



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



# WELCOME

**VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING WITH  
IN-PERSON OPTION**

**FM 1423 (Val Verde Rd.)**

**From SH 107 to Business 83**

**Hidalgo County, Texas**

**CSJs: 1427-01-032, 1427-01-037, 1427-01-033**

February 14, 2023

## SCRIPT:

The Texas Department of Transportation, Pharr District, would like to welcome you to this virtual public meeting with an in-person option. My name is John Tiemann and I am a member of the FM 1423 project team. This presentation will provide information on the FM 1423 (Val Verde Rd.) project from SH 107 to Business 83. This is a pre-recorded presentation. Thank you for participating in this public meeting.

This is the first public meeting being conducted for this FM 1423 project. This presentation is available for viewing virtually starting on February 14, 2023 and in person on February 15, 2023.

If you're having technical difficulties accessing public meeting information online, please contact Francisco Chapa at (956) 702-6344.

During the virtual meeting, you may pause the presentation and navigate forward or backward using your video player.

## End the streak

**HELP**  
**#EndTheStreakTX**  
End the streak of daily deaths on Texas roadways.

TxDOT.gov (Keyword: #EndTheStreakTX)

#EndTheStreakTX Toolkit

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### SCRIPT:

With safety being a priority at TxDOT, I would like to take a moment to share a message.

November 7, 2000, was the last deathless day on roadways in Texas. That means for over 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.

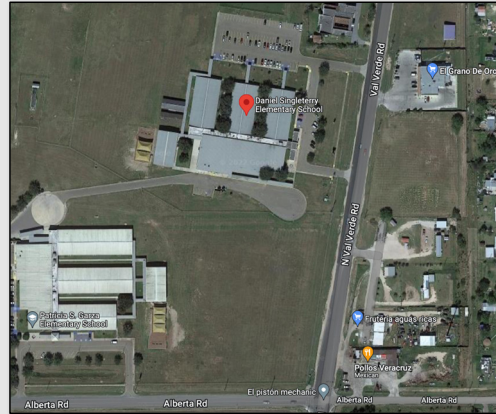
## In-person option details

# In-Person Option

**Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2023**

**From 5 to 7:30 p.m.**

**D. Singleterry  
Elementary School  
9113 Val Verde Rd.  
Donna, TX 78537**



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### SCRIPT:

The virtual public meeting is being held on February 14, 2023, and in conjunction with an in-person option on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. located at D. Singleterry Elementary School, Donna, Texas, 78537. The information presented in the virtual public meeting and the in-person open house are identical.

## Federal environmental laws



### National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance

*Memorandum of Understanding:* 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 Dec. 9, 2019, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and TxDOT.

#### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

TxDOT is following all applicable state and federal laws to identify and review potential solutions for long-term safety and mobility problems along FM 1423 (Val Verde Rd.).

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#### SCRIPT:

With any project that will or has the potential to receive federal funds, TxDOT is required to evaluate the potential environmental constraints of the proposed project. The environmental review process we follow is in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, otherwise known as NEPA.

The NEPA process results in documentation that is provided to decision-makers so they have all the data needed to make an informed decision if the project should proceed.

On the screen is the Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Highway Administration and TxDOT.

So, what does it mean? It means that TxDOT will follow all state and federal laws to identify and review potential solutions for long-term safety and mobility problems on the FM 1423 corridor.

## Public meeting purpose

- Encourage and maintain effective communication with the public.
- Provide project information on the FM 1423 (Val Verde Rd.) project.
- Receive public input.



FM 1423 (Val Verd Rd.) | Southern Portion of Proposed Project

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### SCRIPT:

The purpose of this virtual public meeting with an in-person option is to encourage and maintain effective communication with the public and provide project-specific information as it relates to the FM 1423 project in Hidalgo County.

Your input and comments are an important part of this process, and we encourage you to provide comments on this project. As I mentioned earlier, your continued participation throughout the planning and development of the project is very important. You are encouraged to talk to your neighbors and refer them to TxDOT so they can also make comments and be included in this process.

