



**Notice
Virtual Public Hearing with In-Person Option**

**IH 45 Central Walker County Widening Project Segment 2B
From SH 30 to 0.7 miles south of FM 1696
CSJ: 0675-06-103
Walker County, Texas**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is conducting an online virtual public hearing with an in-person option for the proposed widening of IH 45 from SH 30 to 0.7 miles south of FM 1696 in Walker County, Texas. The focus of the project is to enhance safety, relieve congestion, and improve mobility along the corridor. The proposed improvements were previously presented in public meetings held in November 2016 and August 2018.

This notice advises the public that TxDOT will be conducting an online virtual public hearing for 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 video presentation will be posted online by **Thursday Jan. 13, 2022 at 4 p.m.** 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 "**IH 45 Segment 2B Hearing**". If you do not have internet access, you may call Neal Riddle, P.E., at 979-778-9791 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. 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 **Thursday, Jan. 13 from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** at the **Walker County Storm Shelter** located at 455 SH 75, Huntsville, Texas 77320

For both the virtual public hearing and in-person option, members of the public will be provided a phone number to call and offer verbal testimony immediately following the conclusion of the in-person hearing option or at any time during the virtual public hearing option from Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022 through Friday, Jan. 28, 2022. Formal written comments may also be provided by mail or email as explained below. All verbally provided testimony and timely written comments will be considered by TxDOT and included as part of the official record. Responses to verbally provided testimony and comments will be prepared by TxDOT upon completion of the formal comment period and included as part of the hearing and project record.

Segment 2B is a proposed widening project that extends 4.7 miles along IH 45 within the city limits of Huntsville with a usual right of way of 400 feet. The project would widen IH 45 from four to six lanes including reconstruction and realignment of freeway main lanes and ramps. In addition, the project would create two new interchanges: (i) near San Jacinto Street (west of IH 45) and Moffett Springs Road (east of IH 45); and (ii) north of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Headquarters. A raised median along SH 75 from Brookview Drive to FM 2821 would be constructed to reduce vehicle turning conflicts. The project would also improve drainage structures, bridges, frontage roads, and crossroads adjacent to new ramps and interchanges.

Although additional right of way would be required, no residential or non-residential structures are anticipated to be displaced at this time. Information concerning services and benefits available to

affected property owners and information about the tentative schedule for right-of-way acquisition and construction can be obtained from the TxDOT district office by calling (979) 778-9607.

The proposed project would involve construction in wetlands and would involve an action in a floodplain.

Any environmental documentation or studies, 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. at the TxDOT Bryan District Office located at 2591 North Earl Rudder Freeway, Bryan, Texas 77803 (phone: 979-778-2165). The project materials in hard copy form presented at the in-person option will also be available online at <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/bryan/i45-central-walker.html>.

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 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 Bob Colwell, at (979) 778-9764 no later than 4 p.m., Monday, Jan. 10, 2022. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for the Texas Department of Transportation to arrange.

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Bryan District Office, Attn: Jann Keong Kam, P.E., 2591 North Earl Rudder Freeway, Bryan, Texas 77803. Written comments may also be submitted by email to JannKeong.Kam@txdot.gov. All written comments must be received on or before **Friday, Jan. 28, 2022**. **Additionally, as stated above, members of the public will be provided a phone number to call and verbally provide testimony from 4:00 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 13 until 11:59 p.m., Friday, Jan. 28, 2022.**

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or virtual hearing or in-person option, please contact Neal Riddle, P.E., TxDOT Project Manager, by phone at 979-778-9791.

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.