



NOTICE

Draft Environmental Impact Statement Notice of Availability and Public Hearing

**U.S. Highway 290 (US 290) / State Highway (SH) 71 West
From State Loop 1 (MoPac) to west of Ranch-to-Market (RM) 1826
and from US 290 to Silvermine Drive**

CSJs: 0113-08-060 and 0700-03-077

Travis County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation and the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority, as co-lead agencies, are proposing to improve US 290 / SH 71 West from MoPac to west of RM 1826 and from US 290 to Silvermine Drive in Travis County, Texas. In addition, and as a result of public comment, the project includes a transition area along US 290 from FM 1826 to west of Circle Drive. This notice advises the public that a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) is available for public review on Friday, Dec. 1, 2017. Also, TxDOT will be conducting a public hearing on the proposed project. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018 at Bowie High School Cafeteria, 4103 W. Slaughter Lane, Austin, TX 78749. Displays will be available for viewing at 6:15 p.m. with the formal hearing starting at 7 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements and to receive public comment on the proposed project.

The proposed project, known as the Oak Hill Parkway, extends approximately six miles along US 290 from west of RM 1826 to MoPac, as well as along approximately one mile of SH 71 from US 290 north to Silvermine Drive. Improvements include direct connectors, or flyovers, at the intersection of US 290 and SH 71, controlled access along both US 290 and SH 71 in Oak Hill, and an overpass for US 290 at William Cannon Drive. The proposed project includes three toll lanes in each direction, along with two to three non-tolled frontage road lanes in each direction. Aesthetic enhancements and bicycle/pedestrian facilities along the corridor are also proposed. The proposed Oak Hill Parkway will improve mobility and operational efficiency, address congestion, increase multimodal travel options, and improve safety and emergency response through the Oak Hill community. 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 16, 2014 and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

The existing right of way (ROW) width typically ranges from 90 to 260 feet and the proposed ROW would range from approximately 150 to 600 feet in width. Approximately 75 acres of additional ROW would be required for the proposed project. The proposed project would require the displacement of one residence

and four commercial structures. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program, benefits and services for displacements, as well as information about the tentative schedules for ROW acquisition and construction, can be obtained from the TxDOT Austin District Office at the address listed below. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses.

Portions of the project are located within a Federal Emergency Management Agency-designated 100-year floodplain for Williamson Creek and Devil's Pen Creek. The hydraulic design for this project would be in accordance with current FHWA and TxDOT design policies. All proposed roadway and drainage improvements would be designed in a manner to avoid or minimize impacts to jurisdictional crossings; no wetlands would be affected by the proposed project. A portion of this project is located within the Edwards Aquifer sole-source streamflow zone.

The draft EIS, maps showing the project location and draft design schematic, tentative construction schedules, and other information relative to the project are on file and available for inspection at www.OakHillParkway.com. You may also view this material Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the TxDOT Austin District Office, 7901 North IH-35, Austin, TX 78753, and the Mobility Authority Office, 3300 North IH-35, Suite 300, Austin, TX 78705. Other viewing locations include: the Hampton Branch at Oak Hill, Austin Public Library, 5125 Convict Hill Road, Austin, TX 78749; the Austin Community College Pinnacle Campus, 7748 US 290, Austin, TX 78736; the Dripping Springs Community Library, 501 Sportsplex Drive, Dripping Springs, TX 78620; and the Bee Cave Public Library, 4000 Galleria Parkway, Bee Cave, TX 78738. This information will also be available for inspection at the hearing. Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the project are requested and may be presented or submitted at the hearing. In addition, written comments may be submitted: (1) by mail to the TxDOT Austin District Environmental Coordinator, c/o Jon Geiselbrecht Texas Department of Transportation, P.O. Drawer 15426, Austin, Texas, 78761-5426, (2) by fax to 512-832-7157, or (3) via the www.OakHillParkway.com website on the "Contact Us" page or via the Virtual Open House. Comments must be received on or before Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2018 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 Jon Geiselbrecht, Environmental Coordinator, 512-832-7218, jon.geiselbrecht@txdot.gov. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the public hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs. In the case of inclement weather, the public hearing will be rescheduled for Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or hearing, please contact Jon Geiselbrecht, (512) 832-7218, jon.geiselbrecht@txdot.gov.