## Project Limits

### PROJECT LIMITS:

SH 107 to Business 83

### LENGTH:

Approximately 8 miles


### LOCATION:

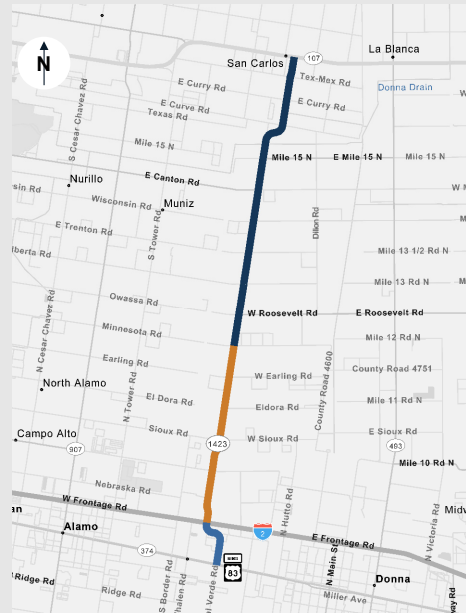
Hidalgo County

#### Legend

 SH 107 to Minnesota Road (CSJ 1427-01-032)

 Minnesota Road to I-2 (CSJ 1427-01-037)

 I-2 to Business 83 (CSJ 1427-01-033)



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## SCRIPT:

This project is in Hidalgo County and its study limits are from SH 107 to Business 83. The project is located in Hidalgo County, with a southern portion located in the City of Donna. Existing land use within the study limits include rural, residential, commercial, and farmland.

## Need and purpose

### NEED

**The proposed project is needed because FM 1423 between SH 107 and Business 83 is experiencing growth and an associated increase in traffic congestion, resulting in reduced mobility.**

### PURPOSE

**The purpose of the project is to improve mobility, safety and increase operational efficiency by constructing additional travel lanes and other operational improvements.**

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#### SCRIPT:

The FM 1423 proposed project is needed because FM 1423 between SH 107 and Business 83 is experiencing growth and an associated increase in traffic congestion, resulting in reduced mobility. The purpose of the project is to improve mobility, safety and increase operational efficiency by constructing additional travel lanes and other operational improvements.

The proposed project is divided into three distinct sections. First from SH 107 to Minnesota Road, second from Minnesota Road to I-2, and lastly, from I-2 to Business 83. Let's go over the improvements for each of these sections.

## FM 1423 project overview

### From SH 107 to Minnesota Road:

- Reconstruct and expand the roadway from two to four lanes with a continuous center left-turn lane.
- Installation of 6-ft to 10-ft sidewalks and/or shared-use paths.
- Installation of concrete curbs and gutters along the roadway for stormwater drainage.



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### SCRIPT:

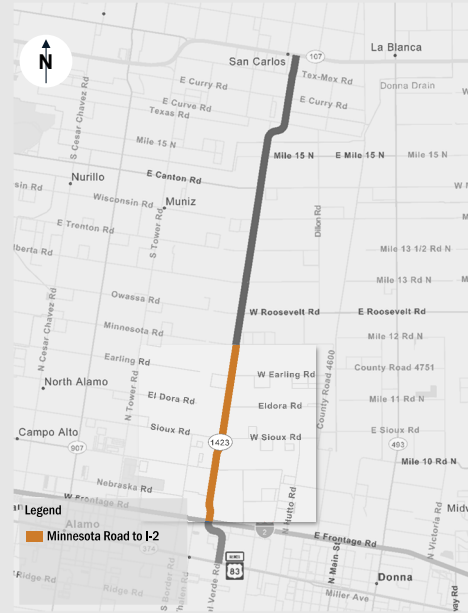
From SH 107 to Minnesota Road, the proposed improvements include:

- Reconstruct and expand the roadway from two to four lanes with a continuous center left-turn lane.
- Installation of 6-ft to 10-ft sidewalks and/or shared-use paths.
- Installation of concrete curbs and gutters along the roadway for stormwater drainage.

## FM 1423 project overview

### From Minnesota Road to I-2:

- Reconstruct and expand the roadway from two to six lanes.
- Add left-turn lanes and a raised median.
- Installation of 6-ft sidewalks and 10-ft shared-use paths.
- Widen Shoulders.



