



Virtual Public Meeting Pre-Recorded Video Presentation

FM 565 Improvement Project Chambers County

From State Highway (SH) 99 to SH 146

CSJ: 1024-01-077
(Project Number)

Posted Online: Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021

Welcome to the TxDOT Beaumont District's virtual public meeting for the FM 565 Improvement Project. TxDOT is proposing to widen and improve Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 565 from State Highway (SH) 99 to SH 146 in Chambers County, Texas. We appreciate your interest in the project and thank each of you for your participation.

Please note, for the virtual public meeting you can pause this presentation at any point to allow more time to view the slides or view other documents on the website.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)



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.

Spanish:

La revisión y consulta ambiental, y demás acciones requeridas por las leyes ambientales federales aplicables a este proyecto están siendo o han sido realizadas por el TxDOT de acuerdo a la disposición 23 U.S.C. 327 y a un memorando de entendimiento de fecha 9 de diciembre de 2019, y llevadas a cabo por la Administración Federal de Autopistas (FHWA) y el TxDOT.

Prior to Dec.16, 2014, the Federal Highway Administration, otherwise known as FHWA, reviewed and approved documents prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act, known as NEPA. However, on Dec. 16, 2014, TxDOT assumed responsibility from FHWA for reviewing and approving certain assigned NEPA environmental documents. This memorandum of understanding was renewed on Dec. 9, 2019. This review and approval process applies to this proposed project.

Notices for this virtual public meeting were published on the TxDOT website. The notices also appeared in the Houston Chronicle in English and Spanish on Wednesday November 24th, in Spanish in the La Prensa the week of November 21 through November 27, 2021, and in the Baytown Sun in English and Spanish on Wednesday, November 23, 2021. In addition, notices were mailed to adjacent property owners, elected and public officials, and previous public involvement participants. Notices were also emailed to those who signed up to be on the email list during the previous online comment opportunity or those who subscribed to email updates on TxDOT's FM 565 project page on www.txdot.gov.

Virtual Public Meeting Agenda



- 1 Welcome
- 2 Project Overview
- 3 Environmental Overview
- 4 Project Schedule and Next Steps
- 5 Public Comment Process
- 6 Adjournment



Adam Jack, P.E.
TxDOT Beaumont District Director of
Transportation Planning and Development



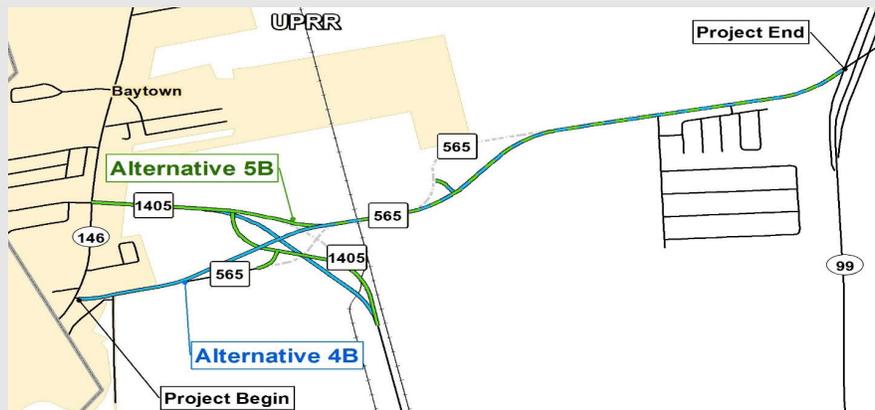
Presenter:
Scott Shashy
Environmental Planner

My name is Scott Shashy and I would like to welcome and thank you for watching this virtual public meeting that was shared with the public starting on Thursday, December 9, 2021. I am presenting on behalf of the TxDOT Beaumont District.

We'll be covering the following areas:

- A project overview;
- Environmental overview;
- Project schedule and next steps;
- The public comment process and then,
- Adjournment – we'll conclude this video presentation.

