

# Virtual Public Meeting

## US Highway 60 Parmer County, Texas

From County Road 13 to County Road 17

CSJ: 0168-02-032

**Nov. 19, 2020**

Welcome to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) virtual public meeting presentation for the US 60 Bridge Project in Parmer County from County Road 13 to County Road 17. TxDOT is proposing to construct a bridge interchange southwest of Friona on US 60 near Cargill Meat Solutions.

## Virtual Public Meeting in Response to Public Health

TxDOT changed the traditional “in-person” public meeting to an online format in response to the COVID-19 outbreak

The virtual public meeting and information on the TxDOT website provides the same information as an in-person meeting would include:

- Project information
- Pre-recorded presentation
- Proposed design
- Estimated project timeline
- Process for submitting comments
- Key contacts

### Share Facts About COVID-19

Know the facts about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and help stop the spread of rumors.

**FACT 1** Diseases can make anyone sick regardless of their race or ethnicity.  
People of Asian descent, including Chinese Americans, are not more likely to get COVID-19 than any other American. Help stop fear by letting people know that being of Asian descent does not increase the chance of getting or spreading COVID-19.

**FACT 2** Some people are at increased risk of getting COVID-19.  
People who have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or people who live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread are at an increased risk of exposure.

**FACT 3** Someone who has completed quarantine or has been released from isolation does not pose a risk of infection to other people.  
For up-to-date information, visit CDC's coronavirus disease 2019 web page.

**FACT 4** You can help stop COVID-19 by knowing the signs and symptoms:  
• Fever  
• Cough  
• Shortness of breath  
Seek medical advice if you  
• Develop symptoms  
AND  
• Have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.

**FACT 5** There are simple things you can do to help keep yourself and others healthy.  
• Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food.  
• Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.  
• Stay home when you are sick.  
• Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

For more information: [www.cdc.gov/COVID19](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

Given the unique circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, along with TxDOT’s commitment to protecting public health during this national emergency, TxDOT is conducting this virtual public meeting to prevent the spreading of COVID-19. At this time, the online format will be in-lieu of an in-person public meeting.

The presentation will cover the same information the Lubbock District would have shared at an in-person public meeting. However, the comment process will be different, which will be explained shortly. All project information can be found on the TxDOT website at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov), keyword search “US 60 Bridge Project.”

## US 60 Virtual Public Meeting - Welcome



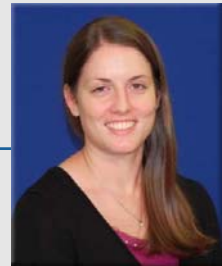
US 60 west at Cargill entrance



The Honorable Trey Ellis  
Parmer County Judge



US 60 east at Cargill entrance



Kylan Francis, P.E.  
Director TP&D

TxDOT would like to welcome you and thank you for watching this virtual public meeting presentation that is being shared with the public today, Thursday, November 19, 2020. Kylan Francis is the director of transportation, planning, and development for the TxDOT Lubbock District and is the primary contact for this project.

Please listen now to this short message from the Parmer County Judge, the Honorable Trey Ellis... [PLAY AUDIO FILE HERE]

## Virtual Public Meeting Agenda



- 1 Welcome
- 2 Project Overview
- 3 Environmental Overview
- 4 Project Schedule and Next Steps
- 5 Public Comment Process
- 6 Adjourn

During this virtual public meeting, we will be covering the following areas:

- Project overview
- Environmental overview
- Project schedule and next steps
- The public comment process – and this will be a little different than our in-person public meetings.....more information on that later – and then
- Adjournment

