

**FM 4 Feasibility Study
Virtual Public Meeting with
In-Person Option**
April 9, 2024

US 180 to FM 2201
Palo Pinto County


CSJ (Project Number) 0314-06-034

FM 4 Feasibility Study (CSJ: 0314-06 034) April 9, 2024

Welcome to the Texas Department of Transportation virtual public meeting for the FM 4 Feasibility Study. We appreciate your interest in the study and thank each of you for your participation.

This is a pre-recorded presentation. During the video, you may pause the presentation and navigate forward or backward using your video player. The comment process for the virtual public meeting will be described near the end of this presentation.

You may also view the virtual public meeting page by visiting txdot.gov, keyword search "FM 4 from US 180 to FM 2201." There, you can find materials outlining how to comment and view maps, handouts and exhibits that were available at the in-person meeting.

Memorandum of Understanding 

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this study 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.

TxDOT may adopt, incorporate by reference, or use planning products produced as a part of this study during a subsequent environmental review process or project development process.

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The proposed study would be funded by the Federal Highway Administration and is subject to the National Environmental Policy Act also known as NEPA. NEPA requires federal agencies to evaluate the environmental and related social and economic effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions and to provide opportunities for the public to review and comment on those evaluations.

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The slide titled "Public Involvement Goals" features a star icon in the top right corner. It lists four goals in a vertical sequence, each with a numbered icon and a descriptive text box:

- 1** Inform the public of study status and present recommendations. (Location pin icon)
- 2** Describe the study so the public can determine how they may be affected. (Group of people icon)
- 3** Provide the public the opportunity to provide input. (Speech bubble icon)
- 4** Develop a record of public participation. (Document icon)

At the bottom of the slide, the text "FM 4 Feasibility Study (CSJ: 0314-06 034)" is on the left, "April 9, 2024" is in the center, and a small box with the number "3" is on the right.

The purpose of this virtual public meeting is to inform you about the proposed study and to gather public feedback on our recommendations.


This presentation includes information on the purpose of the study; a description of the study including the design, right-of-way requirements, and schedule; and the potential environmental constraints in the area.

We encourage you to submit comments on the study. Please note that discussions with the study staff will not be included in the official record of the public meeting. If you wish to submit a comment to be part of the official record, you must do so in the ways outlined at the end of this presentation. The deadline to submit comments to be included in the meeting summary report is Wednesday, April 24, 2024.

This public meeting is being held in compliance with both federal and state laws. Documentation of this meeting will be made available for the official record.

Study Overview

- **CSJ (Project Number):** 0314-06-034
- **Location:** US 180 to FM 2201 in Palo Pinto County
- **Length:** Approximately 14 miles



The map shows the study area for FM 4 in Palo Pinto County, Texas. The route starts at 'Study Begin' near Palo Pinto and ends at 'Study End' near Santo. The map includes a legend for FM 4, a north arrow, and labels for major roads like US 180, US 913, US 917, and FM 2201. The study area is highlighted in blue, and the route is marked with a blue line and the number 4. The map also shows the Palo Pinto Highway and the town of Long Camp.

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TxDOT is conducting a feasibility study for improvements to FM 4 from US 180 to FM 2201 in Palo Pinto County, Texas. The study length is approximately 14 miles.

Study Goals and Objectives

Address Connectivity

Design a corridor that creates a more connected community, offering reliable, accessible transportation options.

Enhance Safety

Implement crash countermeasures to enhance safety along the corridor for all roadway users.

Improve Mobility

Facilitate movement of people and goods through and within the study area.

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The goals of the FM 4 Feasibility Study are to address connectivity, enhance safety, and improve mobility. The study objectives are as follows:

Design a corridor that creates a more connected community, offering reliable, accessible transportation options.

Implement crash countermeasures to enhance safety along the corridor for all roadway users.

Facilitate movement of people and goods through and within the study area.

Turkey Peak Reservoir*

PROJECT AREA

The Turkey Peak Reservoir will be located on Palo Pinto Creek immediately downstream from Lake Palo Pinto, approximately two miles northwest of the City of Santo, and upstream from the bridge over Palo Pinto Creek on FM 4.

