



**Virtual Public Meeting with  
In-Person Option  
Pre-Recorded Presentation**

**FM 1488**  
From I-45 to Mostyn Drive

Montgomery County, Texas

CSJs: 0523-10-047

December 2021

The Texas Department of Transportation Houston District would like to welcome you to the virtual public meeting with in-person option for the proposed Farm-to-Market Road 1488 Improvements project from Interstate 45 to Mostyn Drive in Montgomery County, Texas. This is a pre-recorded presentation.

My name is Joshua Geyer and I am on the project team that is working on this project. On behalf of the Texas Department of Transportation, I would like to welcome you and thank you for participating in this public meeting.

This project was previously introduced to the public in May and October of 2019 as a part of the FM 1488 Access Management Study. This project focuses on aspects of the access management study that are proposed to move forward to construction at this time. This presentation is available for viewing starting on December 2, 2021.

During the virtual meeting, you may pause the presentation and navigate forward or backward using your video player.



**IN-PERSON OPTION**  
**Tuesday, December 7, 2021**  
**3:00 TO 7:00 P.M.**  
**KC Event Center, 2655 FM 1488,**  
**Conroe, TX 77384**

This virtual public meeting is being held in conjunction with an in-person public meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, from **3:00 TO 7:00 P.M. at the KC Event Center, 2655 FM 1488, Conroe, TX 77384**. The information presented in the virtual public meeting and the in-person public meeting is identical, and the opportunities to comment do not differ.

## Public Meeting Agenda



- Welcome
- Outreach and Notification Methods
- Purpose of Public Meeting
- Project Overview
- Project Next Steps
- Public Comment Process
- Closing

This virtual public meeting with in-person option is being held to introduce the proposed project and gather public input. You are encouraged to submit comments on the proposed project after reviewing the meeting materials and listening to this presentation.

In this presentation, I will describe the proposed project and explain the purpose of the public meeting, provide a project overview, explain the proposed project's next steps and outline the methods for submitting comments.

## Public Meeting Questions and Concerns



Please phone 713-802-5766 if you have:

- Problems accessing public meeting information online
- Request for special accommodations
- Language or interpretation needs other than English and Spanish

Details on how to submit an official comment will be provided further in the presentation

If you experience technical difficulties with the public meeting, please call Susanna Scott at 713-802-5766. You may also request special accommodation assistance accessing public meeting information and materials and language interpretation needs other than English and Spanish. The methods for submitting a public comment on the project will be explained at the end of this presentation.



# National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Assignment to the Texas Department of Transportation

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 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and TxDOT.

The FM 1488 Improvement Project is receiving federal funds, and because of the federal component, TxDOT is required to assess the potential environmental effects of the proposed project in accordance with Federal standards. The process that is followed is called the National Environmental Policy Act process, otherwise known as NEPA. The NEPA process provides analyses of the potential impacts to the natural and manmade environment and helps the decision maker to make an informed decision on whether or not to proceed with the project. On December 9, 2019, TxDOT received a signed Memorandum of Understanding from the Federal Highway Administration that permits TxDOT to assume responsibility from the Federal Highway Administration for reviewing and approving certain assigned NEPA projects. This review and approval process applies to this project.

## Outreach and Notification Methods



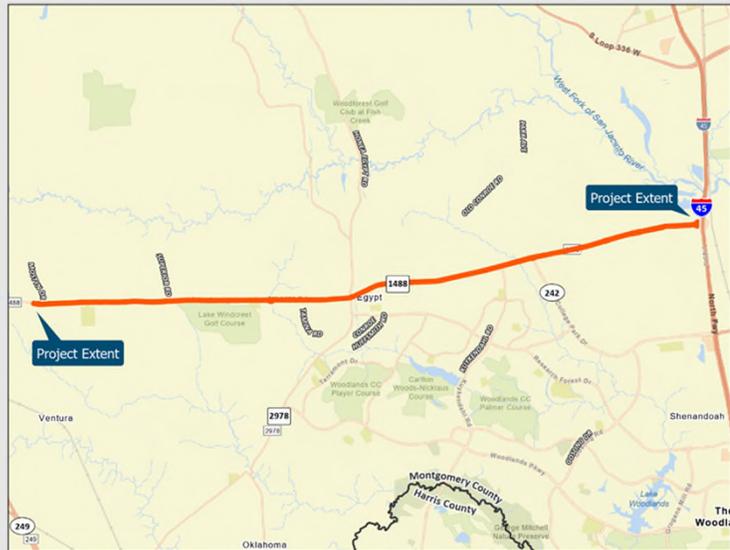
- Elected Official Letters were mailed/e-mailed on Tuesday, November 16, 2021
- Notices were mailed directly to adjacent property owners on Wednesday, November 17, 2021
- Information was posted to the TxDOT website on Friday, November 12, 2021
- Flyers were posted at high-traffic businesses along the corridor on Thursday, November 18, 2021
- A notice in Spanish was published in La Información on November 18, 2021
- Changeable message boards with meeting information were placed along FM 1488 from Friday, November 19, 2021, to Tuesday, December 7, 2021
- Links to meeting notices were posted on TxDOT Facebook and Houston District Twitter accounts