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### SCRIPT:

Next, from Minnesota Road to I-2:

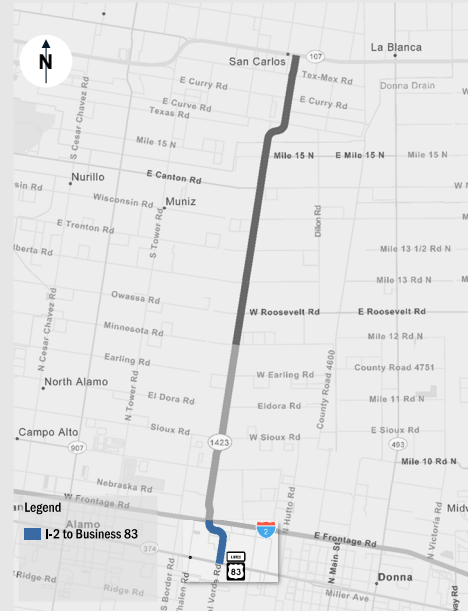
- Reconstruct and expand the roadway from two to six lanes.
- Add a raised median.
- Installation of 6-ft to 10-ft sidewalks and shared-use paths.
- Widen shoulders.

Now, let's cover from I-2 to Business 83.

## FM 1423 project overview

### From I-2 to Business 83:

- Expand the roadway from two to four lanes.
- Installation of 6-ft bike lane adjacent to the outside travel lane.
- Installation of 5-ft sidewalks adjacent to the roadway.



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### SCRIPT:

Lastly, from I-2 to Business 83:

- Expand the roadway from two to four lanes.
- Installation of 6-ft bike lane adjacent.
- Installation of 5-ft sidewalks adjacent to the roadway.

## Project schedule / timeline



**This schedule is approximate and subject to change.**

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### SCRIPT:

We are currently at our first public meeting as part of these proposed improvements, following this activity, the team will prepare a preliminary design called a schematic, and continue environmental studies. We anticipate an approval of the environmental document in Winter of 2024. Following approval, the formal public hearing will be scheduled for Winter of 2024.



**SCRIPT:**

We are currently in the planning phase for this proposed project.

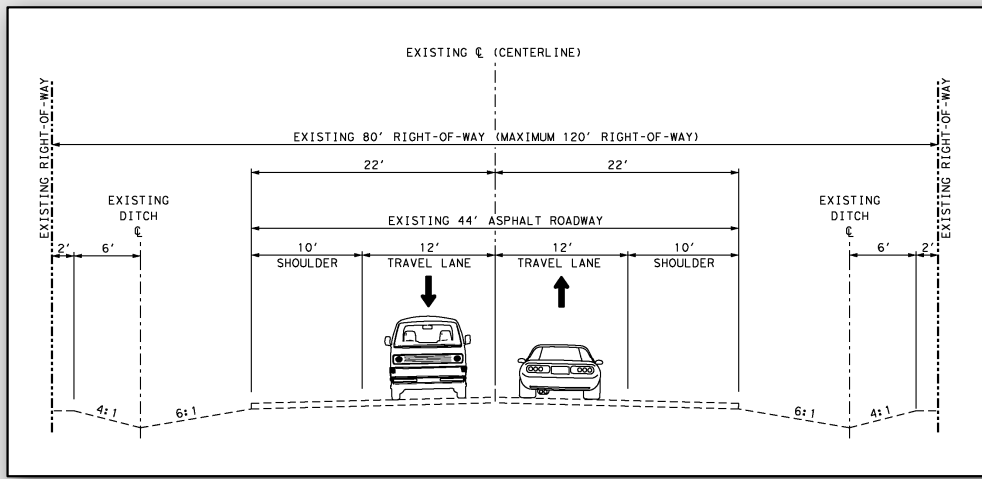
Funding will need to be identified for the next phases. If the proposed project’s schematic design is approved, it could be split into several construction projects that will then individually move forward.

In DESIGN, TxDOT will advance the schematic design into a final design ready for construction. Additional activity occurs, such as right-of-way acquisition and utility adjustments.

Finally, CONSTRUCTION. Construction can take up to two years to complete.

So, this will not be the last time you hear from us. As the project progresses through development and implementation, TxDOT will continue to engage the public and request input as the project is further defined.