NEEDS

For many years, the capacity of Lake Palo Pinto has been slowly decreasing and the demand for water in Palo Pinto County has been increasing. Then, at the peak of the drought in 2015, Lake Palo Pinto was nearly dry, with the water level down to eight percent of capacity. Spring rains eventually restored the lake to adequate levels, but the need to secure additional water sources was confirmed.

Principal Elements of the Project

- 1 New dam and spillway construction
- 2 Closing of a portion of FM 4
- 3 Upgrade a portion of Ward Mountain Road
- 4 Construction of a bridge at the existing dam and spillway at Lake Palo Pinto along with extension of Brown Road to Lakeview Drive
- 5 New boat ramp facility off Ward Mountain Road serving the Turkey Peak Reservoir
- 6 Removal of a portion of the existing spillway at Lake Palo Pinto to connect the two reservoir pools
- 7 Construction of a multi-level outlet tower which will release water downstream into Palo Pinto Creek

Palo Pinto County Municipal Water District No. 1
P.O. Box 357 | Mineral Wells, Texas 76067

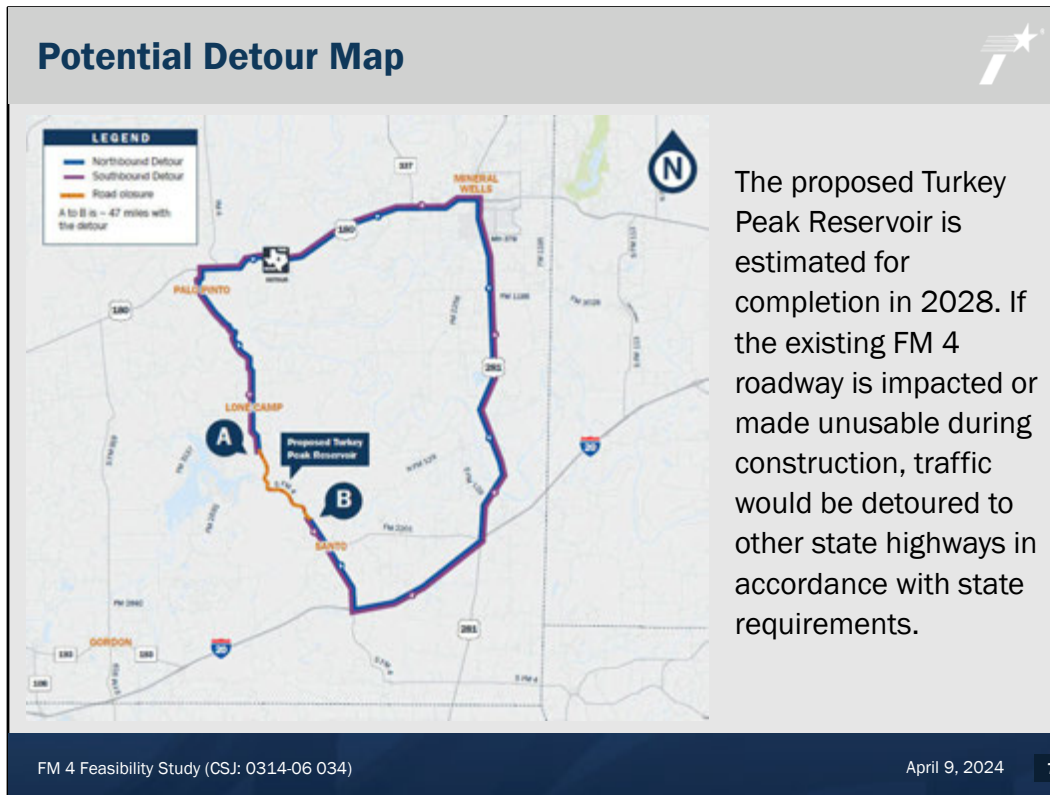
*https://www.turkeypeakreservoir.com/assets/PaloPinto_TurkeyPeak_Overview.pdf
Contact the Turkey Peak Reservoir project team: 940-328-7712 | www.turkeypeakreservoir.com