Project Description

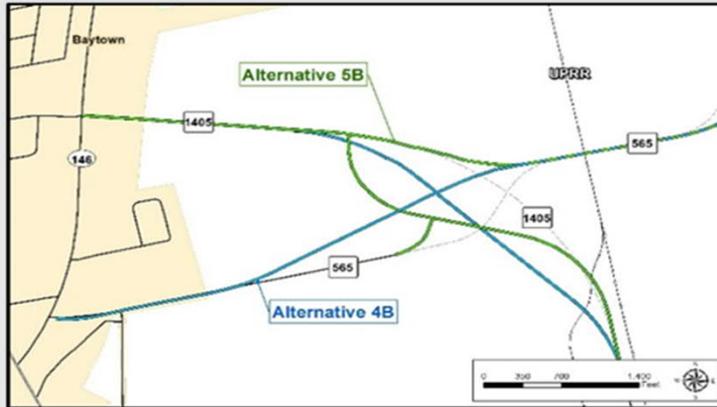


- The proposed improvements to the approximately 2.9-mile-long project include:
 - Replacing the existing two-lane roadway with a four-lane divided roadway with shoulders and a median.
 - Adding a new FM 565 bridge is proposed to overpass the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) crossing.
 - Adding a sidewalk in front of the Tower Terrace neighborhood.
- The project is estimated to cost \$39 million and is fully funded.

The overall proposed improvements to the approximately 2.9-mile-long project include:
Replacing the existing two-lane roadway with a four-lane divided roadway with shoulders and a median;
Adding a new FM 565 bridge to overpass the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) crossing;
and
Adding a sidewalk in front of the Tower Terrace neighborhood.

The project is estimated to cost \$39 million and is fully funded.

Project Alternatives: FM 565 and FM 1405 Intersection



- Alternative 4B, in blue, would move the intersection of FM 565 and FM 1405 further to the west.
- Alternative 5B, in green, would re-route FM 565 traffic to SH 146 by way of FM 1405.

As a result of public feedback following the August 2019 online comment opportunity, the project now includes two alternative intersections of FM 565 and FM 1405. The intersection must be moved further to the west so the bridge over the UPRR has room to safely reach existing ground level.

Alternative 4B, in blue, would move the intersection of FM 565 and FM 1405 further to the west.

Alternative 5B, in green, would re-route FM 565 traffic to SH 146 by way of FM 1405.

The full schematics presenting these alternatives in detail are posted online for review and will be available at the in-person event.

Why is the Proposed Project Needed?



- The proposed project improves safety, connectivity and operational efficiency for vehicles traveling on FM 565.

Traffic Prediction*

Projected (2024)		11,900 vehicles per day
Projected (2044)		16,200 vehicles per day
Projected (2054)		18,000 vehicles per day

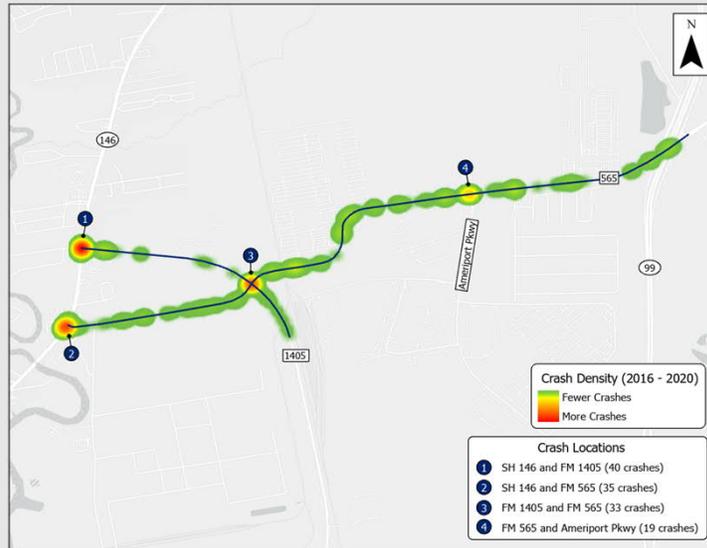
* Traffic volumes were generated by the TxDOT Transportation Planning and Programming Division.

Why is this proposed project needed?

The proposed project is needed to improve safety and mobility in the project area.