## SH 107 to Minnesota Road - today



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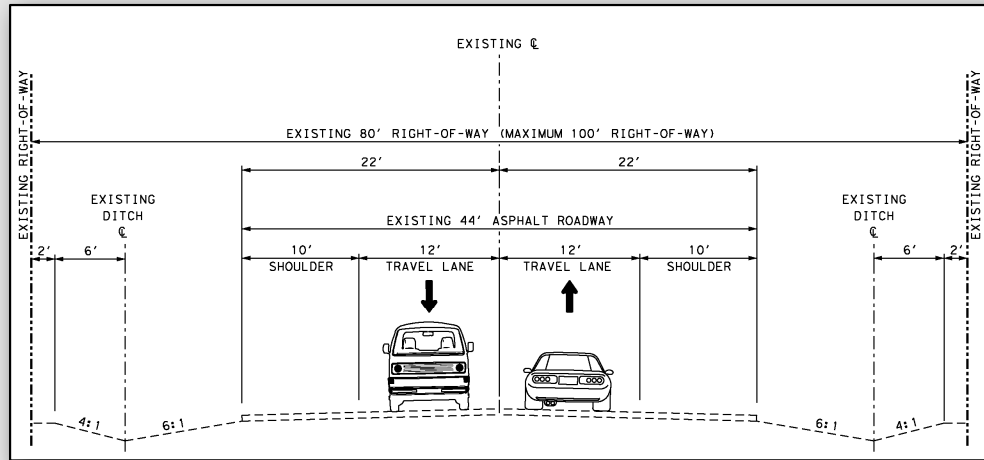
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### SCRIPT:

Now let's talk about FM 1423 as it exists today from SH 107 to Minnesota Road, from Minnesota Road to I-2, and from I-2 to Business 83.

From SH 107 to Minnesota Road, there are two 12-foot-wide lanes, one in each direction, with two 10-foot-wide shoulders.

## Minnesota Road to I-2 - today



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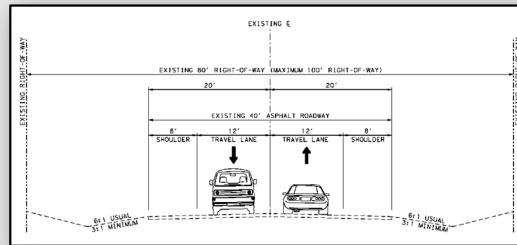
14

SCRIPT:

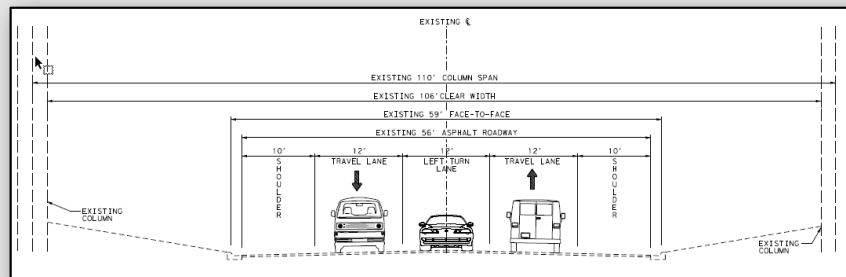
Next, from Minnesota Road to I-2, there are two 12-foot-wide lanes, one in each direction, with two 10-foot-wide shoulders.

## Minnesota Road to I-2 - today

### Approaching I-2 from the north



### At I-2 & FM 1423



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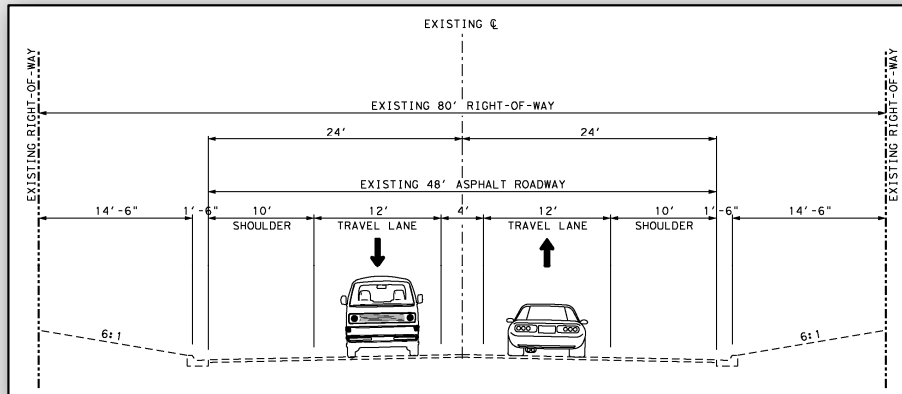
### SCRIPT:

Also, from Minnesota Road to I-2, there are two additional layouts, as FM 1423 exists today:

First, approaching from I-2 from the North, there are two 12-foot-wide lanes, one in each direction, with two 8-foot-wide shoulders.