Notices about the public meeting were emailed to elected officials on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, and were sent to adjacent property owners on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. The public meeting notice was posted on the TxDOT website on Friday, November 12, 2021. Flyers were posted at high-traffic businesses along the corridor on Thursday, November 18, 2021. A notice in Spanish was published in La Información on November 18, 2021. Changeable message boards with meeting information were also placed along FM 1488 corridor from Friday, November 19, 2021, to Tuesday, December 7, 2021. In addition, links to the meeting notice were posted on the TxDOT Facebook page and TxDOT Houston District Twitter page.

## Project Overview



- Project length:  
Approximately 12.4 miles
- Located between I-45 and Mostyn Drive
- Within Magnolia, Conroe and The Woodlands in Montgomery County, TX



The FM 1488 Improvement Project extends for a total of 12.4 miles along FM 1488, from I-45 to Mostyn Drive. The proposed FM 1488 improvements would be constructed within the existing right-of-way. No additional right-of-way or potential displacements are anticipated.

Land use in the general area is commercial surrounded by suburban areas and the WG Jones State Forest. The roadway is primarily a commercial corridor and is within Magnolia, Conroe and The Woodlands in Montgomery County.

## Crash Analysis (Years 2016-2021)



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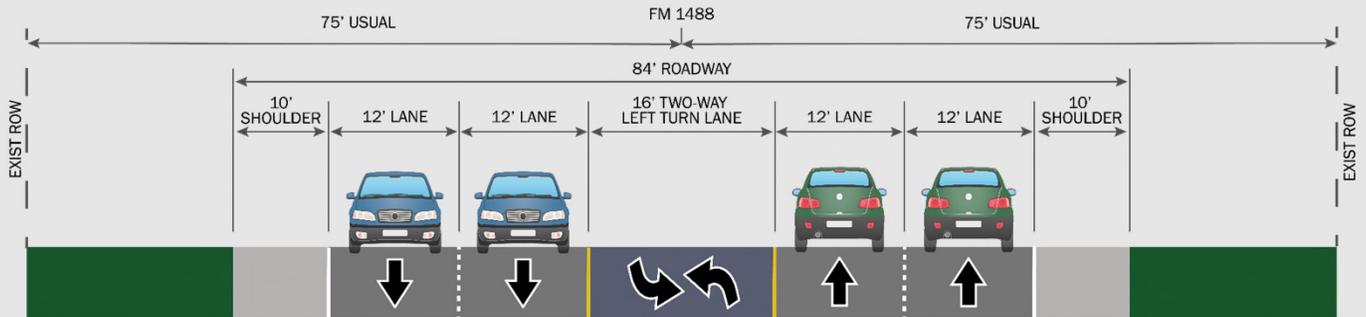
One of the goals for the project is to reduce crashes along the corridor. Regarding safety, the project team analyzed crash data for the project corridor for the years 2016-2021. Locations of crashes were placed on a map, and circles were placed, and color coded where multiple crashes occurred in the same general location; these are called 'hot spots.' Crash rates within the project limits are significantly higher than the statewide average and eleven fatalities have occurred during the 5-year study timeframe. Locations of fatalities are shown on the slide.

The majority of crashes along the FM 1488 corridor are near major intersections due to the higher volume of unprotected left turns at many intersections that currently have no traffic signals. This, too, applies to driveways along the project roadway, as those are all locations where vehicles may make unprotected left turns on to or off of FM 1488. Driveway density along the corridor exceeds typical standards, and as the number of driveways along a corridor increases, so does the probability of a collision. To combat these concerns at the major intersections, TxDOT is proposing traffic signals at a number of intersections that don't currently have traffic signals to better-moderate and protect traffic flow. Additionally, for the driveway concerns, TxDOT is proposing to install a raised median in place of the current continuous left turn lane in order to reduce the volume of traffic crossing the roadway between major intersections.

