



Finding of No Significant Impact for a FHWA Project

Proposed Action: FM 973

Project Limits: From SH 130 to US 290

City: Manor

County: Travis

State: Texas

TxDOT CSJ(s): 1200-03-056

In accordance with 23 CFR Section 771.119 and Section 771.121, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has determined that the Farm-to-Market (FM) 973 project will not have a significant impact on the human or natural environment.

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Preferred Alternative is based on the final Environmental Assessment (EA) dated November 2022 and the entire project record. This decision documents the selection of the Build Alternative, presented in the final EA as the Preferred Alternative, which is described as:

The proposed project would realign and widen a 5.7-mile-long portion of FM 973 by constructing a roadway, partially in a new location, between State Highway (SH) 130 and United States Highway (US) 290 east of Manor in Travis County. The proposed improvements would expand FM 973 from two to six travel lanes - three in each direction - and include a grassy median and turn lanes in various locations. The project would also include drainage improvements, overpasses, sidewalks and shared-use paths.

A Notice of Availability of the draft EA was issued on July 27, 2022.

A virtual public hearing for this project was posted August 11, 2022 through August 26, 2022, with an in-person option on August 11, 2022.

After the public hearing, additional coordination with the City of Manor resulted in a modification of the proposed right of way (ROW) southwest of the FM 973 and US 290 intersection. The schematic and Draft EA presented to the public at the hearing indicated that the proposed project would require the acquisition of 164.2 acres of ROW to accommodate the proposed improvements. As a result of the coordination with the City of Manor, the proposed project would now require the acquisition of 163.1 acres of ROW, a reduction of 1.1 acres.

Public Hearing Documentation has been prepared and is available for review on request.

The final EA and reports contained in the file of record have been independently evaluated by TxDOT and determined to adequately and accurately discuss the need, purpose, alternatives, environmental issues, impacts of the proposed project, and appropriate mitigation measures. These documents provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. These documents are incorporated by reference into this decisional document.

Based upon TxDOT's review and consideration of the analysis and evaluation contained in the EA for this project, and after careful consideration of all social, economic, and environmental factors, including input from the public involvement process, TxDOT hereby issues this Finding of No Significant Impact for the FM 973 project from SH 130 to US 290.

TxDOT will ensure adherence and completion of all project commitments described in the final EA, dated November 2022, Section 8.0. TxDOT will ensure that any and all local, state, or federal permit requirements and conditions are met and otherwise complied with.



Finding of No Significant Impact for a FHWA Project

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 the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

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Doug Booher
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1/18/2023

TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division Director

Date

CSJ	County	Roadway	Limits (From)	Limits (To)	Description	Sponsor	Estimated Cost
0805-04-034	Hays	RM 3237	AT RM 150		Construct roundabout at RM 3237 and RM 150	Hays County	\$1,500,000
0914-33-068	Hays	Robert S. Light	FM 1626	RM 967	Construct a four-lane roadway and a grade-separated crossing with the Union Pacific Railroad	TxDOT, Hays County	\$31,900,000
0113-07-070	Hays	US 290	RM 12	Travis County Line	Reconstruct existing 4-lane roadway to 6-lane divided roadway	TxDOT	\$47,000,000
0914-04-316	Travis	Braker Lane North	Samsung Blvd.	Harris Branch Parkway	Widen current and extend roadway as a four-lane divided roadway with bicycle and pedestrian facilities	Travis County	\$22,715,790
1376-02-042	Travis	Burnet Road	US 183	SL 1 (MoPac)	Installation of operational improvements including medians, left-turn bays, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities	City of Austin	\$31,544,353
1149-01-023	Travis	FM 812	US 183	Bastrop County Line	Realign and widen existing 2 lane roadway to 4 lane divided roadway	TxDOT	\$63,500,000
1200-02-030	Travis	FM 973	Williamson County Line	US 290	Upgrade to 4-lane divided	TxDOT	\$35,923,168
1200-03-056	Travis	FM 973	US 290	SH 130	Realign and widen existing 2-lane roadway to 6-lane divided roadway	TxDOT	\$115,000,000
0914-05-194	Travis	Lakeline Blvd.	Parmer Lane	Lyndhurst Blvd	Add two additional travel lanes and upgrade bicycle and pedestrian facilities	City of Austin	\$14,425,000
0914-04-329	Travis	Pearce Lane	Kellam Road	Wolf Lane	Widen existing two-lane facility to a four-lane divided arterial with bike lanes and sidewalks	Travis County	\$25,520,000
1754-01-024	Travis	RM 1826	Hays County Line	US 290	Reconstruct existing 2-ln roadway to a 4-ln divided roadway with bike and pedestrian path	Travis	\$5,400,000
2100-01-065	Travis	RM 2222	At SL 360		Construct diverging diamond intersection	TXDOT	\$6,023,030
2102-01-073	Travis	RM 2244	Walsh Tarlton Lane	Montebello Road	Construct 4-lane roadway with continuous left turn lane and shoulders.	TxDOT	\$9,675,516
0683-02-073	Travis	RM 620	Aria Dr/Cavalier Dr.	Oak Grove Blvd.	Upgrade existing four-lane roadway to a six-lane divided roadway	TXDOT	\$47,378,500
0683-02-072	Travis	RM 620	SH 71	Aria Dr/Cavalier Dr.	Upgrade existing four-lane roadway to a six-lane divided roadway	TXDOT	\$22,653,000
0683-01-100	Travis	RM 620	North of Hatch Road	Travis County Line	Reconstruct intersection to add overpass at Anderson Mill Road	TxDOT	\$15,000,000
0683-02-067	Travis	RM 620	Williamson/Travis County Line	Colorado River	Widen from 4 to 6-lane divided	TxDOT	\$40,000,000
0440-06-024	Travis	SH 130	0.5 miles N. of E. Howard Lane	E. Howard Lane	Traffic and Revenue Study (T&R) for proposed SB Exit and NB Entrance Ramps along SH 130	TxDOT	\$25,000