Second, at I-2 and FM 1423, there are two 12-foot-wide lanes, one in each direction, and one 12-foot-wide center left-turn lane, with two ten-foot-wide shoulders.

## I-2 to Business 83 - today



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### SCRIPT:

Lastly, from I-2 to Business 83, FM 1423 has two 12-foot-wide lanes, one in each direction, with two 10-foot-wide shoulders.

# Alternatives analysis and evaluation

An alternatives analysis and evaluation were conducted, and the findings are available online and at the in-person option.



Go to [TxDOT.gov](http://TxDOT.gov)  
 Keywords:  
**FM 1423 Val Verde Rd**



FM 1423 Alternatives Matrix		
Constraint	Unit	Alternative 1
Limits: SH 107 to Bus 83 (8.4 miles)		
General Description		
		Alignment starts west near Curve Rd to allow for large curve. Alignment avoids an irrigation canal on the east side near 1423. Alignment follows existing right-of-way of SH 2 meeting Bus 83.
Roadway Type		Urban
Bridges	Number	0
Fill in 100-yr Floodplain	Low/Medium/High	0/0/0
Estimated Construction Cost	\$ Million	0.0
Utility Impacts	Low/Medium/High	0/0/0
Total ROW Acquisition	Acres	60.00
Total Number of Parcels	Number	10
Number of Parcels (residential)	Number	10
Number of Parcels (commercial)	Number	0
Number of Parcels (undeveloped)	Number	0
Number of Parcels (school/cemetery)	Number	0
ROW Acquisition (residential)	Acres	60.00
ROW Acquisition (commercial)	Acres	0.00
ROW Acquisition (undeveloped)	Acres	0.00
ROW Acquisition (school/cemetery)	Acres	0.00
Displacements (residential)	Number	0
Displacements (commercial)	Number	0
Displacements (other)	Number	0
Parks/recreational facilities	Number	0
Potential harmful impacts	Low/Medium/High	0/0/0
Community facilities impacts	Number	0
Archaeological impacts	Low/Medium/High	0/0/0
Historic impacts	Low/Medium/High	0/0/0
NWI Wetlands	Acres	0.00
Streams	Number: LF	0
Irrigation Crossings	Number: LF	0
Drainage Crossings	Number: LF	0
Potential T&E impacts	Number: Type	0
Adjacent noise receivers	Number: Type	0
NDD	Acres	0.00
Mexican mud plantain	Acres	0.00
alligator gar	Acres	0.00
Floodplain	Acres	0.00
Soils	Acres	0.00
Prime farmlands	Acres	0.00
Prime Farmland if irrigated	Acres	0.00
Not Prime Farmland	Acres	0.00

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## SCRIPT:

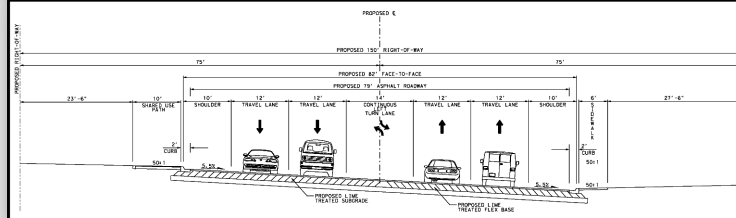
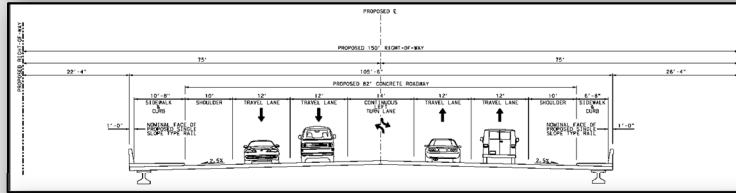
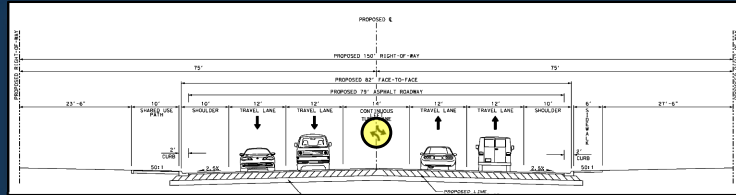
The project team did an analysis of various alternatives that could meet the purpose and need. The findings of this analysis and evaluation resulted in the identification of the build alternative. To learn more about this analysis see the exhibits online or at the in-person option.

