



**Notice
Finding of No Significant Impact
Available for Public Review
US 59 UPGRADE SHEPHERD TO CLEVELAND
From FM 2914 to 0.65 mile south of SL 573
CSJs: 0177-02-057 and 0177-03-099
San Jacinto and Liberty Counties, Texas**

Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, §2.108, this notice advises the public that the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has issued a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for the proposed US 59 Upgrade Shepherd to Cleveland project from FM 2914 in San Jacinto County to 0.65 mi south of SL 573 in Liberty County, Texas. 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 proposed 6.62 miles long project will bring US 59 up to interstate standards by constructing northbound and southbound frontage roads with two 12-foot wide lanes and reconstructing the existing US 59 main lanes to include two 12-foot wide travel lanes in each direction with median barrier. The proposed project will become a controlled access freeway which means there will not be direct access to the main lanes. Access to the main lanes is allowed via entrance and exit ramps. The proposed project will also include the construction of two overpasses with u-turns at Red Road and just south of the San Jacinto/Liberty County Line.

To avoid noise impacts that may result from future development adjacent to a proposed highway project, a traffic noise analysis is included in the final environmental assessment (EA), which includes predicted noise impact contours for currently undeveloped areas. These impact contours are intended as a general guide to assist local planning officials and developers plan and construct new activities in locations that would not result in traffic noise impacts. On the date of approval/clearance of an EA/FONSI (including the traffic noise analysis) for a proposed highway project, TxDOT is no longer responsible for providing noise abatement for new development. Additionally, as TxDOT does not provide retroactive (retrofit) abatement (known as a Type II program), this project area would not be eligible for potential noise abatement until the next major highway improvement project.

Copies of the approved final EA and FONSI, certification of public involvement, responses to comments received, and supporting documentation are available for public inspection at the TxDOT Lufkin District Office, 1805 N. Timberland Dr., Lufkin, TX 75901, (936)634-4433 and at www.txdot.gov, keyword search "US 59 Shepherd-Cleveland". For further information, please contact Jennifer Adams, I-69 Project Manager, at (936) 633-4469 or at Jennifer.Adams@txdot.gov.