Traffic on FM 565 is projected to increase from 11,900 vehicles per day in 2024, to 16,200 vehicles per day in 2044, and to 18,000 vehicles per day in 2054. These increases in traffic volumes will increase congestion on the corridor.

Where are crashes occurring along FM 565 and FM 1405?



TxDOT– FM 565 Improvement Project

Dec. 9, 2021

7

This slide depicts the existing crashes along FM 565 and FM 1405 in a heat map. In these maps, bright red indicates a high density of crashes.

According to data collected between 2016 and 2020, crashes along the corridor were concentrated at the following intersections:

1. FM 1405 and SH 146 Intersection
2. FM 565 and SH 146 Intersection
3. FM 565 and FM 1405 Intersection
4. FM 565 and Ameriport Parkway Intersection

Next, we would like to provide you with a summary of our public involvement efforts – giving you a quick look at how TxDOT used public feedback to guide the decision-making process.

Online Comment Opportunity – August 2, 2019 to September 6, 2019



Online Comment Opportunity :

- 804 Total Page Views with 559 Unique Visitors
- 15 written comments were received
- Public feedback included:
 - Support for UPRR Bridge
 - Property impact concerns
- Based on feedback, TxDOT:
 - Identified two potential alternatives for further study
 - Reviewed property impacts

All comments included August/September 2019 Documentation of Online Opportunity for Comment report available online at www.txdot.gov

TxDOT previously solicited the public's continued input regarding proposed alternatives through an online engagement survey, which was live from Aug. 2, 2019, to Sep. 6, 2019. During this timeframe, the webpage had 804 total views, with 559 unique visitors.

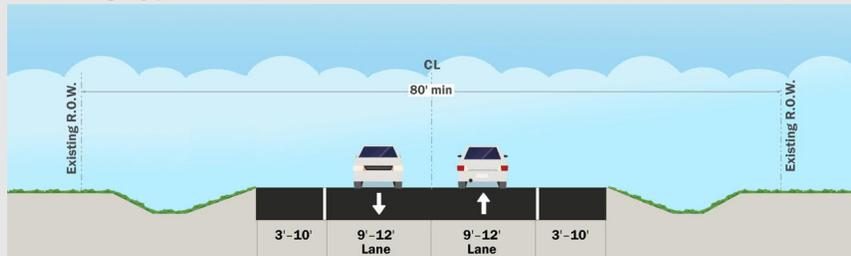
The purpose of the online engagement was to receive feedback from stakeholders and the community along the FM 565 corridor to assist TxDOT in making the selection of a recommended alternative. The alternatives presented included: 1) a crossing of the UPRR within existing ROW with a new FM 1405 intersection north of the existing intersection; 2) crossing of the UPRR on new right of way with a new FM 1405 intersection north of the existing intersection; and 3) a crossing of the UPRR on new right of way with a new FM 1405 intersection west of the existing intersection.

TxDOT received 15 comments from the public as part of the first public meeting outreach effort. TxDOT used this feedback to identify two potential options, which were both variations of Alternative 1. In addition, TxDOT received feedback regarding property impact concerns in the project area. In response, TxDOT reviewed areas of concern in the area to minimize impacts and identify solutions.

Existing Roadway Design vs. the Proposed Roadway Design

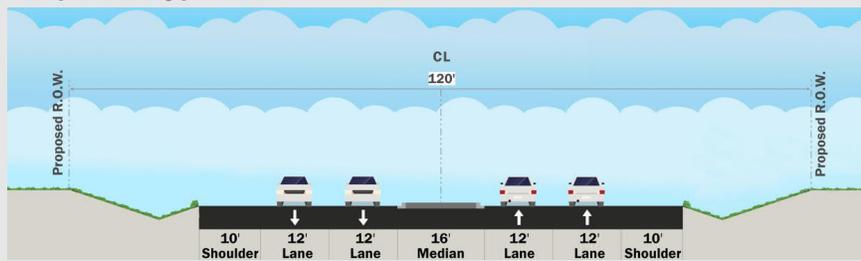


Existing Typical Section



- Two 9- to 12-foot-wide lanes in each direction
- 3- to 10-foot-wide shoulders
- Located within a right of way of approximately 80 feet

Proposed Typical Section



- Two 12-foot-wide lanes in each direction
- A 16-foot raised median
- 10-foot-wide shoulders
- Located within a typical right of way width of 120 feet

TxDOT– FM 565 Improvement Project

Dec. 9, 2021

9

Let's talk about the proposed design changes.

