



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On October 29, 2009, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a Public Hearing to discuss the proposed construction of a new roadway facility, Farm-to-Market (FM) 110 in Hays County, Texas and to solicit public comment on the proposed project. The proposed project included a route study of FM 110 east of the city of San Marcos from Interstate Highway (IH) 35 south of San Marcos at McCarty Lane, to IH 35 north of San Marcos near Yarrington Road. On July 22, 2004, TxDOT conducted a Public Meeting to present background information on the project and to solicit public comment to be used for input as TxDOT developed the Environmental Assessment (EA). The comments that were received at the Public Meeting were taken into consideration while developing the alternatives that will be displayed at this hearing. The purpose of the hearing is to present the preferred alignment, as identified in the EA, and to solicit public comment.

Hays County, in conjunction with the City of San Marcos, is proposing to increase traffic mobility and safety by constructing the FM 110 Loop to the east of San Marcos. The proposed roadway would be a new facility, which would be constructed in phases and would have both rural and urban sections. The Urban sections would be located at the north and south ends of the project only – the rest of the project length would be rural.

The urban section would consist of a four-lane divided facility with controlled access and at-grade separated interchanges at key locations. The interim urban section would have a roadway width of 24 feet which would accommodate two 12-foot travel lanes (one in each direction). The ultimate urban section would add another roadway, which would be 24 feet wide and would also accommodate two 12-foot travel lanes. Directions of travel would be divided by a 14-foot wide flush median. The southern urban section would include 3-foot shoulders and curb and gutter. The northern urban section would not have curb and gutter but would have 4-foot shoulders. The typical right of way width of the urban section on the southern end would be 166 feet; the typical right of way width of the urban section on the northern end would be 220 feet.

The rural section of the proposed roadway would consist of a four-lane divided facility with controlled access and at-grade crossings. The interim roadway width would be 24 feet, which would accommodate two 12-foot travel lanes (one in each direction). This section would also have 10-foot shoulders. The ultimate rural section would be divided by a 76-foot clear zone, 68 feet of which would consist of a grassy median. Each side of the roadway would have a roadway width of 24 feet, which would accommodate two 12-foot travel lanes. Each side would also have one 10-foot shoulder, and one 4 foot shoulder.

There is no potential habitat for federal and/or state listed threatened or endangered species within the project limits. The proposed project would not require the acquisition of public land designated and used as a park, recreation area, wildlife refuge, historic or cultural site, or scientific area. The proposed project is not located over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone and would not require a Water Pollution Abatement Plan to be approved by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

The proposed project would cross 100-year floodplains associated with Cottonwood Creek, the San Marcos River, and their tributaries. Coordination with the local floodplain administrators would be required during the final design phase of the project. Approximately 5.09 acres of



waters of the U.S., including 1.44 acres of wetlands, occur in the proposed right of way and would, therefore, potentially be affected by the proposed project. During field investigations right of entry was not granted to all areas needing to be surveyed for potential wetlands. Once a final alignment and project schematics have been determined and right of entry is obtained, a more accurate assessment of impacts to waters of the U.S. can be determined. It is anticipated that potential impacts to waters of the U.S. would be permitted by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permits for Linear Transportation Crossings and Structural Discharges, with a Pre-Construction Notification possible for some crossings.

The Public Hearing will be held at the San Marcos High School, 2601 East McCarty Lane, San Marcos, Texas. The hearing will be held in the cafeteria and will begin at 6:00 p.m. with an "open house" between 6:00 and 6:30 p.m. During the open house, displays showing the project area and other project information will be available for review. Members of the project team will be available to answer questions. At 6:30 p.m. there will be a formal presentation followed by a public comment period.

Approximately 338.78 acres of additional right of way would be required to construct the proposed roadway facility. It is anticipated that acquisition of this right of way would result in one residential displacement and relocation. The acquisition of properties and relocation assistance for displaced residential and business property owners would be conducted in accordance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended. Information concerning services and benefits available to affected property owners and information about the tentative schedule for right of way acquisition will be available at the hearing.

The approved EA, design schematics, and information concerning construction schedules are available for inspection and copying at the TxDOT's South Travis Area Office, located at 9725 IH 35 South, Austin Texas 78744, (512) 282-2362. These documents will also be available at the City of San Marcos Public Library, 625 East Hopkins Street, San Marcos, Texas 78666, (512) 393-8200.

All interested citizens are invited to attend this public hearing and to provide input. Verbal and written comments may be presented at the public hearing, or written comments may be submitted via regular postal mail. To be included in the official record of the public hearing, written comments must be received by Monday, November 9, 2009. Written comments should be mailed to: Environmental Coordinator, Texas Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426.

The hearing will be conducted in English. However, persons who have special communication or accommodation needs such as language interpreters, and plan to attend the hearing may contact Julie Perales by telephone at (512) 832-7108 or by mail at the above referenced address at least two working days prior to the hearing so that arrangements can be made.