



Notice
Virtual Public Hearing with In-Person Option
State Highway (SH) 36
From Interstate Highway (I) 69 S to Farm-to-Market (FM) 2218
CSJ: 0188-01-016
Fort Bend County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Houston District is proposing improvements along SH 36 from I-69 to FM 2218 in Fort Bend County, 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. This Public Hearing is being held to present the proposed project, share environmental findings, and gather further input. **The Virtual Public Hearing will be available starting on Tuesday, August 22, 2023, by 5:00 p.m.** The Virtual Public Hearing will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation and will include both audio and visual components. To view the Virtual Public Hearing presentation and view project information, go to the following web address <https://www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html>.

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) 802-5560 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 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, review hard copies of project materials, ask questions of the project team, and leave written comments. **The in-person option will be held Thursday, August 24, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Rosenberg Civic Center, 3825 SH 36, Rosenberg, TX 77471.**

For both the Virtual Public Hearing and In-Person Option, members of the public may call (281) 768-3560 to provide verbal testimony during the comment period in English and Spanish. 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 the webpage listed above once completed.

This project is needed because the existing SH 36 roadway does not meet current design standards, and projected growth in the area will cause traffic demand to exceed the existing roadway capacity.

The proposed project would consist of the widening and reconstructing of SH 36 from a two-lane (one in each direction) undivided roadway to a four-lane (two in each direction) divided roadway. The proposed roadway would consist of four 11-foot-wide lanes (two in each direction) with a 10-foot-wide shared use path on both sides of the right of way. The roadway would include a 30-foot-wide raised center median. Median openings and turn-bays would allow for left-turn movements along SH 36 within the project limits. The project is approximately 2.9 miles in length and would require approximately 25 acres of additional right of way (ROW). Two stormwater detention ponds are proposed for the project; one would be located on the west side of SH 36 near Fairgrounds Road, and one would be located on the east side of SH 36 near Ustinik Road. The existing bridge-class culverts located at the north and south crossings of Seabourne Creek would be replaced with bridges.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require additional ROW and potentially displace three residences and six non-residential structures. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program and services and benefits for those displaced and other affected property owners, as well as information about the tentative schedule for ROW acquisition may be obtained from Felicia Shamlin by calling (713) 802-5685.

The proposed project is anticipated to impact the following property protected under Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966: Seabourne Creek Nature Park.

The proposed project would require 2.72 acres of the total 164 acres from the Seabourne Creek Nature Park in Rosenberg, Texas. Seabourne Creek Nature Park is a recreation area that includes facilities such as trails, wetlands, and green space. The portion of the property that would be impacted by the proposed project is currently used by the facility as a driveway and parking and is located along the western edge of the park property adjacent to the existing SH 36 ROW. The regional sports complex that is located on the eastern side of the property would not be impacted. The project team anticipates a *de minimis* determination for this use 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 Seabourne Creek Nature Park may be submitted as instructed 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 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Houston District Office, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007. Project materials are also available at the TxDOT Fort Bend Area Office located at 4235 SH 36, Rosenberg, TX 77471, and online at <https://www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html>.

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 free-of-charge. 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 Tunisia Smith, Environmental Project Manager, at (713) 802-5560 no later than 4:00 p.m., Thursday, August 17, 2023. 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 (281) 768-3560 and verbally provide testimony from 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 22, 2023, until 11:59 p.m. on Monday, September 11, 2023. All comments must be received or postmarked by Monday, September 11, 2023 to be included in the official record of the hearing. Responses to comments received will be available online <https://www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html> once completed.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the public hearing, please contact Andy Ngo, Project Engineer, at (713) 802-5782 or by email at andy.ngo@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.