Within the project limits, FM 565 is a two-lane, undivided highway with one nine- to twelve-foot-wide travel lane in each direction, with three to ten-foot-wide outside shoulders. The typical right of way width is approximately 80 feet. There are currently no bicycle or pedestrian facilities within the project limits.

The proposed typical section illustrates how the roadway would look in the future once the project is complete. The roadway would consist of two 12-foot-wide main lanes in each direction separated by a 16-foot-wide raised median, and ten-foot-wide shoulders to provide access for emergency vehicles. Adding the additional travel lanes and shoulder space would require a typical right of way width of 120 feet.



- Environmental technical reports and an Environmental Assessment will be prepared for the proposed project to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- The environmental studies will identify and assess potential impacts to the natural and human environment, including:
 - Air Quality
 - Archeological Resources
 - Non-Archeological Historic Properties
 - Community Impact Assessment
 - Biological Resources
 - Hazardous Materials
 - Traffic Noise
 - Indirect and Cumulative Impacts
 - Water Resources

The environmental technical reports and Environmental Assessment for this project would comply with the National Environmental Policy Act. In addition, 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 United States Code 327. This also includes the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 9, 2019 and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and TxDOT.

The environmental studies will identify and assess potential impacts by the proposed project to the natural and human environment including:

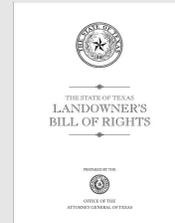
- air quality;
- archeological resources;
- non-archeological historic properties;
- community impact assessment;
- biological resources including threatened and endangered species and vegetation types;
- hazardous materials;
- indirect and cumulative impacts;
- traffic noise; and
- water resources.

Right-of-Way (ROW) Acquisition Information



- Additional right of way (ROW) as well as construction and drainage easements are anticipated.
- The proposed project would potentially displace two residences.

42 USC CH. 91—UNIFORM RELOCATION ASSISTANCE AND REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION POLICIES FOR FEDERAL AND FEDERALLY ASSISTED PROGRAMS From TITLE 42—THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE	
CHAPTER 61—UNIFORM RELOCATION ASSISTANCE AND REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION POLICIES FOR FEDERAL AND FEDERALLY ASSISTED PROGRAMS	
SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS	
501.	Definitions.
502.	Effect upon property acquisition.
503.	Additional applications for moving costs, relocation benefits and other expenses incurred in acquisition of lands for National Park System; waiver of benefits.
504.	Contractor.
505.	Displaced persons not eligible for assistance.
506.	Declaration of findings and policy.
507.	Moving and related expenses.