## National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

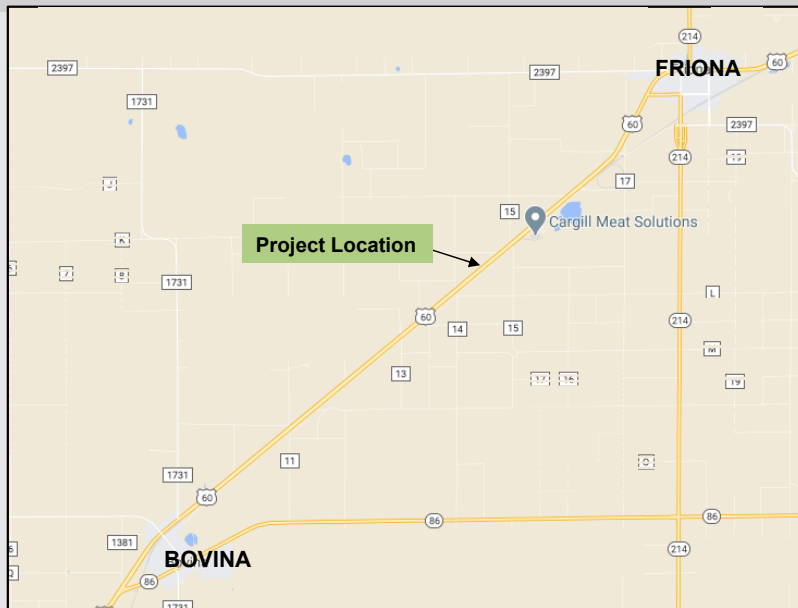


The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT

Prior to December 16, 2014 the Federal Highway Administration, otherwise known as FHWA, reviewed and approved documents prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act, known as NEPA. However on December 16, 2014, the Texas Department of Transportation assumed responsibility from the FHWA for reviewing and approving certain assigned NEPA environmental documents. This memorandum of understanding was renewed on December 9, 2019. This review and approval process applies to this proposed project.

This virtual public meeting, presented by TxDOT, is being provided to share information and to encourage comments from the public regarding the proposed US 60 Bridge Project. Notices for this meeting were published on the TxDOT website, the Friona Star, and State Line Tribune on Thursday, October 29, 2020. The notice was mailed to adjacent property owners and elected public officials. Additional outreach methods for this virtual public meeting included local media and social media.

## US 60 Bridge Project Location Map



Virtual Public Meeting – US 60 from CR 13 to CR 17

Nov. 19, 2020

The US 60 Bridge Project is southwest of Friona on US 60. The project will include:

- Constructing a bridge interchange over US 60 and the railroad
- Entrance and exit ramps for US 60
- Eliminating crossovers that will conflict with the new interchange

You can view the design in more detail on the TxDOT website.

## Why is the Project Needed?



### Need for the Proposed Project

- Major commercial facility (Cargill Meat Solutions) generates large volume of car/truck traffic in area
- Conflicts between high-speed thru traffic, Cargill traffic entering/exiting US 60, and train traffic at the railroad crossing delaying vehicular traffic exiting US 60
- Need to improve safety along this segment of US 60

### Purpose of the Proposed Project

- Improve safety and efficiency of travel
- Separate slow moving traffic from high-speed thru traffic
- Bridge over the railroad to decrease the delay entering and exiting the Cargill plant
- Reduce traffic congestion on US 60

### Purpose of the Public Meeting

- To inform the public of the status of the project
- To present a roadway design and determine the potential to affect lives and property
- To develop a record of public views and opinions to accompany recommendations for the final project

### Why is this project needed?

The need for the proposed project is due to Cargill Meat Solutions generating a large volume of car and truck traffic in the area. This creates conflicts between high-speed traffic traveling through the area and Cargill traffic entering and exiting US 60. This is compounded by train traffic at the railroad crossing delaying vehicular traffic exiting US 60. -There is a need to improve safety along this segment of US 60.

