



1701 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND DRIVE, CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78416 | 361.808.2300 | WWW.TXDOT.GOV

Notice

Draft Environmental Assessment and Opportunity for a Public Hearing

FM 70/SH 286 Passing Lanes

FM 70 from SH 286 to US 77 and on SH 286 from south of FM 2444 to FM 70

CSJs: 0326-01-067, 0326-01-061, and 1558-03-030

Nueces County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing to construct passing lanes and widen shoulders on Farm to Market (FM) 70 from State Highway (SH) 286 to U.S. Highway (US) 77, and on SH 286 from south of FM 2444 to FM 70 in Nueces County, Texas. This notice advises the public that a draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT is affording an opportunity for a public hearing on the proposed project.

TxDOT is proposing to construct 12-foot-wide intermittent passing lanes and add 10-foot-wide shoulders on each side of the roadway. In addition, improvements would be made to the existing FM 70/SH 286 intersection. Throughout the project limits, ditches would be regraded and drainage structures would be widened or replaced, where needed. The proposed project is approximately 25 miles long. The existing right-of-way (ROW) width varies from 80 to 120 feet. The proposed ROW would typically be 150 feet in width, however in some areas, proposed ROW would be up to 210 feet in width.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require additional ROW and potentially displace two residences and two non-residential structures. The non-residential structures consist of an agricultural building and a storage building. 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 ROW acquisition and construction, can be obtained from the TxDOT Corpus Christi District office by calling 361-808-2495.

The proposed project is anticipated to impact the Chapman Ranch, which may be protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966. The Chapman Ranch is located at the intersection of FM 70 and SH 286.

The proposed project would involve construction in potential waters of the U.S., as well as actions in floodplains.

The draft EA, 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 by calling Jason Alvarez, P.E., at 361-808-2495 at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416. Project materials are also available online at www.txdot.gov using keyword "FM 70."

The project materials are written 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

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have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation services or are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to review the project materials or submit information, please contact Rickey Dailey, TxDOT Corpus Christi District, at 361-808-2544 no later than 4 p.m. CT, at least three business days before the date on which you would like to review the project materials or submit information. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange.

Any interested person may submit a written request for a public hearing on this project. Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are also requested. Written hearing requests and comments may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office, 1701 S. Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78416, or by email to Jason.Alvarez@txdot.gov. All hearing requests and comments must be received on or before Saturday, June 4, 2022. A hearing will be held if ten or more individuals submit timely written requests for a hearing, or if an agency with jurisdiction over the project submits a timely written request for a hearing that is supported by reasons why a hearing will be helpful. Responses to comments received will be available online at www.txdot.gov, using keyword “FM 70,” once they have been prepared.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project, please contact Jason Alvarez, P.E., at (361) 808-2495 or by email at Jason.Alvarez@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 December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

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