## Existing Typical Section



- Four-lane undivided roadway (12-foot travel lanes)
- A 16-foot continuous center turn lane
- 10-foot-wide outside shoulders



Note: Portions of the existing roadway are urbanized and have pedestrian sidewalks.

NOT TO SCALE

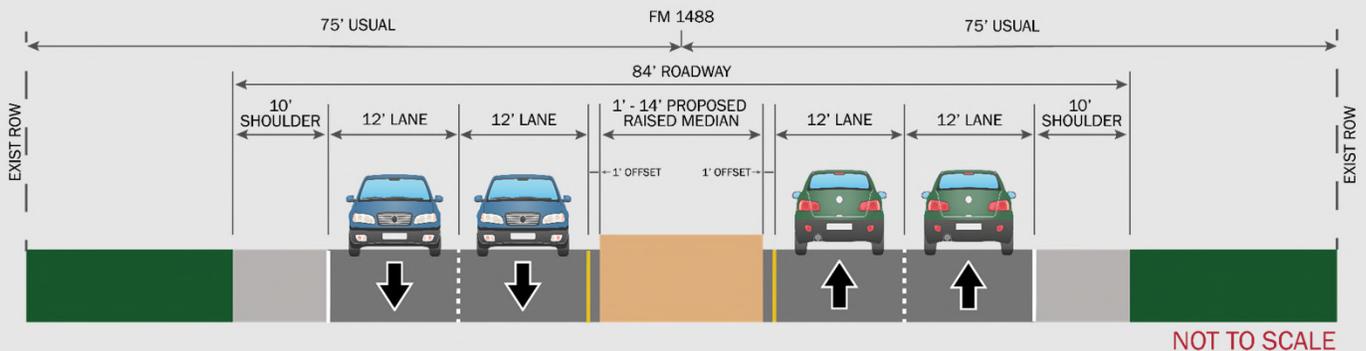
The existing FM 1488 facility in the project area is a four-lane undivided roadway including 12-foot-wide travel lanes with a continuous 16-foot-wide center turn lane and 10-foot-wide outside shoulders.

Although what is shown are called typical sections, it should be noted that some sections of the roadway are urbanized and have pedestrian sidewalks.

## Proposed Typical Section



- Replace continuous center-turn lane with a 1-foot to 14-foot-wide raised median
- Construct left-turn lanes and U-turn median breaks
- 12-foot-wide travel lanes and 10-foot with outside shoulders remain the same
- Install or upgrade traffic signals at various intersections



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The proposed project would replace the continuous center turn lane along FM 1488 from I-45 to Mostyn Drive with a 1-foot to 14-foot-wide raised median. Travel lane and shoulder widths would remain the same. This median would include numerous median breaks with left-turn lanes in both the eastbound and westbound directions to allow for U-turns and provide access to the intersecting streets throughout the project area.

At some of these U-turn median breaks, the project proposes the addition of truck loons, which are extra-wide pavement sections on the edge of the roadway that would allow larger vehicles the space necessary to perform a U-turn.

This project proposes to widen the pavement on the north side of FM 1488 between State Highway 242 and Kuykendahl. This widening would allow for the addition of a westbound auxiliary lane and an extra left turn lane at each intersection with the purpose of alleviating traffic congestion at those major intersections.

Additionally, the proposed project would upgrade traffic signals at various intersections and install new traffic signals at the following cross streets: Thousand Oaks Boulevard, Sweetgum Road, and Forest West Street. Please refer to the schematic in the downloads section of the virtual meeting page to see which intersections would have a signal installed.

## Proposed Intersection at FM 1488 and SH 242



- Widen pavement along FM 1488 from SH 242 to Kuykendahl in order to add a 12-foot-wide auxiliary lane
- Widen pavement at the intersection of FM 1488 and SH 242 in order to add a left-turn lane for traffic traveling westbound
- 12-foot-wide travel lanes remain the same