## SH 107 to Minnesota Road - proposed



### Alternate Layout

A left-turn lane is only available in some locations for northbound or southbound traffic.



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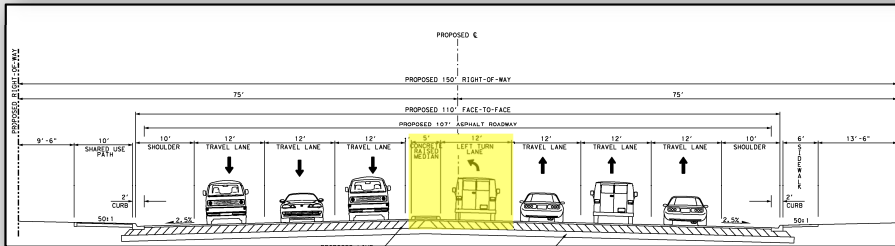
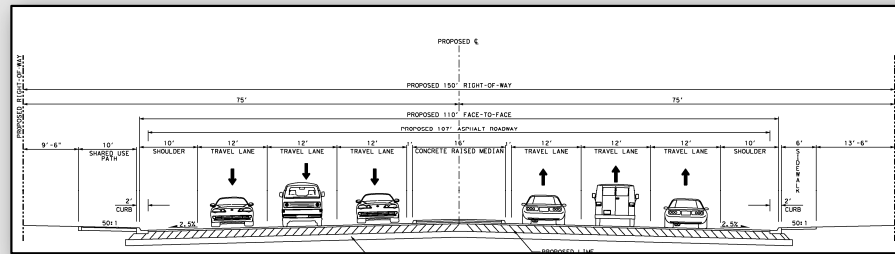
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### SCRIPT:

The proposed improvements from SH 107 to Minnesota Road would consist of four 12-foot-wide lanes, two in each direction, with a 14-foot-wide continuous left turn lane in most sections and restricted left turn lanes in other locations. This section also includes shoulders, sidewalks, and a ten-foot-wide shared-use path.

To view this design closer, we welcome you to review the proposed design exhibit located at the virtual public meeting web page.

## Minnesota Road to I-2 - proposed



### Alternate Layout

The left-turn lane is only available in some locations for northbound or southbound traffic. Where the left-turn lane is not accessible, a concrete raised median will be constructed.

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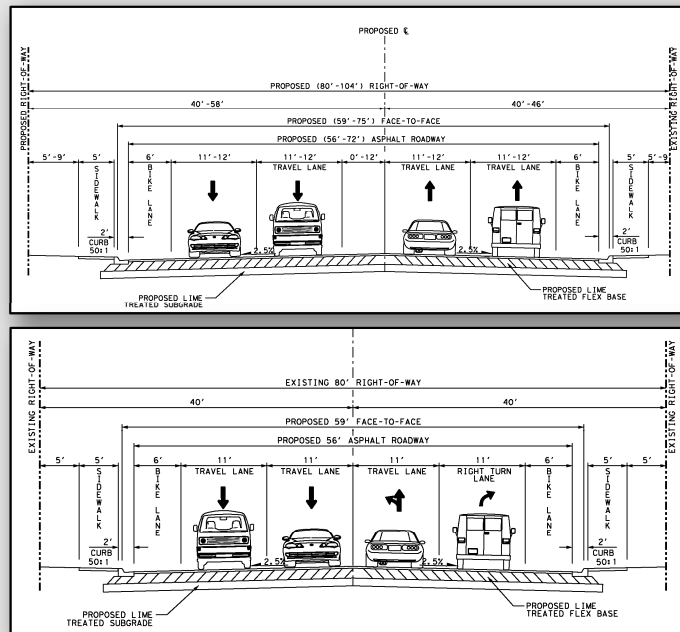
### SCRIPT:

The next few slides begins our discussion of the build alternative.

