

Notice Draft Environmental Assessment and Virtual Public Hearing with In-Person Option

US 87 From east of US 385 to FM 2589 CSJs: 0425-01-021, 0425-02-037 & 0425-02-040

Hartley and Moore Counties, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing to improve US 87 from east of US 385 to FM 2589 in Hartley and Moore Counties, Texas. This notice advises the public that a draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting a virtual public hearing on the proposed project with an in-person option. **The virtual hearing will be held beginning at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, May 25, 2021.** To log onto the virtual public hearing, go to the following web address at the date and time indicated above: www.txdot.gov, keyword search "US 87 Public Hearing". Once there, you will be able to click and view the virtual public hearing presentation and materials. A presentation of a prerecorded video will include both audio and visual components. Please note that the presentation will not be available on the website until the time and date listed above. Following the virtual public hearing, the presentation will remain available for viewing at the web address indicated above until **Wednesday**, **June 9, 2021 at 11:59 p.m.** If you do not have internet access, you may call (806) 356-3294 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, to ask questions and access project materials during the project development process. Formal comments may be submitted by mail, email or verbally as explained below.

Additionally, TxDOT is providing an in-person option for individuals who would like to participate in person instead of online. In-person attendees will be able to view the same presentation delivered in the online public hearing, which will be playing on a screen, review hard copies of project materials, ask questions of TxDOT staff and/or consultants from a socially distanced approach, and leave written comments. The in-person option will be held on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Moore County Maintenance Barn, 1249 N. Maddox Avenue, Dumas, Texas 79029. Appointments are recommended for the in-person option, but walk-ins will be permitted. Individuals wishing to attend the in-person option may call (512) 636-7754 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, to make an appointment. In recognition of COVID-19, enhanced safety measures will be applied at the in-person option, including the recommendation to have an appointment and follow social distancing practices. If anyone arrives without an appointment, they may be asked to wait outside to ensure we maintain appropriate occupancy within the hearing room.

The project is in Hartley and Moore Counties near the communities of Hartley and Dumas. The purpose of the proposed project is to improve mobility, connectivity and safety along the US 87 corridor. The project length is approximately 19 miles long. The proposed improvements include expanding from the current super-two configuration into a four-lane divided highway along US 87 from east of the US 385 Interchange, near Hartley, to FM 2589 west of Dumas.

The existing right-of-way width varies from 100 feet to 150 feet and the proposed right of way varies from approximately 200 feet to 260 feet.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require additional right of way and potentially displace one residence and seven non-residential structures. Relocation assistance is

available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program and services and benefits for those displaced and other affected property owners, as well as information about the tentative schedule for right-of-way acquisition and construction, can be obtained from the TxDOT district office by calling (806) 356-3200.

The draft EA, any maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the TxDOT Amarillo District Office, 5715 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, Texas, 79110, (806) 356-3200. Project materials are also available online at www.txdot.gov, keyword search "US 87 Public Hearing." The draft EA will also be available in hard copy form for review at the in-person option.

The virtual public hearing and in-person option will be conducted in English. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English is not your primary language or you have difficulty communicating effectively in English, one will be provided to you. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation services or you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend and participate in the virtual public hearing or in-person option, please contact Christopher Johnson, P.M.P., Project Manager, at (806) 356-3294 no later than 4 p.m. CT, on Friday, May 21, 2021. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for the Texas Department of Transportation to arrange.

For both the virtual public hearing and in-person option, members of the public may call (806) 370-8060 to provide verbal testimony beginning at 9 a.m. on May 25, 2021 through 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, June 9, 2021. Formal written comments may also be provided by mail to Blair Johnson, P.E., TxDOT Amarillo District Engineer, 5715 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, Texas, 79110, or submitted by email to AMA_Project_Input@txdot.gov. Responses to verbally provided testimony and written comments will be prepared by TxDOT, included as part of the hearing and project record, and made available online at www.txdot.gov, keyword search "US 87 Public Hearing."

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or virtual hearing or inperson option, please contact Christopher Johnson, P.M.P., Project Manager at (806) 356-3294 or by email at Christopher.Johnson@txdot.gov.

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 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.