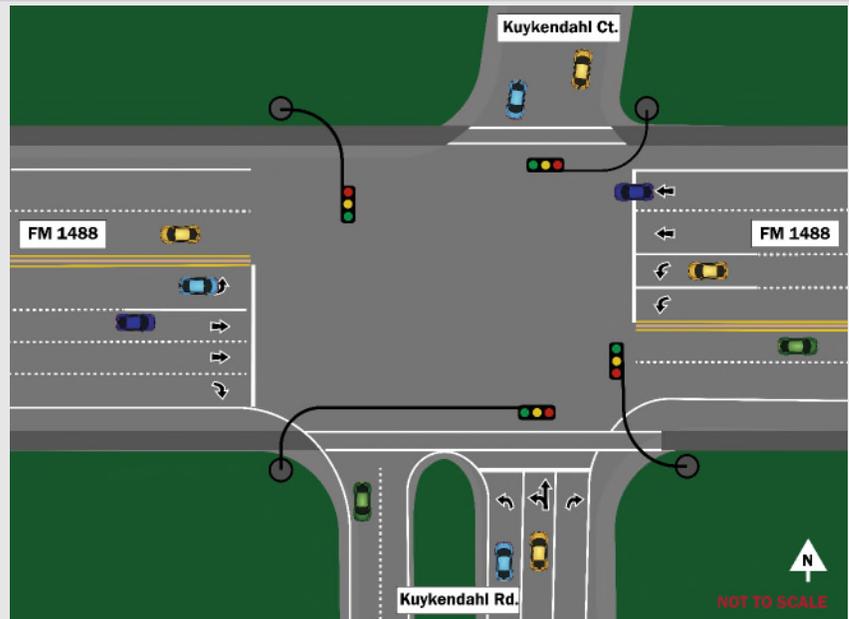
This project proposes to widen the pavement on the north side of FM 1488 between State Highway 242 and Kuykendahl. This widening would allow for the addition of a westbound auxiliary lane and an extra left turn lane at each intersection with the purpose of alleviating traffic congestion at those major intersections.

This intersection overview shows the intersection of FM 1488 and State Highway 242 which includes 12 to 13-foot-wide travel lanes and 10-foot-wide shoulders on each side of the roadway. The project proposes to widen the pavement at the intersection of FM 1488 and State Highway 242 in order to add a second left-turn lane for vehicles travelling in the westbound direction.

## Proposed Intersection at FM 1488 and Kuykendahl



- Widen pavement at the intersection of FM 1488 and Kuykendahl in order to add a second left-turn lane for traffic traveling westbound
- 12-foot-wide travel lanes and 5-foot-wide pedestrian sidewalks remain the same



This slide shows the FM 1488 and Kuykendahl intersection which includes 12 to 13-foot-wide travel lanes and 5-foot-wide pedestrian sidewalks on each side of the roadway. The project proposes to widen the pavement at the intersection of FM 1488 and Kuykendahl in order to add a second left-turn lane for vehicles travelling in the westbound direction.

## Environmental Analysis Resource Areas



- Community Impacts and Environmental Justice
- Surface Waters Analysis and Wetland Delineation Report
- Historic Resources
- Archeological Resources
- Threatened and Endangered Species Assessment, including Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Biological Survey

The project team is identifying and evaluating potential environmental impacts that could occur as a result of constructing the proposed improvements.

Areas that are under review include community impacts, environmental justice, water resources, historic resources, archaeological resources, and Threatened and Endangered Species habitat assessments including a biological survey for the Federally Listed Red-Cockaded Woodpecker.

The project would be designed to avoid or minimize impacts to the greatest amount practicable.

Once completed, technical reports documenting the analysis and conclusions of these studies will be available for review upon request.

