



NOTICE OF OPEN HOUSE **Loop 82 and SH 80 in San Marcos, Texas**

On Thursday, December 13, 2012, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in cooperation with the City of San Marcos will conduct an Open House to discuss plans to construct intersection improvements on Loop 82 (Aquarena Springs Drive) at IH 35 and on SH 80 (Hopkins Street) at IH 35 in the City of San Marcos, Hays County.

The Open House will be held at the San Marcos Activity Center, Room 1, located at 501 East Hopkins Street, in San Marcos, Texas. The Open House will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. During this time, displays of the project area and other project information will be available for review. Project team members will be present to answer questions.

There is a need to maintain a safe roadway system and address congestion at these two intersections within the City of San Marcos. The purpose of the proposed project is to upgrade the intersection design in order to improve traffic flow and travel time. The main improvements to these two intersections would be operational in nature, consisting of the construction of “displaced” left-turn lanes.

The intersection at Loop 82 and IH 35 would have dual displaced left-turn lanes that would move Loop 82 eastbound traffic to the IH 35 northbound frontage road. The existing U-turn lane would be reconstructed and would move IH 35 southbound frontage road traffic under the IH 35 overpass structure, to merge with one of the dual left-turn lanes on Loop 82, to move traffic north on the IH 35 frontage road. Dual left-turn lanes would be constructed on the IH 35 northbound frontage road that would move traffic to westbound Loop 82. The existing right-turn lane would be reconstructed and would move IH 35 southbound traffic to westbound Loop 82; and, a new right-turn lane would be constructed to move eastbound Loop 82 traffic onto the IH 35 southbound frontage road. No new right-of-way would be required at this intersection.

The intersection at SH 80 and IH 35 would have a new displaced left-turn lane that would move eastbound SH 80 traffic to the IH 35 northbound frontage road. Another displaced left-turn lane would move westbound SH 80 traffic to the IH 35 southbound frontage road. In addition, Short Street would be closed to through traffic and a new right-turn lane would be constructed that would move IH 35 southbound frontage road traffic to westbound SH 80. A revised right-turn lane would also be constructed that would move IH 35 northbound frontage road traffic to eastbound SH 80. With the addition of these proposed turn lanes additional traffic signals would be required in order for the new intersections to function at their optimal level. It is anticipated that approximately 0.19 acre of additional right-of-way would be needed, along Short Street. Acquisition of this right-of-way would result in one commercial displacement.

The proposed project does not encroach on a floodplain, wetland, or a sole-source aquifer recharge zone. Displays of the proposed roadway design and other information concerning the project are available for review at the San Marcos City Hall located at 630 E. Hopkins in San Marcos; at the TxDOT South Austin Area Office, located at 9725 S. IH 35 in Austin; and on the internet at <http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/austin/sh80-lp82.html>.

The Open House will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the Open House with special communication or physical needs are requested to contact Julie Perales at the TxDOT Austin District office at (512) 832-7108 at least 10 business days prior to the Open House so that appropriate



arrangements may be made. TxDOT and the City of San Marcos will make every reasonable effort to accommodate communication or accessibility needs.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend the Open House and provide input on the project. Verbal and written comments may be presented at the Open House. Written comments not submitted at the Open House may be mailed to the TxDOT Austin District Environmental Coordinator, Texas Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas 78761-5426 or faxed to (512) 832-7157, or e-mailed to AUS_Loop82@txdot.gov. All comments received by Monday, December 24, 2012 will be included in the Open House record.