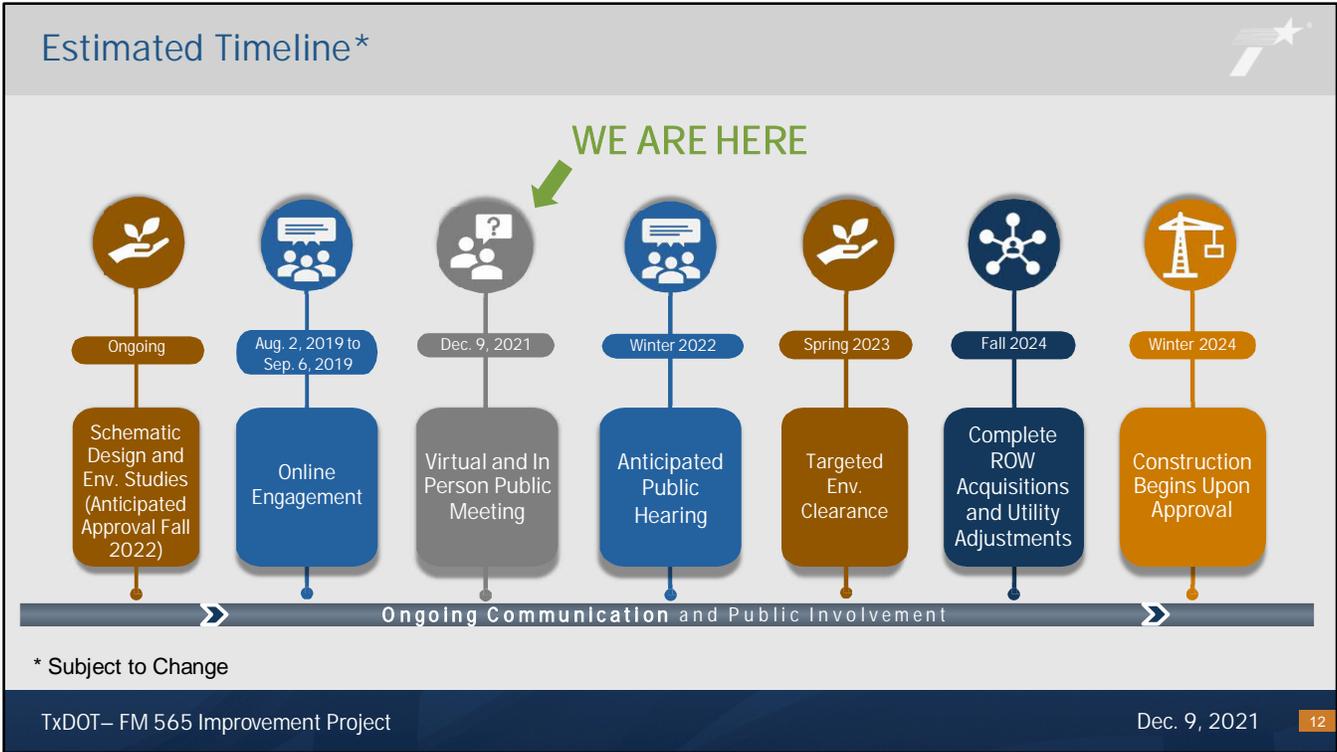
Please visit www.txdot.gov for more information about the Uniform Act and TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program information

Let's talk about the right of way acquisition process.

Additional right of way (ROW) as well as construction and drainage easements are anticipated as part of the proposed project.

The proposed project would potentially displace two residences.

We invite you to review more information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program concerning services and benefits for displaced persons and businesses if needed on the TxDOT website on www.txdot.gov.



We wanted to also highlight the estimated project timeline.

Look for the green “We are here” arrow, which indicates where we are in the project process right now. Currently, design refinements are underway with a final schematic anticipated in Fall 2022. A draft environmental document is also anticipated to be complete in Fall 2022 with a public hearing planned for Winter 2022. Upon approval of the environmental document, environmental clearance is anticipated in Spring 2023. Right of way acquisition and utility relocations will be initiated after environmental clearance and are expected to be complete by Fall 2024. Construction is then anticipated to start in Winter 2024 upon approval. Construction communication will be provided on the Beaumont District Twitter site, and we’ll feature more information about how to stay informed in just a few minutes.

How to Submit Your Comments

- Email: bmtprojects@txdot.gov
- Mail: Texas Department of Transportation, Lisa Collins, P.E., Project Manager 8350 Eastex Freeway Beaumont, TX 77708
- Submit Online:
 - Visit www.TxDOT.gov
In the upper right-hand
Search box enter: FM 565 - Chambers
County.
 - Then click: 
- Call:
 - (832) 271-0394 to leave a recorded voicemail in English or Spanish from Dec. 9, 2021 until Jan. 7, 2022.
 - (409) 898-5732 with any questions throughout the project development process.

Virtual Public Meeting with an In-Person Option - FM 565 Improvement Project

[Texas Department of Transportation](#) - [Inside TxDOT](#) - [Get Involved](#)
[About Public Hearings, Meetings and Notices](#) - [Hearings, Meetings and Notices Schedule](#)

When: Virtual: Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021
(pre-recorded video presentation will be posted by noon)
In-Person: Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021, 4-7 p.m.