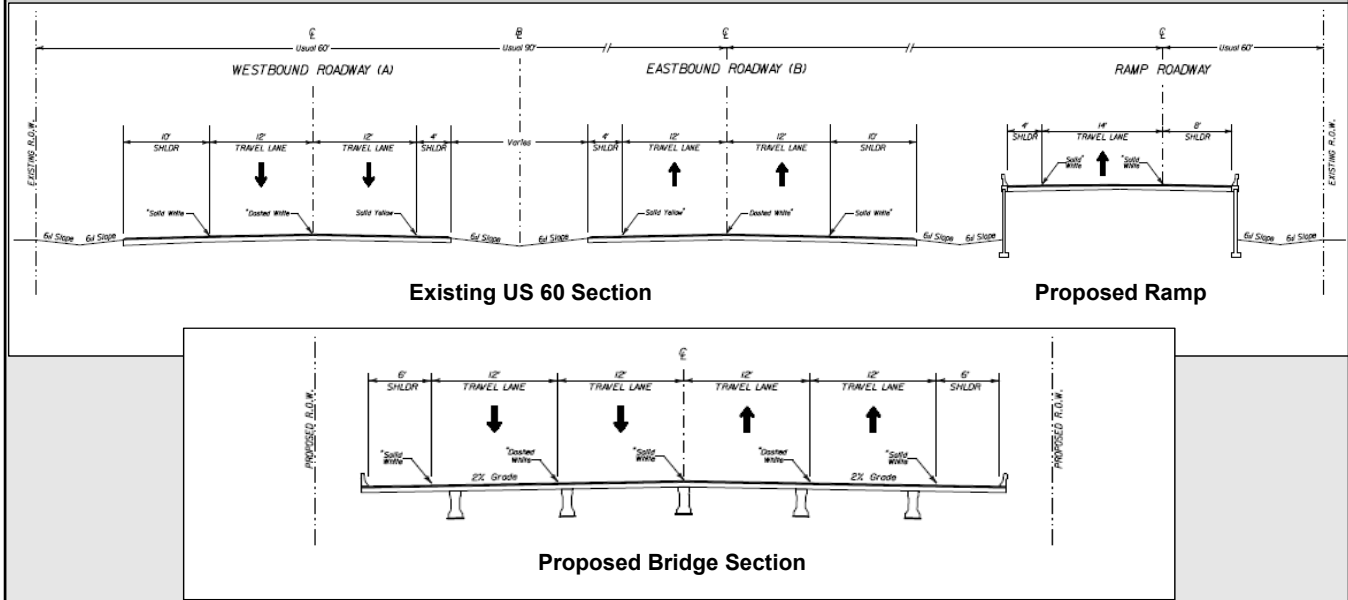
The purpose of the proposed project is:

- To improve safety and efficiency of travel
- Separate slow moving traffic from high-speed thru traffic
- Construct a bridge over the railroad to decrease the delay for traffic entering and exiting the Cargill plant
- Reduce traffic congestion on US 60

The purpose of the public meeting is:

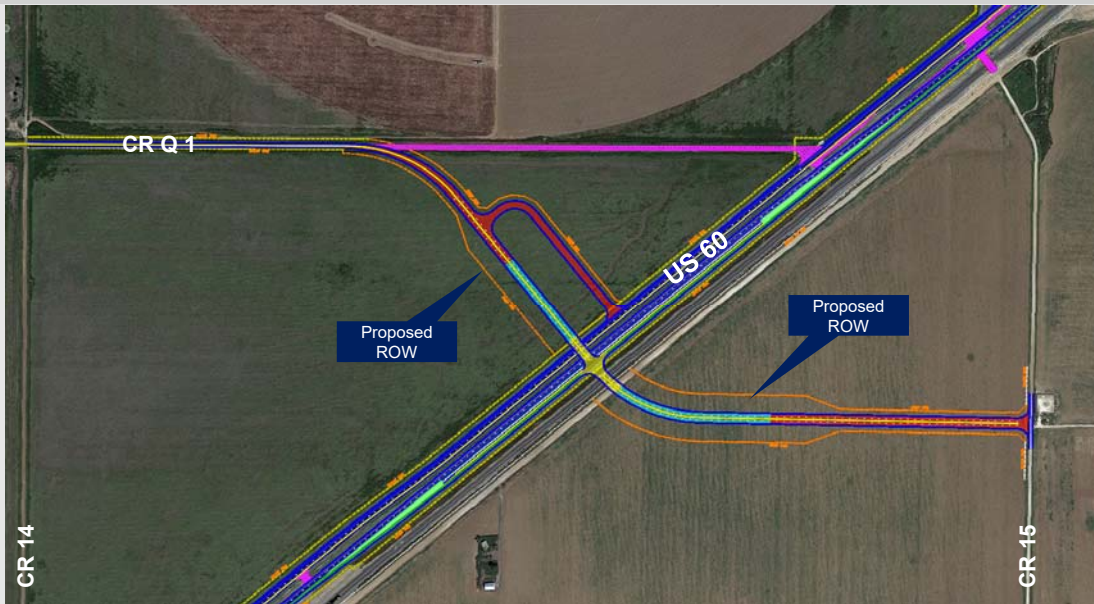
- To inform the public of the status of planning on the project and present TxDOT's recommendations based on studies performed to date,
- To present a roadway design so the public can determine the project's potential to affect their lives and property, and
- To develop a record of public views and participation to accompany recommendations for subsequent decisions.