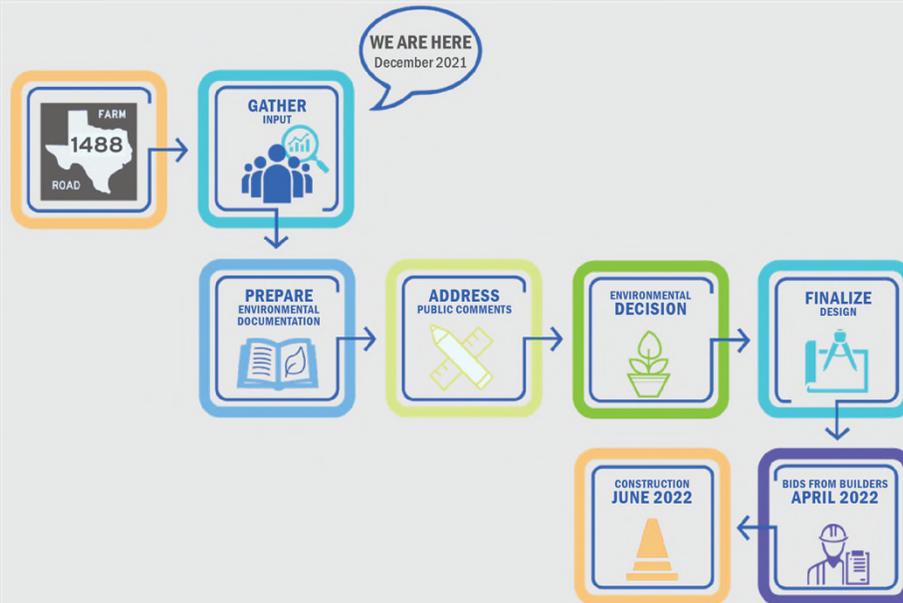
## Project Funding



- Total Project Estimated Cost: approximately \$11 million
- The proposed project would be funded with a combination of Federal and State funds

The proposed project would be funded with a combination of federal and state funds for a total of approximately 11 million dollars.

## Project Next Steps



TxDOT would like to highlight the estimated project timeline. Look for the “We are here” bubble at the top of the slide. This public meeting is being held to present the proposed project and gather public and stakeholder input. After the comment period closes TxDOT will review the comments received and prepare a public meeting summary report. The summary report will be posted to the meeting notice page approximately three months after the close of the comment period. The next steps include finalizing the design, and construction is anticipated to begin in June 2022. The project team anticipates that construction would take approximately 2.5 years.

## Public Meeting Materials

Public meeting materials are provided on the TxDOT notice page:

- Presentation
- Comment card
- Fact sheet
- Project layout



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The meeting notice page contains all materials presented in this public meeting including this presentation in both English and Spanish, a comment card, a project fact sheet, and a project layout. These files are large and may require more time to download than the other project materials.

## How to Submit Your Written Comments



**All comments must be received or postmarked by December 22, 2021.**

**Comments can be provided by:**

### Comment Card

Download the comment card from the website, fill it out and email or mail it to TxDOT

### Email

Submit to:  
[HOU-PIOwebmail@txdot.gov](mailto:HOU-PIOwebmail@txdot.gov)

### Mail

TxDOT Houston District Office  
Advanced Project Development Director  
P.O. Box 1386  
Houston, TX 77251

### Online

[www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov)

Keyword Search: **FM 1488 from I-45**

<https://forms.office.com/r/LZR8uk2fHN>



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TxDOT encourages you to review the materials posted on the virtual public meeting web site and to provide written comments.

The comment form is located on the meeting website. Comments must be received via email or mailed and postmarked by December 22, 2021, to be included in the official virtual public meeting summary report.

You can submit written comments in the following ways:

- Using the comment card found in the Downloads section of the virtual public meeting on the project website. Fill it out and email or mail it to the addresses shown on this screen.
- Via email to [HOU-PIOwebmail@txdot.gov](mailto:HOU-PIOwebmail@txdot.gov)
- Via mail to the TxDOT Houston District, Attention: Advanced Project Development Director, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas, 77251-1386
- Online by visiting [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) and searching in the upper right-hand search box for "FM 1488 from I-45." Click on the online comment form under the Downloads section.
- Online by using the electronic comment form at <https://forms.office.com/r/LZR8uk2fHN>.
- Or by scanning the QR code link to the electronic comment form.

Again, responses to comments received during the comment period will be included in the Virtual Public Meeting Summary report that will be posted on the project website in approximately three months. The project website is [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov); key word search "FM 1488 from I-45".

## Quick Contacts – Engage TxDOT Online



- Contact the TxDOT Project Manager anytime during project development  
Susanna Scott  
(713) 802-5766  
Email [Susanna.Scott@txdot.gov](mailto:Susanna.Scott@txdot.gov)
- Follow us: Twitter - Houston:  
<https://twitter.com/TxDOTHouston>
- Like us: TxDOT Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/txdothouston/>



Secondly, don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Please feel free to contact Susanna Scott at the TxDOT Houston District office at (713) 802-5766 with any questions or comments at any time during project development. And don't forget to click on these links and follow us on Twitter for ongoing road closures and construction updates on the Houston District Twitter page. You can also keep up with TxDOT news on our Facebook page.



**Thank you for participating in  
this public meeting!**

**Please remember to submit comments by  
December 22, 2021**

Thank you for participating in this public meeting. Please remember to submit comments by December 22, 2021.