Where: Virtual: All meeting materials will be added to this page below by 5 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021
In Person:
Jenkins Park Pavilion
4334 Crosby Cedar Bayou Rd. Baytown, TX 77521

Purpose: The TxDOT Beaumont District will host a virtual public meeting with in-person option to gather input on the proposed [FM 565 Improvement Project](#), which includes reconstructing and improving FM 565 in Chambers County, Texas from SH 99 to SH 146. This notice advises the public that TxDOT will be conducting an online virtual public meeting on the proposed project with an in-person option. In-person attendees will be able to view the same presentation delivered in the virtual public meeting, review hard copies of project materials, ask questions and leave written comments. All comments must be received on or before Friday, Jan. 7, 2022, to be part of the public meeting record.

**Submit Your
Comments Button**

Submit Your
Comment

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Updates

Contact Us

*Comments must be received or
postmarked by Friday, Jan. 7, 2022
to be included in the public meeting
summary report.*

TxDOT– FM 565 Improvement Project

Dec. 9, 2021

13

TxDOT is committed to continuing our efforts to gain public feedback about this project. We understand that this virtual public meeting format is a bit different, so let's take a few minutes and explain the comment process – the most important part of this video.

The Beaumont District is asking the public to provide their comments in the following ways:

Email your comments to: bmtprojects@txdot.gov

Mail your comments to:

Texas Department of Transportation

Lisa Collins, P.E., Project Manager

8350 Eastex Freeway

Beaumont, Texas 77708

Submit your comments online:

Visit www.txdot.gov

In the "Search TxDOT" box in the upper-right hand corner, enter: FM 565 - Chambers County

Click on the "Submit Your Comments" button at the top right of the page, or click on the Email link at the bottom of the page

Call (832) 271-0394 to leave a recorded voicemail in Spanish or English. The comment line opens on Thursday, Dec. 9 at noon and closes on Friday, Jan. 7 at 11:59 p.m.

You may call (409) 898-5732 with any questions throughout the project development process.

If you would like your comments to be part of the official public meeting record, please be sure to submit your comments no later than Friday, Jan. 7, 2022. The responses to your comments submitted during the comment period will be included in the online virtual public meeting summary report. This report will be posted to the TxDOT website as soon as it becomes available.

We appreciate your understanding with this comment process.



Sign up for email updates by visiting
www.txdot.gov and search keywords:
FM 565 - Chambers County

FM 565 - Chambers County

[Texas Department of Transportation](#) > [Inside TxDOT](#) > [Projects](#) > [Projects & Studies](#)
> [Beaumont District](#)

**Subscribe to
Updates Button**

[Subscribe to Updates](#)

TxDOT's Beaumont District is proposing to reconstruct FM 565 from SH 99 to SH 146 on the east side of Baytown in Chambers County, Texas.

Proposed Benefits

The proposed project is anticipated to improve safety, enhance mobility and reduce congestion.

We encourage the public to stay informed about the project in the following ways:

First, sign up to receive email updates. Visit www.txdot.gov and in the upper-right hand corner, enter: FM 565 - Chambers County in the search box. Click on the project page, and then click on the upper-right hand button called: Subscribe to Updates. When there is a project update, an email will be sent to you.

We also invite you to view the various project materials on the TxDOT website. For example, the detailed schematics allowing you to see the design alternatives in detail is available online now.

Quick Contacts – Engage TxDOT Online



- Contact the TxDOT Beaumont District office with any questions at: **(409) 898-5732**
- Email bmtprojects@txdot.gov
- Follow us: Twitter - Beaumont: <https://twitter.com/TxDOTBeaumont>
- Like us: TxDOT Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TxDOT/>



Secondly, don't hesitate to contact the Beaumont District office with any questions.

You can contact the Beaumont District by calling (409) 898-5732 or email bmt projects at txdot dot gov.

And don't forget to follow us on Twitter at TxDOT Beaumont for ongoing road closures and construction updates on the Beaumont District Twitter page. You can also keep up with TxDOT news on our TxDOT Facebook page.



Thank you for watching!

*Please submit your comments by
Friday, January 7, 2022.*

Thank you for watching! Be sure to submit your comments by Friday, January 7, 2022.
Thank you again and please, stay safe.

This concludes the presentation. The virtual public meeting is adjourned.