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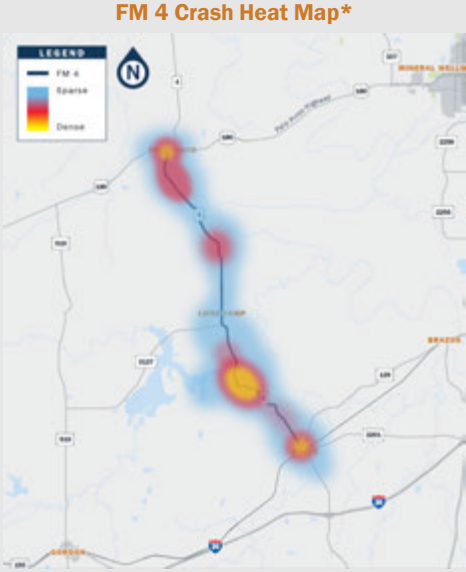
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Another project occurring in the FM 4 study area is the Turkey Peak Reservoir. The Turkey Peak Reservoir is proposed to be located on Palo Pinto Creek immediately downstream from Lake Palo Pinto, approximately two miles northwest of the City of Santo, and upstream from the bridge over Palo Pinto Creek on FM 4. The reservoir will be managed by the Palo Pinto County Municipal Water District No. 1. If you have questions on the proposed Turkey Peak Reservoir Project, you may visit www.turkeypeakreservoir.com and submit an online comment on the Contact Us page, or call 940-328-7712.



The proposed Turkey Peak Reservoir is estimated for completion in 2028. If the existing FM 4 roadway is impacted or made unusable during construction, traffic would be detoured to other state highways in accordance with state requirements.

Needs Assessment



Traffic**

- Annual average daily traffic volume of 919 vehicles per day.
- Annual average daily traffic growth rate of 4.2% between 2016 and 2022, aside from dipping in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Safety

- 71 total crashes occurred in the study area between 2018 and 2022.
- Study area crash rate is 57% higher than the statewide average.
- Roadway design does not meet current TxDOT standards.
- Current at-grade railroad crossings pose safety issues.

Connectivity

- The planned Turkey Peak Reservoir Project will result in the flooding of portions of FM 4, causing connectivity issues and removing the connector between Palo Pinto and Santo.

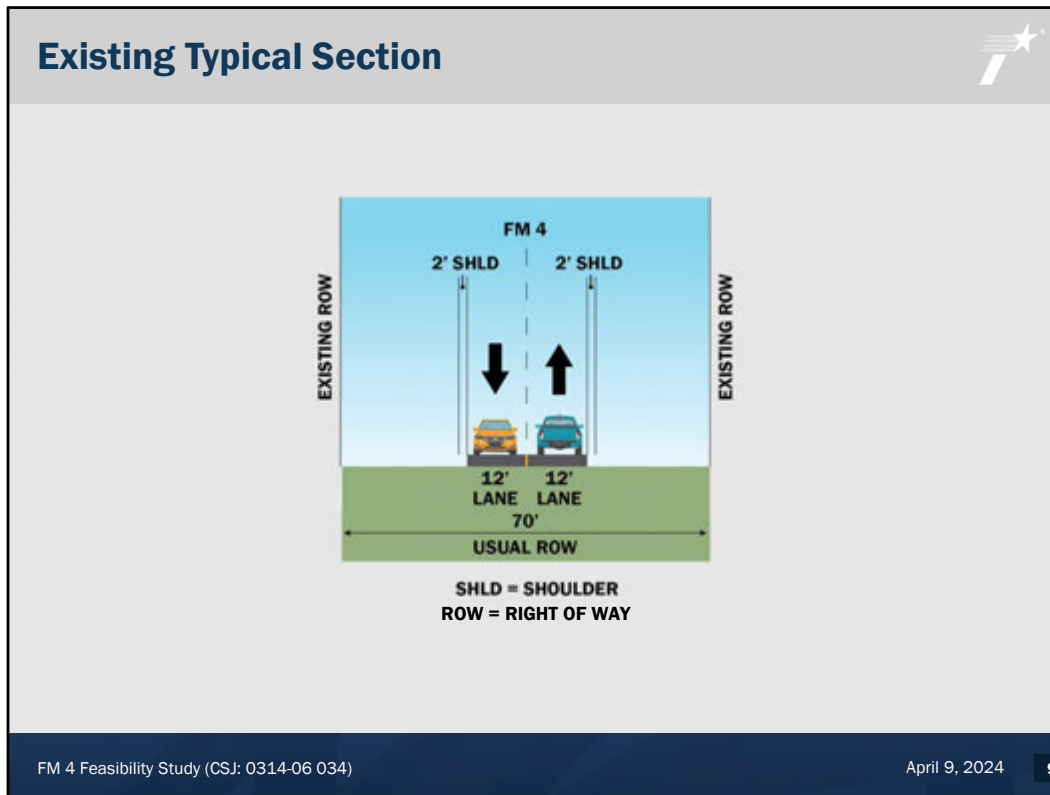
Drainage

- Historical flooding within the study area has resulted in landlocked communities and created other mobility issues.
- Proposed improvements would provide other mobility options and include drainage components.

