



## SH 21 Relief Route Madison County, Texas

### OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

The Bryan District of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has evaluated alternatives for a proposed relief route for State Highway (SH) 21 around the south side of the city of Madisonville in Madison County, Texas. The proposed relief route would be on new location and would require the acquisition of additional right of way (ROW). The purpose of this relief route would be to alleviate congestion through the community of Madisonville while increasing safety, connectivity, and mobility along the SH 21 corridor.

Due to factors such as traffic and population growth, existing traffic volumes, and funding constraints, the roadway could be constructed in multiple stages. First, the facility could be built in multiple sections along the length of the relief route by connecting major crossing routes. Within each section, the full roadway configuration could be built in two separate phases; an initial phase and a future phase. This would allow for the preferred alternative's initial phase to provide immediate relief to Madisonville and then build the future phase as traffic volumes warrant improvements.

The initial phase would consist of a limited access rural two-lane undivided roadway with 10-foot wide shoulders (**see the attached exhibit**). Intersections could be at-grade or grade separated depending on traffic demand. The initial phase would be constructed on one side of the proposed ROW to allow room for construction of the future phase. The typical ROW width would be 250 to 300 feet and could widen at major crossing routes to accommodate the slopes and ramps.

The future phase would be a limited access rural four-lane roadway divided by a grass median with 10-foot wide shoulders. The two lanes of the initial phase would change to one-way operation once the future phase is opened. All major intersections would be grade separated with ramp access in the future phase.

After tonight's meeting, all comments will be considered as we continue to develop the project. As the project continues into the schematic development phase, an Environmental Assessment will be prepared to document project impacts to threatened and endangered species, vegetation and wildlife, farmlands, waters of the U.S., floodplains, cultural resources, hazardous materials, community cohesion, environmental justice populations, land use, and traffic noise. Additionally, indirect effects resulting from the project would be evaluated.

In addition to the alternatives around the south side of Madisonville, TxDOT is also studying a relief route corridor connecting SH 21 around the north side of Madisonville. Alternatives for the northern route have not yet been developed; therefore, the northern relief route will not be included in the schematic and Environmental Assessment that would be prepared for the southern route. Development of alternatives for the northern route will occur as the need arises.

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 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

For more information please visit our project webpage:

<http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/get-involved/about/hearings-meetings/bryan/120417.html>

# SH 21 Relief Route Madison County, Texas Preliminary Typical Sections

