



Notice

Draft Environmental Assessment and Virtual Public Hearing with In-Person Option

UNITED STATES HIGHWAY (US) 377

From North of BUS 377E to US 380

CSJ: 0081-06-040

Denton County, Texas

Project Website: <http://www.keepitmovingdallas.com/US377>

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing to widen and reconstruct US 377 from north of BUS 377E to US 380 in Denton County, Texas. This notice advises the public that a draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting an online virtual public hearing on the proposed project with an in-person option. **The pre-recorded virtual hearing will begin on Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020 at 6 p.m. and remain online through Friday, Dec. 4, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.** To log onto the virtual public hearing, go to the project website at the date and time indicated above. Project staff will give a presentation which will be a pre-recorded video and will include both audio and visual components. Please note that the presentation will not be available on the website until the time and date listed above. The presentation will remain available for viewing at the web address indicated above until Friday, Dec 4, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. If you do not have internet access, you may call (214) 320-6628 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 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, Nov 19, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Denton County Area Office, 2624 W. Prairie, Denton, TX 76201. **Attendance at the in-person option will be by appointment only.** Individuals wishing to attend the in-person option must call (214) 716-4577 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, to make an appointment. In recognition of COVID-19, enhanced safety measures will be applied at the in-person option, including a requirement to wear a face mask, submit to a temperature check prior to entry, have an appointment, and follow social distancing practices. If anyone arrives without an appointment they may be asked to wait outside to ensure we maintain appropriate occupancy within the hearing room.

For both the virtual public hearing and in-person option, members of the public may call (469) 333-0439 to provide verbal testimony immediately following the conclusion of the virtual public hearing presentation at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020 through 11:59 pm on Friday, Dec. 4, 2020. 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, included as part of the hearing and project record, and made available on the project website.

The proposed project consists of the reconstruction and widening of approximately 13.7 miles of US 377 from North of BUS 377E in Pilot Point to US 380 in Cross Roads, TX. Improvements would include the expansion of the current 2-lane rural roadway to a 6-lane urban roadway with a raised median to provide additional capacity and improve safety. Improvements would consist of 12-foot-wide travel lanes, 14-foot-wide outside shared-use lanes, and 5-foot sidewalks with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) curb ramps in both directions through most of the project. Proposed drainage would be conveyed by curb & gutter, a storm sewer system and crossing culverts. Other improvements would include realigning the intersections of BUS 377 S at US 377, and FM 424 at US 377. The existing right of way (ROW) width would increase with the proposed project to 140 feet. The proposed project is anticipated to require 54.7 acres of additional ROW and 1.1 acres of proposed permanent drainage easements.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require additional right-of-way and potentially displace two residences and six non-residential structures. 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 right-of-way acquisition and construction, can be obtained from the TxDOT district office by calling (214) 320-6628 or by visiting the project website.

The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain. The draft EA, any maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are available online at the project website. These materials will also be available in hard copy form for review at the in-person option.

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 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 hearing or in-person option, please contact Emily McCann, the Dallas District PIO, at (214) 320-4485 no later than 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16, 2020. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange.

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Dallas District Office, Attention: Nelson Underwood, P.E., 4777 East US Highway 80, Mesquite, TX 75150-6643. Written comments may also be submitted by email to Nelson.Underwood@txdot.gov. Additionally, as stated above, members of the public may call (469) 333-0439 and verbally provide testimony. **All comments must be received on or before Friday, Dec 4, 2020.**

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or virtual hearing or in-person option, please contact the TxDOT project manager, Nelson Underwood, P.E., by phone at (214) 320-6628, or by email at Nelson.Underwood@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 Dec 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.