*Crash Records Information System Data
**TxDOT Statewide Planning Map

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The FM 4 Feasibility Study team conducted a Needs Assessment and determined various need factors. These have been categorized into four distinct groups: traffic, safety, connectivity, and drainage.



FM 4 in Palo Pinto County consists of a rural undivided roadway with two 12-foot lanes and two-foot shoulders. The usual right of way for this typical section is 70 feet.

Proposed Typical Sections

SHLD = SHOULDER
ROW = RIGHT OF WAY

SIP = SHARED-USE PATH
ROW = RIGHT OF WAY

If you wish to view the full range of typical section options, you may do so by viewing the study boards located at www.txdot.gov, keyword search “**FM 4 from US 180 to FM 2201**” and scrolling to the meeting materials list.

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We are considering a range of potential alternatives for the FM 4 Feasibility Study.

The two typical sections on this slide help demonstrate the range of alternatives – the top typical section representing a rural two-lane highway with shoulders, with the bottom image representing an urban six-lane highway.











The top typical section consists of a rural undivided roadway with two 12-foot lanes, one in each direction, 10-foot shoulders, and open drainage areas. The usual right of way for this rural two-lane typical section is 84 feet.

The bottom typical section consists of an urban divided roadway with six 12-foot lanes, an 18-foot median providing room for potential dedicated left-turn lanes, a two-foot curb and gutter in each direction enhancing safety, a five-foot safety buffer, and a 10-foot shared-use path for cyclists and pedestrians. This urban six-lane divided typical section has usual right of way of 200 feet.

At this time, the study team is considering all typical sections as options for FM 4. If you wish to view the full range of typical section options, you may do so by viewing the study boards located at www.txdot.gov, keyword search “FM 4 from US 180 to FM 2201” and scrolling to the meeting materials list.

