Please be aware that advance notice is requested as some accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange.

**Q: How do I access the meeting materials if I do not have internet access?**

- If you do not have internet access, you may call (903) 799-1342 to request materials or ask questions.

**Q: How do I navigate the Virtual Public Meeting?**

- To get around in the meeting room, you can use the site map provided in the upper left-hand corner to identify and click on the station that you would like to visit. This site map can be minimized by clicking the x in the upper left-hand corner. Or to visit each station in order, simply click the double right arrow on the right side of each page to advance through the room.
- To zoom in and out, you can scroll your mouse backwards or forwards, hold the left mouse button down and move the mouse left or right, or click the + icon to zoom in or the – icon to zoom out at the bottom of the page. The icon with the screen and arrow at the bottom of the page allows you to view each board or station in full screen - click the icon to do so, and to return to normal view, either hit the escape (ESC) button on your keyboard or click the icon again.
- To play the video, which is a proposed fly-through of both the US 82 and the FM 989 corridor, simply click it to play, and click at any time during the video to pause. Once the video is complete,

you can click the double right arrow on the right side of the page to advance to the next board or station. Please note that this fly-through is conceptual and preliminary, and only meant to give an idea of what the project could look like. The final constructed project may differ based on numerous factors.

**Q: How do I view my property on the schematic drawings?**

- Schematic drawings of the recommended alternatives for US 82 and FM 989 are available for download in PDF format at Stations 11 and 12 in the Virtual Public Meeting, respectively. The PDFs are also available in the downloads section on the main Virtual Public Meeting - US 82 and FM 989 webpage.
- The schematics provide information about potential property impacts as a result of proposed changes to right-of-way to accommodate the project. The pink lines are the existing right-of-way, and the blue lines are the proposed right-of-way.
- The file is best viewed when you download the PDF and use the green street name signs to zoom into the general vicinity of your property. From there, you can locate your (or the property owner's) name and zoom in further to view details.
- If you have any questions about potential/proposed right-of-way impacts to your property, please contact Katie Martin at [Katie.Martin@txdot.gov](mailto:Katie.Martin@txdot.gov).

**Q: How do I submit comments on the proposed projects?**

- Fill out the online comment card that is in the virtual public meeting room, or
- Download the comment card in the virtual public meeting room or on the TxDOT website and email comments to: [Katie.Martin@txdot.gov](mailto:Katie.Martin@txdot.gov), or
- Download the comment card in the virtual public meeting room or on the TxDOT website, print, and mail comments to: TxDOT Atlanta District Office, Attention: Katie Martin, P.E., 701 E. Main St, Atlanta, TX 75551.

**Q: How can I access meeting materials after the meeting?**

- All meeting materials will be available in PDF format to download on the TxDOT website.

**Q: Will I be able to access the virtual meeting after July 21, 2020?**

- The virtual meeting will be available for 30 days (until August 20<sup>th</sup>). After the virtual meeting site is no longer available, the meeting materials will continue to be available in PDF format to download.

## PROJECT SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

**Q: Why is US 82 and FM 989 being improved?**

- Traffic projections estimate a 50% increase in traffic over the next 20 years.
- The existing roadway does not meet current design criteria.

- US 82 is frequently overtopped at Waggoner Creek during storm events.
- There are limited pedestrian and no bicycle accommodations on the existing roads.
- The proposed roadway widening is to improve safety and mobility and reduce congestion for local and through traffic.

**Q: Will the improvements be done as one project?**

- US 82 and FM 989 widenings are being presented as separate projects. The US 82 project is shown as red and the FM 989 is shown as blue on the schematics that are presented.
- The improvements along US 82 and FM 989 may be completed as one construction project or may be completed separately depending on available funding and other factors.
- See US 82 and FM 989 Fact Sheet for additional information.

**Q: Why is Elliott Road being realigned?**

- The realignment of Elliott Road will improve traffic operations by consolidating Elliott Road and the existing Walmart Driveway into one intersection.
- The proposed Elliott Road / Walmart Driveway intersection may warrant a traffic signal to improve traffic operations and safety pending further engineering analysis.

**Q: What is being done at the US 82 / I-369 Interchange?**

- Some improvements are proposed to reduce existing congestion and safety concerns at the US 82 / I-369 West Frontage Road intersection.
- A dedicated right turn lane may be added to the I-369 West Frontage Road, as well as an additional left turn lane, to improve traffic operations and safety.

**Q: Will there be new traffic signals at intersections along the project?**

- US 82 and FM 989 signal will remain.
- New signals are considered at the US 82 / Pecan Street intersection, the US 82 / Elliott Road / Walmart Driveway intersection, and the FM 989 / Dr. John Parker Drive intersection.
- These new signal locations are preliminary (subject to change) and must meet signal warrants before being implemented.

**Q: What was the evaluation process used to select the US 82 & FM 989 recommended alternatives?**

- After receiving feedback from the public on the alternatives presented July 18, 2019, further analysis was completed for each alternative.
- The alternatives were analyzed for impacts, including displacements, ROW acquisition, impacts to environmental constraints (historic properties, wetlands, churches, grave sites, archeological sites, floodplains, etc.), utilities, constructability, and cost.
- Based on that analysis, a recommended alternative was developed to minimize overall impacts and more detailed design was completed.

## RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW) ACQUISITION QUESTIONS

- Q: Who do I contact if I have questions or comments on ROW or property acquisition?**
- For all ROW or property acquisition questions / comments, please contact Ms. Jodi Watkins by phone at (903) 799-1311 or by email at [Jodi.Watkins@txdot.gov](mailto:Jodi.Watkins@txdot.gov).
- Q: How is my property impacted? Can that impact be changed?**
- Schematic drawings showing the proposed ROW limits are available in PDF format to download for viewing in the virtual public meeting and on the TxDOT website.
  - While the recommended alternative is intended to minimize impacts, some impacts are unavoidable to meet design requirements and the project purpose and need as shown on the fact sheets. The ROW limits shown are still preliminary pending further design development, but significant changes are not anticipated at this time.
  - Please submit comment cards to document any comments for consideration in developing the final design.
- Q: Why is additional ROW needed?**
- US 82 and FM 989 are proposed to be widened to add additional lanes, to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists, to accommodate utilities, and to meet current design standards.
  - The existing ROW limits are inadequate to implement these needed improvements, so additional ROW required.
- Q: How was the recommended alternative ROW footprint developed?**
- Three alternatives were presented with different ROW options at the Public Meeting held on July 18, 2019.
  - The alternatives were evaluated based on parcels impacted, structures impacted, impacts to cultural resources, impacts to natural resources, and public input. The US 82 and FM 989 recommended alternatives are a combination of the three alternatives that were previously presented in an effort to minimize impacts while meeting the project goals as shown in the meeting materials.

## PROJECT COST AND SCHEDULE QUESTIONS

- Q: What is the cost of these projects?**
- Estimated Construction Cost:
    - US 82 = \$43M
    - FM 989 = \$10M
    - Overall Total = \$53M.

- For more information, visit TxDOT Project Tracker website: [http://apps.dot.state.tx.us/apps-cq/project\\_tracker/](http://apps.dot.state.tx.us/apps-cq/project_tracker/)

**Q: When does construction begin? How long will construction take?**

- These projects are not yet fully funded for construction. Depending on the availability of funding, construction could begin in 2025, but the timeline is subject to change.
- Construction is anticipated to take approximately 2 – 3 years to complete.
- For more information, visit TxDOT Project Tracker website: [http://apps.dot.state.tx.us/apps-cq/project\\_tracker/](http://apps.dot.state.tx.us/apps-cq/project_tracker/)

## MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS

**Q: How will property access be affected during construction and once construction is complete?**

- During construction, access will be maintained to all adjacent properties and impacts will be minimized to the greatest extent possible.
- If you see something during construction that is a concern, please contact the TxDOT Texarkana Area Office at (903) 838-8574 to report any issues.
- Access will be maintained to all adjacent properties with the completed construction and approved permits will be required for all driveways.
- Please submit a comment card with any concerns.

**Q: What will be done with my mailbox?**

- Mailbox access will be maintained throughout construction and will be replaced according to current standards, if necessary, to accommodate the proposed widening.
- If you see something during construction that is a concern, please contact the TxDOT Texarkana Area Office at (903) 838-8574 to report any issues.

**Q: Will utility services be affected?**

- Further utility coordination will occur as the project progresses and utility relocations are anticipated to accommodate the proposed widenings.
- Any interruptions to utility services will be minimized.

**Q: Will dust / mud be a problem during construction?**

- There are regulatory requirements in place to prevent stormwater and air pollution and dirt / mud from leaving construction site.
- If you see something during construction that is a concern, please contact the TxDOT Texarkana Area Office at (903) 838-8574 to report any issues.

**Q: Are school bus routes affected?**

- TxDOT will closely coordinate with any affected schools during development of the construction planning to ensure school bus operations are accommodated.
- Coordination with the school district will continue throughout construction to address any unforeseen issues.

**Q: Are emergency services affected?**

- TxDOT will closely coordinate with emergency services during development of the construction planning to ensure emergency operations are accommodated.
- Coordination with the emergency services will continue throughout construction to address any unforeseen issues.

**Q: Will there be streetlights along the roadway (illumination)?**

- Existing safety lighting will be replaced with the proposed construction.
- Additional safety lighting needs will be identified and addressed as necessary.

**Q: What drainage improvements are being made?**

- A preliminary analysis of the Waggoner Creek bridge has been completed to address the known flooding issues along US 82 and a new bridge will be constructed to prevent future flooding at Waggoner Creek.
- The proposed widening will also include a new storm sewer system with inlets along US 82 and FM 989.

**Q: What will the speed limit be?**

- Current posted speed limits are not anticipated to change at this time.
- The proposed design will meet current criteria for the design speed established for each roadway.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Q: Who do I contact if I have further questions?**

- For all ROW or property acquisition questions / comments, please contact Ms. Jodi Watkins by phone at (903) 799-1311 or by email at [Jodi.Watkins@txdot.gov](mailto:Jodi.Watkins@txdot.gov).
- For all other questions / comments, please contact Ms. Katie Martin by phone at (903) 799-1342 or by email at [Katie.Martin@txdot.gov](mailto:Katie.Martin@txdot.gov).