



Notice
Virtual Public Hearing with In-Person Option
RM 2243
From 183A to Southwest Bypass
CSJ: 2103-01-038
Williamson County, Texas



The Texas Department of Transportation and Williamson County are proposing the reconstruction and widening of RM 2243 between 183A and Southwest Bypass in Williamson County, Texas. The project would improve roadway design and enhance safety for motorists in the rapidly growing area. This notice advises the public that a draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT and Williamson County will be conducting an online virtual public hearing on the proposed project with an in-person option. **The virtual hearing will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation and will include both audio and visual components. The presentation will be available online on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 9 a.m.** To log onto the virtual public hearing, go to the following web address at the date and time indicated above: www.wilco.org/RM2243. If you do not have internet access, you may call 512-400-4162, extension 1, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, to ask questions and access project materials during the project development process. 512-400-4162, extension 1, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, to ask questions and access project materials during the project development process.

Additionally, Williamson County and TxDOT are 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 County and TxDOT staff and/or consultants from a socially distanced approach, and leave written comments. **The in-person option will be held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Parkside Elementary School, 301 Garner Park Drive, Georgetown, TX 78628.**

For both the virtual public hearing and in-person option, members of the public may call 512-400-4162, extension 2, to provide verbal testimony immediately following the conclusion of the virtual public hearing presentation at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, through 11:59 pm on Wednesday, May 10, 2023. Formal written comments may also be provided by mail or email, as explained below. All verbally provided testimony and written comments received during the comment period will be considered by the County and TxDOT and included as part of the official record. Responses to verbally provided testimony and comments will be prepared by the County and TxDOT, included as part of the hearing and project record and made available online at www.wilco.org/RM2243.

Roadway Design and Alignment

The proposed project would reconstruct and widen the existing rural two-lane roadway to a controlled-access highway, which includes two mainlanes in each direction separated by a concrete barrier, with direct connections to 183A, Ronald Reagan Boulevard, and Southwest Bypass. The proposed project would also include three-lane frontage roads with access ramps on either side of the mainlanes. The first phase of construction will include a single frontage road from 183A to Garey Park, which would serve two-way traffic until the other frontage road is built in a future phase. Additional phases of the project would be developed as growth warrants and funding becomes available.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require additional right of way (ROW) and potentially displace 11 residences and 24 non-residential structures. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about the Williamson County 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 Williamson County Public Affairs Office by calling 512-943-1195.

Existing right of way is currently between 80 – 100 feet. Approximately 350 feet of ROW is expected to be required for the ultimate roadway construction. ROW acquisition has been funded by the City of Leander and Williamson County from 183A to Garey Park.

At least part of the proposed project would occur within the Edwards Aquifer recharge and contributing zones.

The draft EA, any maps and drawings showing the project location and design, and other information regarding the proposed project are on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the Central Maintenance Facility Road and Bridge Office, 3151 S.E. Inner Loop, Georgetown, TX 78626, 512-943-3330. Project materials are also available online at www.wilco.org/RM2243. These materials will also be available in hard copy form for review at the in-person option.

Translation Assistance

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 the Williamson County Public Affairs Office at 512-943-3688 no later than 4 p.m. CT, **Monday, April 17, 2023**. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for the County and TxDOT to arrange.

Public Comments

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted by mail to the Williamson County Public Affairs Office, 710 S. Main Street, Suite 101, Georgetown, TX 78626. Written comments may also be submitted by email to roads@wilco.org. **All written comments must be received on or before Wednesday, May 10, 2023 to be included in the official public hearing record.** Additionally, as stated above, members of the public may call 512-400-4162, extension 2, and verbally provide testimony from **9 a.m. on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, until 11:59 pm on Wednesday, May 10, 2023**. Responses to written comments received and public testimony provided will be available online at www.wilco.org/RM2243 once they have been prepared.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the virtual or in-person hearing options, please contact the Williamson County public involvement team at 512-400-4162, extension 1, or roads@wilco.org.

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.