



SH 199 Ramp Project Public Meeting Script

Slide 1 - Welcome

Welcome to the Texas Department of Transportation's public involvement presentation. We appreciate your interest in the project and welcome each of you. In this presentation, we will cover the public involvement purpose, project overview, environmental, and right of way considerations. Following this presentation staff will be available to answer any questions and record any comments regarding the project you may have. Additionally, we will show how you are able to access the presentation and other public involvement documents virtually, as well as where to leave additional comments until the end of the comment period on **Thursday, June 20th**.

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 help benefit the community and shape the final project recommendations. Public materials and project information are found on the displays and exhibits around the meeting area. After the project information is presented, we staff will be available to answer any questions, we would appreciate your feedback.

Slide 3 – End the Streak

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 highways. 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.

Slide 4 – Public Meeting Displays

Full versions of the Public Meeting Displays are also available for download at www.txdot.gov. Search "SH 199 from Denver Trail to Skylark Drive" when looking for the Public Meeting Displays on our website.

Slide 5 – Agenda

Today's presentation will cover the purpose of this public meeting, project overview, project purpose and need, proposed improvements, environmental considerations, right of way information, estimated schedule, and how to provide comments.

Slide 6 – Public Meeting Purpose

The purpose of this meeting is to present a project update, inform the public of project design, and offer the public an opportunity to provide input.

Slide 7 – Project Overview

In this meeting, we will focus on a proposed exit ramp on SH 199 between Denver Trail and Skylark Drive. The proposed exit ramp would provide direct access to the regional Texas Health Hospital.

Slide 8 – Project Purpose and Need

This project aims to improve mobility and enhance safety by providing reliable, convenient access for northbound traffic to regional hospital.

Traffic volumes on this segment of SH 199 have an Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) count of 30,970 in 2022 and is expected to increase by at least 2% annually.

Slide 9 – Existing SH 199

The nearest exit ramp is nearly 1.5 miles south at the intersection with Eagle Mountain Dam Road, requiring extended travel on Southeast Parkway with reduced speeds compared to traveling on SH 199. Northbound traffic having to take this exit ramp considerably slows travel to the hospital for both emergency and non-emergency purposes.

Slide 10 - Proposed Improvements – SH 199

The proposed exit ramp will provide much closer access to the Texas Health Hospital for northbound traffic and will alleviate current traffic that utilizes the Eagle Mountain Dam Road exit ramp by redirecting hospital traffic to the new exit ramp.

The proposed exit ramp will be constructed entirely within existing right-of-way, with no existing drive access being eliminated, and the exit ramp will provide almost immediate access to the Texas Health Hospital via Southeast Parkway.

Process

As this project is developed, TxDOT is evaluating potential impacts to the environment and preparing environmental documents in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA. Those evaluations include the study of property impacts and easements, community impacts and environmental justice, biological resources, such as vegetation and threatened and endangered species and habitats, construction impacts, water resources and drainage, cultural resources, hazardous materials, traffic noise, and air quality.

As part of the environmental process, TxDOT will coordinate with several environmental agencies on the state and federal levels to ensure the project design meets all applicable regulations. These agencies include the Texas Historical Society, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and the United States Forest Service.

Details of environmental constraints within the project area are included on the Environmental Constraints Map shown on this page and linked on the public meeting webpage.

Slide 16 – Right of Way

The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act of 1970 is a law that was designed to ensure that anyone who owned property needed for a public purpose would be treated fairly. The law establishes guidelines for the acquisition of property and the relocation of displaced individuals and businesses.

It is the policy of the TxDOT that individuals impacted by transportation systems expansion shall not be denied benefits excluded from participation or otherwise be subjected to discrimination based on the grounds of race, color, sex, age, handicaps, or national origin.

Slide 17 – Right of Way

Each impacted property owner is offered “just compensation” for the property needed for the project. To arrive at this value, independent appraisers are hired to prepare detailed appraisals and establish value.

A written offer to the property owners is made based on the value determined in the appraisals.

Property owners are given a minimum of 30 days to consider the offer.

For more information, Right-of-Way Brochures are available on the TxDOT Website.

Slide 18 – Estimated Schedule

Following this public meeting, TxDOT will prepare public meeting documentation and will use public input in conjunction with design and environmental considerations to further refine design plans.

Prior to construction, TxDOT will finalize design plans.

The project is estimated to be ready for construction in 2028, pending available funding. The project is estimated to cost around \$1.3 million dollars.

Slide 19 – Share Your Input

Following the public meeting, your comments will be addressed in this document and given full consideration in the preparation of the final recommendation and design for this project. To provide additional comments following this meeting, you may email a comment to Jennifer.Fina@txdot.gov or fill out a comment card and mail to the Texas Department of Transportation at the address provided.

While comments are always welcome, they must be received or postmarked by Thursday, June 20, 2024, to be included in the official meeting documentation.

The public may call project staff at (956)-598-1855 during regular office hours or email project staff at any time in the project development process.

Slide 20 – Thank you

Thank you for your interest in the SH 199 Ramp Project. We appreciate your participation.