The proposed improvements from Minnesota Road to I-2 would consist of six 12-foot-wide lanes, three in each direction, with either a 16-foot-wide concrete raised median or a 12-foot-wide left-turn lane and concrete raised median, shoulders, and a 10-foot-wide shared use path and sidewalk.

To view this design closer, we welcome you to review the proposed design exhibit located at the virtual public meeting web page.

## I-2 to Business 83 - proposed



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### SCRIPT:

The proposed improvements from I-2 to Business 83 include four 11-to-12-foot-wide lanes, two in each direction, bicycle lanes, and sidewalks.

In some sections, like shown in the bottom image, there is a designated right-turn only lane and a travel lane with the option for left turns.

To view this design closer, we welcome you to review the proposed design exhibit located at the virtual public meeting web page.

## Engineering schematic

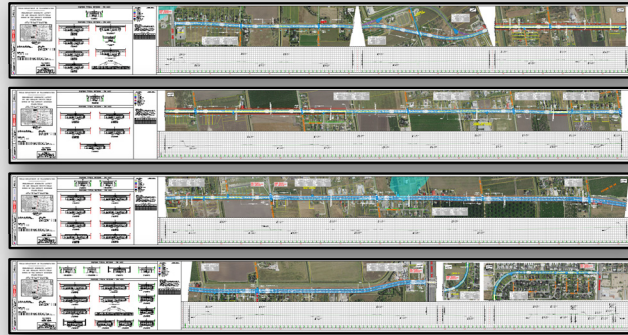
The FM 1423 engineering schematic is available online for viewing and at the in-person option.



Go to [TxDOT.gov](https://www.txdot.gov)

Keywords:

**FM 1423 Val Verde Rd**



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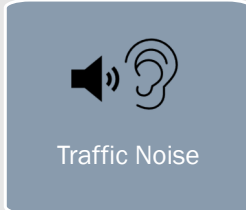
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### SCRIPT:

This slide shows an example of the proposed schematic. A schematic is a more detailed illustration of the proposed improvements as seen from above. For virtual attendees, the schematic is available for download on the project webpage. We recommend that you download the schematic so that you can zoom in and out and more easily see project details. For in-person attendees, hard copies of the schematic are available for viewing. The legend will be found on the schematic to identify what the various colors and lines represent.

## Environmental studies

**These are some of the social, economic, and environmental resources being studied:**



TxDOT will evaluate the proposed project as the **build alternative** and compare it to the **no build, or “do nothing,” alternative**.

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### SCRIPT:

Part of the planning process is to identify environmental resources in the project area and to assess the potential impacts the proposed project could have on the human and natural environment. TxDOT studies important topics like water, traffic noise, vegetation and wildlife, and social and community resources, among many other considerations.

The proposed improvements are what we call the “build” or “preferred” alternative and we will compare it to the no build or “do nothing” alternative.

The no build serves as a baseline for comparison.

TxDOT will design the improvements to avoid or minimize impacts to the greatest amount practicable.

Technical reports documenting the analysis and conclusions of these studies will be available for review once completed at the virtual public meeting web page.

## Right-of-way acquisition process

- Follow federal state laws and policies
- The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policy Act of 1970 (Uniform Act)
- Right-of-Way Brochures are available on the TxDOT Website: <http://txdot.gov/inside-txdot/forms-publications/publications/landowner-rights.html>
- Information about the benefits, services and Right of Way Acquisition schedule can be obtained by calling the TxDOT District Office at (956) 702-6287.

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### SCRIPT:

The Right-of-Way Acquisition Process will follow federal and state laws and policies. The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisitions Policy Act of 1970, known as the Uniform Act, is the federal law that is followed for appraisals, negotiations, and relocation of families and/or businesses. Hard copies of the Right of Way Brochures and Property Owner's Bill of Rights will be available at the Right of Way table at the In-Person public meeting and are also available at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov).

