



Notice

Virtual Public Hearing with In-Person Option FARM-TO-MARKET (FM) 529

FROM STATE HIGHWAY (SH) 99 (GRAND PARKWAY) TO FM 362
CSJ: 1006-01-074, 1006-02-009, 1006-01-079
HARRIS AND WALLER COUNTIES, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation is proposing improvements along Farm-to-Market (FM) 529 from State Highway (SH) 99 (Grand Parkway) to FM 362 in Harris and Waller counties, Texas. This notice advises the public that the project team will be conducting a virtual public hearing with an in-person option on the proposed project. **The virtual public hearing will be available starting on Tuesday, August 30, 2022, at 5 p.m. through Thursday, September 15, 2022, at 11:59 p.m.** To view the presentation and materials, go to the following web address beginning at the date and time indicated above: www.txdot.gov, and type “**FM 529 from SH 99**” in the search box.

The virtual public hearing will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation and will include both audio and visual components. Please note that the presentation will not be available on the website until the date and time listed above. If you do not have internet access, you may call 713-802-5137 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 in-person option for individuals who would like to participate in person, instead of online. In-person attendees will be able to view the same presentation as posted online, which will be playing on a screen; review hard copies of project materials; ask questions of the project team; and leave written comments. **The in-person option will be held on Tuesday, August 30, 2022, from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Patricia E. Paetow High School, Cafeteria, 23111 Stockdick School Road, Katy, Texas.**

For both the virtual public hearing and in-person option, members of the public may call 832-409-2567 to provide verbal testimony during the comment period. Written comments may also be provided by mail or email as explained below. All comments received before the end of the comment period will be considered equally and will be included as part of the official record. Responses to comments will be prepared by TxDOT, included as part of the hearing and project record, and made available online at www.txdot.gov, keyword search “**FM 529 from SH 99**”.

The proposed project would include both an urban and a rural roadway configuration along FM 529 to match the needs of the surrounding communities. The urban configuration, from SH 99 to Katy Hockley Cut Off Road, would widen FM 529 from two to six lanes (three lanes in each travel direction), and would include 10-foot-wide shared use paths for bicycle and pedestrian use on both sides of the roadway. The rural configuration, from Katy Hockley Cut Off Road to FM 362, would widen FM 529 from two to four lanes (two lanes in each travel direction), and would similarly include 10-foot-wide shared use paths on both sides of the roadway. The total project length is approximately 12 miles.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require approximately 109 acres of additional right-of-way and potentially displace one commercial business, one non-residential structure of unknown use, and one overhead utility tower. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program regarding services and benefits for those displaced, as well as other affected property owners, and information about the tentative schedule for right-of-way acquisition and construction can be obtained from the TxDOT district office by calling (713) 802-5260.

The proposed project would require acquisition of approximately 13.1 acres of new right-of-way from two historic sites, the Eba Hebert Ranch and Beckendorff Farm (6.3 acres and 6.8 acres, respectively), which represent approximately one percent of the acreage within the boundaries of each of the historic sites. TxDOT anticipates making *de minimis* determinations for these uses under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966. Public comment on the effects of the proposed project on the activities, features, or attributes of the historic sites may be submitted as described below.

The proposed project would involve construction in wetlands.

The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain.

Any environmental documentation or studies, maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are on file and available for review by appointment Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the TxDOT Houston District Office,

7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007. An appointment can be scheduled by calling (713) 802-5137. Project materials are also available online at www.txdot.gov, keyword search "**FM 529 from SH 99**".

The public hearing will be conducted in English and Spanish. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English or Spanish is not your primary language or you have difficulty communicating effectively in English or Spanish, 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 public hearing, please contact Jason Holloman, Environmental Specialist, at 713-802-5137 no later than 4 p.m. Central Daylight Time, Thursday, August 25, 2022. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for the project team to arrange.

Comments from the public regarding the proposed project are encouraged. Written comments may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Houston District Office, Advanced Project Development Director, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251-1386. Written comments may also be submitted by email to HOU-PIOwebmail@txdot.gov. Additionally, as stated above, members of the public may call 832-409-2567 and verbally provide testimony from 5 p.m. on Tuesday, August 30, 2022, until 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, September 15, 2022. All comments must be received on or before Thursday, September 15, 2022. Responses to comments received will be available online at www.txdot.gov, keyword search "**FM 529 from SH 99**" once they have been prepared.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the virtual public hearing, please contact Sam Ainabe, Project Manager, at 713-802-5260 or by email Samuel.Ainabe@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 December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.