



VIRTUAL/IN-PERSON PUBLIC MEETING SCRIPT
FM 1884
From SH 171 to south of B.B. Fielder Road
CSJ: 1601-02-028
Parker County, Texas
Nov. 30, 2023

MR. RICARDO GONZALEZ, P.E., TxDOT DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

SLIDE 1 – Title

Welcome to the Texas Department of Transportation’s prerecorded virtual public involvement presentation. We appreciate your interest in the project and welcome each of you. Please note that you may pause this presentation at any point to allow more time to view the slides, and you may also pause the presentation and navigate forward or backward as needed.

In this presentation, we will cover the public involvement purpose, project overview, environmental, and right of way considerations. This is followed by an explanation of how to provide comments for the proposed project and the adjournment.

SLIDE 2 – Welcome

My name is Ricardo Gonzalez, and I serve as the Director of Transportation, Planning and Development for the Fort Worth District of the Texas Department of Transportation, better known as TxDOT. Your input on the proposed improvements is valuable and will be used to shape the project recommendations. The virtual public meeting materials and project information can be found at www.txdot.gov by typing the project keyword in the search box in the upper right-hand corner. After the project information is presented, we would appreciate your feedback.

SLIDE 3 – #EndTheStreakTX

November 7, 2000, was the last deathless day on roadways in Texas. That means for over two decades, at least one person has died every single day. We all have a part to play to change that. This message is that reminder – to End the Streak of deaths on Texas roadways. We need drivers and passengers to act more responsibly and help us reach our goal of zero deaths by 2050. Texans can play a major role in ending fatal crashes with a few simple driving habits: wear seatbelts, drive the speed limit, put away the phone and other distractions, and never drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs. So please do your part and share this message with your friends and family.

MS. KAYLEIGH KLOSAK, CONSULTANT TO TxDOT

SLIDE 4 – Agenda

Hello, my name is Kayleigh Klosak, and I am a consultant supporting the TxDOT Fort Worth District with public involvement services.

This presentation will allow us to walk you through the topics shown on the screen. We will provide a project overview and explain the purpose of TxDOT considering improvements. We will walk through proposed improvements, a project schedule, and most importantly provide instructions for you to provide us with your comments on the project.

SILDE 5 – Public Meeting Purpose

The purpose of this meeting is to:

- Present the public with the latest project information,
- Inform the public of project design options and environmental analyses, and finally,
- Gather input on proposed improvements for the FM 1884 corridor.

SLIDE 6 – Project Overview

The proposed project would improve FM 1884 from SH 171 to south of B.B. Fielder Road. It is a north-south roadway that is approximately 2.16 miles in length and extends through the City of Weatherford in Parker County, Texas.

SLIDE 7 – Project Purpose

The purpose of the proposed improvements to FM 1884 is to:

- Address congestion, which is largely driven by population growth in Weatherford, increased traffic caused by Weatherford High School expansion, and continued residential development adjacent to FM 1884,
- Construct sidewalks and shared use paths for bicyclists and pedestrians to provide needed safety improvements,
- Improve current drainage issues near Briarwood Street, and
- Increase the durability of the roadway.

During the design of the proposed improvements, TxDOT considered three alignments that included:

- A center alignment that would widen FM 1884 on both the eastern and western sides,
- A western alignment that would widen FM 1884 to the west and hold the existing eastern right-of-way, and
- An eastern alignment that would widen FM 1884 to the east and hold the existing western right-of-way.

Ultimately, the alignment moving forward would widen FM 1884 to the west and hold the existing eastern right-of-way north of I-20 and would widen FM 1884 on both the eastern and western side south of I-20.

TxDOT determined that this alignment would best address the goals above and minimize impacts to multiple businesses, churches, and Weatherford High School.

SLIDE 8 – Existing Roadway

This section of FM 1884, as it exists today, is a rural two-lane highway, with one lane in each direction. The existing right-of-way footprint varies from 80 feet to 110 feet. The segment from I-20 to B.B. Fielder Road contains right turn lanes for access in and out of Weatherford High School and the Westover Village Estates neighborhood. There are currently no sidewalks or paths for bicyclists or pedestrians.

SLIDE 9 – Proposed Improvements

The proposed roadway improvements would include widening FM 1884 to a four-lane urban roadway (with two lanes in each direction) and a curbed median.

Improvements would also include bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, including a 6-foot-wide sidewalk and 10-foot-wide shared use path. A curb and gutter system would facilitate drainage.

SLIDE 10 – Intersection Improvements

Proposed improvements will include turnarounds and signals added to the FM 1884 and I-20 interchange to accommodate anticipated future traffic.

Realign Tin Top Road to improve safety at the FM 1884 intersection and for consistency with the City of Weatherford's future extension of Tin Top Road.

SLIDE 11 – Proposed Improvements – Potential Impacts

Right-of-way acquisition will be required for these improvements to be constructed. No residential displacements are anticipated; however, seven potential commercial/business displacements are anticipated including the Parker County Law Enforcement Training Center.

It is important to note that TxDOT is still working to refine the schematic design to minimize impacts where possible. You can view the public meeting roll plots on the virtual public meeting website to see the detailed schematic designs and potential project impacts.

SLIDE 12 – Environmental Process

On December 9, 2019, TxDOT received a signed Memorandum of Understanding from the Federal Highway Administration, or FHWA, that permits TxDOT to assume responsibility from the FHWA for reviewing and approving certain assigned NEPA projects. This review and approval process applies to this project.

SLIDE 13 – Environmental Process and Evaluation

Environmental studies for this project were completed to support environmental clearance in accordance with NEPA. This is necessary for TxDOT to receive any federal funds for the construction of this project.

This slide shows a list of some of the environmental resources being evaluated. The final environmental documentation will include the results of our evaluation. We also encourage you to review the environmental constraints exhibit that has been provided for this public meeting.

SLIDE 14 – Estimated Project Schedule

Let's walk through the remaining steps that TxDOT will need to take to complete the project development process and construct the project.

It is important to note that the schedule shown here is subject to change pending coordination, public involvement and identification of funding for construction costs.

After this meeting, our TxDOT team will analyze all public comments and develop a public meeting summary which includes responses to all comments received. Part of the analysis will determine if any changes are needed to the schematic based on input received. The project design will continue to be refined through the end of 2023 and beginning of 2024.

Early in the Spring of 2024, TxDOT will provide schematic design and environmental documentation for public review and comment. TxDOT will then approve the schematic design to move on to the more detailed, final design which is necessary to prepare the project for construction. This is also when TxDOT will begin acquiring the right of way needed for the project and coordinating with utilities.

Should funding be identified, construction for this project could begin as early as Fall of 2027 and is expected to last for approximately two years.

SLIDE 15 – How to Submit Your Comments

Comments will be accepted in several ways as shown on the screen. All comments must be received or postmarked by Friday, Dec. 15, 2023, to be included in the official public meeting documentation.

If you have any general questions or comments regarding the FM 1884 project, please contact the TxDOT Project Manager, Iffat Talukder, P.E, by phone at (817) 370-6593 or by email at Iffat.Talukder@txdot.gov.

SLIDE 16 – Thank You

We sincerely appreciate your participation and interest in the FM 1884 project from SH 171 to south of B.B. Fielder Road. Your questions, comments, and concerns will receive careful consideration.

Thank you.