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is the agency responsible for acquiring the additional right of way from the individual property owners for the project. TxDOT will ensure that the Local Public Agency acquires all real property in accordance with the provisions of Title III of the Uniform Act and its associated federal regulations (49 CFR Part 24). All negotiations for right of way conducted are subject to this law and these regulations. Relocation booklets, which provide a general overview of the Relocation Assistance Program and outlines the services offered and any payments for which displaced individuals, families, business, and non-profit organizations may be eligible to receive are available for download on the TxDOT website address listed.

## Environmental documentation

- Approximately 37 acres of new right of way would be required to construct the proposed improvements.
- Potential displacements include 14 non-residential structures.
- 23 residential displacements are anticipated
- Approximately 0.3 acres of right of way are required at the Patricia S. Garza Elementary School recreational field located at 8801 W Alberta Rd, Donna, TX 78537. TxDOT anticipates making a de minimis determination for this use under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966.

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### SCRIPT:

The proposed project would require approximately 37 acres of new right of way. Potential displacements include 14 non-residential structures. 23 residential displacements are anticipated. Approximately 0.3 acres of right of way are required at the Patricia S. Garza Elementary School recreational field located at 8801 W Alberta Rd, Donna, TX 78537. TxDOT anticipates making a de minimis determination for this use under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966.

## Meeting materials

### Public meeting materials are provided on the TxDOT website:

- Presentation and script
- Public Meeting exhibit boards
- Comment card
- Engineering schematic
- Environmental constraints map



Visit [www.TxDOT.gov](http://www.TxDOT.gov),  
keyword search  
"FM 1423 Val Verde Rd"



**Scan Me**



If you have questions or need technical assistance,  
**contact Francisco Chapa** at (956) 702-6344.

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### SCRIPT:

The project website contains all materials presented in this virtual public meeting and in-person open house, including this presentation in both English and Spanish, exhibit boards, a comment card, engineering schematic layout for the project and the environmental constraints maps.

Some of these files are large and may require more time to download than the other project materials.

You may find the project webpage at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) using the keywords "FM 1423 Val Verde Rd". You may also access the project webpage by scanning this QR code with your electronic device.

If you have any questions or if you need technical assistance, please contact Francisco Chapa at (956) 702-6344. And please know you can contact TxDOT and the project team at any time during the project development process to ask questions or voice concerns about the project.

## How to provide comments



### COMPLETE OUR COMMENT FORM

Please access on the TxDOT.gov keywords “FM 1423 Val Verde Rd” virtual public meeting web page or submit your comment at the in-person open house.



### EMAIL

Nolan.Nicolas@txdot.gov



### MAIL

FM 1423 Project Team  
c/o Nolan Nicolas  
600 W. Interstate 2  
Pharr, TX 78577

**To be included in the  
public record,  
COMMENTS MUST  
BE RECEIVED OR  
POSTMARKED BY  
Wednesday, March 1, 2023**

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### SCRIPT:

TxDOT encourages you to review the materials posted on the public meeting web site and to provide written comments.

You may submit written comments by using the comment card found on the project’s web page in the meeting materials section or available at the in-person open house.

The comment card can be emailed to Nolan.Nicolas@txdot.gov or mailed to the FM 1423 Project Team, c/o Nolan Nicolas, 600 W. Interstate 2, Pharr, TX 78577. The comment card can also be submitted at the in-person open house.

Comments must be submitted by email, or mailed and postmarked by Wednesday, March 1 2023, to be included in the official public record. Responses to comments received during the comment period will be included in the public meeting summary report that will be posted on the project webpage when available.

**Thank you for your participation in the  
FM 1423 (Val Verde Rd.)  
In-Person and Virtual Public Meeting**

*Please remember to submit your comments by  
Wednesday, March 1, 2023.*

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**SCRIPT:**

Thank you for participating in this public meeting. Please remember to submit comments by Wednesday, March 1, 2023.

Thank you to the Donna Independent School District, and the faculty and staff at D. Singleterry Elementary School for allowing us to use their facility for the FM 1423 Val Verde Rd. open house.

We appreciate your time today and encourage you to stay engaged. This concludes our presentation.