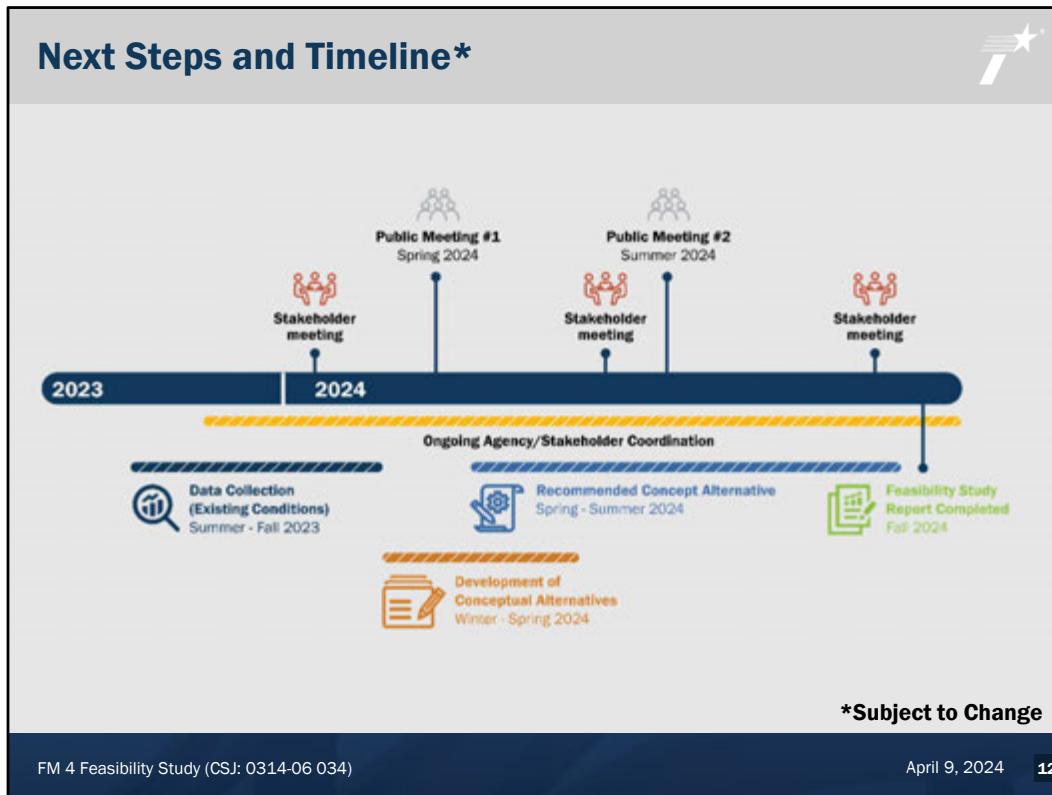
Environmental Constraints

The primary purpose of this analysis is to help TxDOT determine how the study would affect environmental resources prior to making decisions and provide the public an opportunity to review and comment on those analyses.

Water Resources 	Air Quality 	Traffic Noise 	Community Impacts 	Vegetation & Wildlife 
Threatened & Endangered Species 	Indirect & Cumulative Impacts 	Historical & Archeological Resources 	Hazardous Material Sites 	Land Use & Parkland 

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A variety of environmental resources are being analyzed as part of our environmental analysis. As we continue on in our environmental analysis, please notify the study team by providing public comment if you see any resources we may have missed as we work to finalize the schematic. Your help in this process will ensure our environmental analysis is thorough and accurate throughout the study area.




Currently we are hosting the first public meeting for the study, with plans to hold another in late summer 2024. The study team is developing conceptual alternatives now, and the recommended concept alternative is slated for completion in late summer 2024. Ongoing agency/stakeholder coordination will occur throughout the life of the study, and the feasibility study report is scheduled for completion in fall 2024. This study has a fast timeline, but is subject to change.

Submit Written Comments and Feedback


We appreciate your feedback! TxDOT is available to answer questions anytime during the study development process.

Visit www.txdot.gov, keyword search “FM 4 from US 180 to FM 2201” for additional study information and downloads.




Comment Card

Leave written comments at in-person event




Email Comments

fm4palopinto@txdot.gov




Online Comments

TxDOT.gov, keyword search “FM 4 from US 180 to FM 2201”



Mail-in Comments

TxDOT Fort Worth District
Attn: Nazrul Chowdhury
2501 Southwest Loop 820
Fort Worth, Texas 76133




Voicemail

817-390-9850

All comments must be received by Wednesday, April 24, 2024, to be included in the official record of this meeting.

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We appreciate your feedback! TxDOT is available to answer questions anytime during the study development process. Comments are welcome on this study. You can submit comments using the online comment form, found on the study webpage. Also on the study webpage, there is an option to send in email comments. You may mail comments directly to TxDOT Fort Worth District, Attn: Nazrul Chowdhury, located at 2501 Southwest Loop 820, Fort Worth, Texas 76133. In addition, you can leave a voicemail at 817-390-9850. All comments must be received by Wednesday, April 24, 2024, to be included in the meeting summary report for this meeting.

Contact Information 

Contact us anytime during the study development process.

FM 4 Feasibility Study
TxDOT Fort Worth District
2501 Southwest Loop 820
Fort Worth, Texas 76133

Nazrul Chowdhury, Project Manager
Nazrul.Chowdhury@txdot.gov
817-370-6572

**Reminder: Comment deadline is
Wednesday, April 24, 2024**

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The public may call study staff during regular office hours or email study staff to ask questions about the study at any time in the study development process. For questions about this study, please contact Nazrul Chowdhury, Project Manager, via email at Nazrul.Chowdhury@txdot.gov, or via phone at 817-370-6572.

Please note that discussions with the study team members will not be included in the official record of the public meeting. If you wish to submit a comment to be part of the meeting summary report for this public meeting, you must do so formally, in the ways outlined in this presentation. The deadline to submit comments to be included in the meeting summary report is Wednesday, April 24, 2024.

Thank you for your participation!



www.txdot.gov

Thank you for participating in this public meeting! This concludes our presentation.