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## **Notice of Public Hearing FM 2234 (McHard Road): from FM 3345 to FM 521**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a public hearing on the proposed widening of FM 2234 (McHard Road) from FM 3345 (Cartwright Road) to FM 521 (Almeda Road), in Fort Bend County, Texas. The hearing will be conducted on Wednesday, March 24, 2010, in the McNair Auditorium of Willowridge High School, 16301 Chimney Rock Road, Houston, Texas 77053. The purpose of the hearing is to discuss the social, economic and environmental effects of the proposed project and receive comments from the public. The hearing will begin with an open house from 6:00 to 7:00 pm. Project staff will answer questions on the proposed project during the open house. The formal public hearing will begin at 7:00 pm, followed by a public comment period.

TxDOT proposes to widen the existing 2-lane undivided highway to a 4-lane divided road with raised median and open ditches for drainage. To do this, TxDOT would need to widen the 100-foot-wide right-of-way to 126 to 170 feet. The project would increase vehicle capacity, reduce congestion and improve highway safety.

Approximately 40 acres of additional right-of-way would be required. Several business and residential displacements are proposed. Staff from the TxDOT Right-of-Way Section will be available to discuss land acquisition procedures and the benefits and programs available for displaced residents and businesses.

The Environmental Assessment, project exhibits, maps and design drawings will be available for review at the hearing, beginning at 6:00 pm. This information, and the tentative schedule for right-of-way acquisition and construction, is available by appointment for review and copying at TxDOT's Houston District Office, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007.

All interested citizens are invited to attend this hearing. Persons interested in attending the hearing that have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact the District Public Information Officer at (713) 802-5072 at least two working days before the hearing. The public hearing will be conducted in English. Requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least two working days before the public hearing. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs. The TxDOT office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, excluding holidays.

Oral and written comments about this project may be presented at the hearing. Written statements may also be submitted to the TxDOT Houston District office at 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, or mailed to the Director of Project Development, TxDOT Houston District, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251, or emailed to [hou-piowebmail@dot.state.tx.us](mailto:hou-piowebmail@dot.state.tx.us). Comments must be postmarked or emailed by April 7, 2010 to be included in the public hearing record.