



Notice

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

**US 281 at SH 71 Interchange
From 1.5 miles north of SH 71 to 2 miles south of SH 71
CSJ: 0252-02-058
Burnet County, Texas**

TxDOT is proposing to construct a new interchange at US 281 and SH 71 from 1.5 miles north of SH 71 to 2 miles south of SH 71 in Burnet County, Texas. This notice advises the public that a draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT 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 posted online by Thursday, April 9, 2026, at 5 p.m. and will remain online until Friday, April 24, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.** To view the virtual public hearing, go to the following web address at the date and time indicated above: www.txdot.gov, keyword search "US 281 at SH 71 Interchange." If you do not have internet access, you may call 512-756-2316 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.

Additionally, TxDOT is providing an in-person option for individuals who would like to participate in person instead of online. The in-person option will be held in an open house format. In-person attendees will be able to view the same presentation delivered in the virtual public hearing, which will be playing on a screen, review hard copies of project materials, ask questions of TxDOT staff and/or consultants, and leave written comments. **The in-person option will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2026, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Marble Falls High School Commons Area, 2101 Mustang Drive, Marble Falls, Texas 78654.**

The proposed project includes constructing a new interchange at US 281 and SH 71 in Burnet County. Upgrades to this intersection will help improve safety and mobility. Proposed improvements include replacing the current cloverleaf interchange with a turbine interchange, adding elevated structures to improve mobility through the interchange, adding frontage roads to separate high-speed through traffic from local traffic, and adding shared-use paths to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require additional right of way and potentially displace one single-family residential structure. 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 512-832-7000.

The proposed project would involve construction in wetlands.

The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain.

The draft EA, any maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. TxDOT Burnet Area Office,

3029 E. SH 29, Burnet, Texas 78611. Project materials are also available online at www.txdot.gov, keyword search "US 281 at SH 71 Interchange." These materials 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 the US 281/SH 71 Interchange Project Team at 512-761-2711 no later than 4 p.m. CT, Monday, April 6, 2026. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for the Texas Department of Transportation to arrange.

La audiencia pública virtual se llevará a cabo en inglés. Si usted necesita un intérprete o un traductor de documentos porque su idioma principal no es el inglés o tiene alguna dificultad para comunicarse eficazmente en inglés, se le proporcionará uno. Si usted tiene alguna discapacidad y necesita ayuda, se pueden hacer arreglos especiales para atender la mayoría de las necesidades. Si usted necesita servicios de interpretación o traducción o usted es una persona con alguna discapacidad que requiera una adaptación para asistir a y participar en la audiencia pública virtual, favor de contactar al equipo del proyecto del intercambio de la US 281/SH 71, al número 512-761-2711 a más tardar a las 4 p.m. hora central lunes, 6 de abril de 2026. Por favor sepa que es necesario dar aviso con anticipación, ya que algunos servicios y adaptaciones pueden requerir tiempo para que TxDOT los organice.

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted by mail to TxDOT Austin District, ATTN: US 281 at SH 71, 1949 S I-35 Frontage Rd, Ste 105, Austin, Texas 78741. Written comments may also be submitted by email to AUS_US281atSH71@txdot.gov. **All written comments must be received on or before Friday, April 24, 2026.** Additionally, members of the public may call 512-553-2821 and verbally provide testimony from 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 9, 2026, until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, April 24, 2026. Responses to written comments received and public testimony provided will be available online at www.txdot.gov once they have been prepared.

If you have any general questions regarding the proposed project or virtual hearing or in-person option, please contact Joe Muck, P.E., at 512-756-2316 or AUS_US281atSH71@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 July 17, 2025, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.