# US 60 Bridge Project Typical Section



These are the typical sections for US 60. The existing US 60 right of way is 180-foot-wide. The additional right of way needed for this project is approximately 21 acres which will be acquired from two properties – one property on the north side of US 60 and one property on the south side of US 60. The bottom typical section represents the proposed bridge that will cross over US 60 and will have 4-lanes with shoulders. The top typical section shows existing US 60 and the proposed entrance and exit ramp that is parallel to the railroad. This will allow traffic to access the elevated intersection above US 60.

## US 60 Bridge Project Location Map



Virtual Public Meeting – US 60 from CR 13 to CR 17

Nov. 19, 2020

As you have a chance to review the preliminary design, the orange dashed line is the proposed right of way to be acquired by TxDOT. This is abbreviated on the map as “R-O-W”. The yellow shaded area is the proposed bridge with the teal blue areas representing the embankment. The red-shaded area represents the proposed roadway that is at existing grade. Existing crossovers and a portion of County Road Q1 will be eliminated due to a conflict with the entrance and exit ramps and are shown as pink cross-hatched areas. Existing US 60 is shaded a dark blue with proposed entrance and exit ramps shown as green. The project will construct a bridge interchange over US 60 and the railroad which will include an intersection on the bridge.

You can view the design in more detail on the TxDOT meeting web page.



### How to review the preliminary design information

1. Click on the PDF file to view the detailed preliminary design posted on this public meeting website
2. Download Google Earth and then click on the KMZ file to view the detailed preliminary design posted on this public meeting website



US 60 Preliminary Design

**These files can be viewed and/or printed depending on your preference.**

Because of the requirement for public meetings and hearings to be virtual, reviewing the preliminary design will be different. We have provided a variety of ways to review the preliminary design.

First, you will be able to click on the schematic PDF that contain the detailed preliminary design.

Secondly, you can download Google Earth and the KMZ file to view the detailed preliminary design.

These files can be viewed and/or printed depending on your preference.

## Estimated Project Schedule



- Virtual Public Meeting.....November 2020
- Design and Environmental Approval.....Winter 2021
- Begin Right-of-Way Acquisition.....Spring 2021
- Begin Construction.....Winter 2024
- Estimated Construction Duration.....18-24 months
- Estimated Construction Cost.....\$21 million
- Cargill Construction Contribution.....\$10.5 million

Now, let's talk about the schedule. This is the project schedule for the major milestones. Tonight is virtual public meeting. The Design and Environmental approval is anticipated in January of 2021, which will allow TxDOT to start purchasing property required to build the bridge and associated improvements.

Construction is currently scheduled to begin in January of 2024. However, if the right-of-way acquisition process takes less time than anticipated, construction could begin earlier.

Construction is anticipated to take 18 to 24 months.

The estimated construction cost is \$21 million.

Cargill Meat Solutions is contributing \$10.5 million to the total project cost.

