



Notice of Public Meeting
FM 3097 (Horizon Road) Project
From Tubbs Road to FM 549
CSJ: 3148-01-013
Rockwall County, Texas



The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and Rockwall County are proposing improvements to Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 3097 (Horizon Road) from Tubbs Road to FM 549 in the cities of Rockwall and Heath, Rockwall County, Texas. This notice advises the public that TxDOT and Rockwall County will be conducting an in-person and an online virtual public meeting on the proposed project. **The same information will be available at both the in-person and virtual meetings.**

In-Person Meeting*

Thursday, November 16, 2023, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Cain Middle School Cafeteria
6620 FM 3097 (Horizon Road) , Rockwall, Texas 75032
*Open House

Virtual Meeting**

Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 6 p.m.
to Friday, December 1, 2023, at 11:59 p.m.
<http://www.keepitmovingdallas.com/projects/fm-roads/fm3097>

**Not a live event

The in-person public meeting will begin at 6 p.m. and will be an open house format where the public may come and go at their convenience. Staff will be available to answer questions and receive written comments. The virtual meeting can be viewed beginning Thursday, November 16, 2023, starting at 6 p.m. through Friday, December 1, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. The virtual public meeting materials will be posted to the project website at <http://www.keepitmovingdallas.com/projects/fm-roads/fm3097> and will consist of a prerecorded video presentation that includes both audio and video components, along with other exhibits. The virtual public meeting is not a live event and the materials can be viewed at your convenience. If you do not have internet access, please call (214) 320-6624 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday to ask questions and access project materials.

The proposed improvements would widen the existing FM 3097 (Horizon Road) from two 11-foot-wide lanes (one in each direction) to four 12-foot-wide lanes (two in each direction) separated by a raised median from Tubbs Road to FM 549, a distance of approximately 1.9 miles, in the cities of Rockwall and Heath, Rockwall County, Texas. An eight to 10-foot-wide shared use path is proposed along both sides of FM 3097 (Horizon Road) within project limits. The existing typical right-of-way (ROW) width varies between approximately 100 to 130 feet. The proposed typical ROW width would vary between approximately 100 to 320 feet. Approximately 8.4 acres of additional ROW would be required.

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 ROW acquisition and construction can be obtained from the TxDOT ROW office by calling (214) 320-6675.

The proposed project is anticipated to affect a portion of existing trail in the City of Heath that is protected under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966. The trail is adjacent to FM 3097 (Horizon Road) from Little Buffalo Creek to FM 549. The proposed project would reconstruct a portion of the trail across the tributary of Little Buffalo Creek to accommodate a proposed culvert extension. No modifications are proposed to the trail from the tributary of Little Buffalo Creek to FM 549. TxDOT anticipates making a *de minimis* determination for this use under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966. Public comment on the effects of the proposed project on the activities, features, or attributes of the trail may be submitted as described below.

The proposed project would involve construction in wetlands and 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 Dallas District Office, 4777 E. Highway 80, Mesquite, TX 75150-6643. Project materials are also available online at <http://www.keepitmovingdallas.com/projects/fm-roads/fm3097>. These materials will also be available in hard copy form for review at the in-person public meeting.

The in-person public meeting and virtual public meeting 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 meeting or in-person option, please contact the

TxDOT Dallas Public Information Office at (214) 320-4480 no later than 4 p.m., November 13, 2023. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time to arrange.

Comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Dallas District Office, Attn: Kibru Andargie, P.E., 4777 E. Highway 80, Mesquite, TX 75150 or by email to Kibru.Andargie@txdot.gov. Verbal comments may be submitted by calling (214) 814-0855. **All comments must be received or postmarked on or before Friday, December 1, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.** Responses to comments received will be available online at <http://www.keepitmovingdallas.com/projects/fm-roads/fm3097> once they have been prepared.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project, in-person public meeting or virtual meeting, please contact Kibru Andargie, P.E., TxDOT Project Manager, (214) 320-6244 or by email at Kibru.Andargie@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.