## Environmental Process



- Environmental Documentation is being prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).



- The environmental documentation identifies social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed project.



- Includes an evaluation of the following:
  - Biological Resources
  - Cultural Resources
  - Hazardous Materials
  - Historical Resources
  - Traffic Noise
  - Community Impacts

*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.*

The environmental studies being conducted for this project comply with the National Environmental Policy Act. In addition, 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 United States Code 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated Dec. 9, 2019, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and TxDOT.

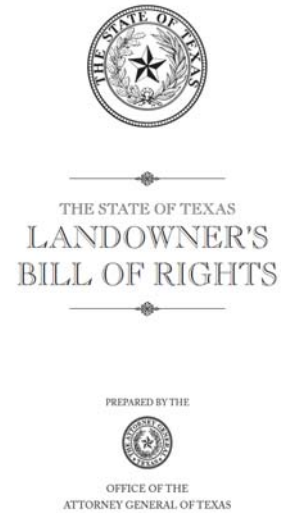
The environmental evaluation of potential impacts by the proposed project to the natural and human environment include:

- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Hazardous Materials
- Historical Resources
- Traffic Noise
- Community Impacts

## Right-of-Way Acquisition Process



Approximately 21 acres of additional right of way are required for the proposed project. No relocations or displacements are anticipated.



Please visit [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) for more information about the Uniform Act, the TxDOT Right-of-Way Acquisition Process, and the State of Texas Landowner's Bill of Rights

The US 60 bridge project will require approximately 21 acres of additional right of way. No relocations or displacements are anticipated.

It is also important that you know that you can help make this project a success and how this project might impact you and the rights you have as a property owner in Texas. We invite you to review more information about the Uniform Act, the TxDOT Right-of-Way Acquisition Process and the State of Texas Landowner's Bill of Rights brochures. A link to view or download this brochures has been provided on this public meeting website at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov).

## How to Submit Your Written Comments



**Mail:**  
Kylan Francis, P.E.  
Director TP&D  
135 Slaton Road  
Lubbock, TX 79404



**Email:**  
kylan.francis@txdot.gov



**Online:**  
Visit [txdot.gov](http://txdot.gov) - Keyword Search: 'US 60 Bridge Project'

**Comments must be received or postmarked on or before Friday, Dec. 4, 2020 to be included in the Public Meeting Summary Report**

TxDOT encourages you to review the materials posted on the virtual public meeting web page and provide written comments. Comments must be received or postmarked by Friday, Dec. 4, 2020, to be included in the virtual public meeting summary report. You can submit written comments in the following ways:

By mail to:

Kylan Francis, P.E.  
Director TP&D  
135 Slaton Rd.  
Lubbock, TX 79404

By Email to [kylan.francis@txdot.gov](mailto:kylan.francis@txdot.gov)

Or online by visiting [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) and keyword search 'US 60 Bridge Project'

Again – most importantly, please be sure to submit your written comment no later than Friday, Dec. 4, 2020, which is 15 days after the Nov. 19, 2020 meeting date. The responses to your comments submitted during this time will be included in the virtual public meeting summary report, which will be posted on the meeting web page.



## PROJECT CONTACTS:

**Kylan Francis, P.E.**

**Director TP&D**

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**Lubbock, TX 79404-5201**

**(806) 748-4490**

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**Shelley Harris, P.E.**

**District Design Engineer**

**135 Slaton Road**

**Lubbock, TX 79404-5201**

**(806) 748-4406**

[shelley.harris@txdot.gov](mailto:shelley.harris@txdot.gov)

Call or email these project contacts Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. with any questions at any time in the project development process.

*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.*

Please don't hesitate to contact Kylan Francis or Shelley Harris with any questions about the proposed project. It must be noted that comments on the project must be submitted in writing as previously discussed.

In closing, we want to remind everyone that you can call or email these project contacts Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. with any questions at any time in the project development process.

And don't forget to visit the project meeting web page to view additional project information.

This concludes the virtual public meeting presentation. Thank you!