



MEMO

7/1/2024

To: Administrative File
From: Jason Rivas
District: Lufkin
County: Nacogdoches
CSJ#: 2560-01-085
Highway: US 59/US 259
Project Limits: 2.4 miles south of US59/US 259 North Interchange to 1.3 miles north of US 59/US 259 North Interchange
Let Date: March 2029

Project Summary: Highway Improvement – TxDOT proposes highway improvements, installation of sidewalks and frontage roads, and bridge replacements. The project requires 115 acres of new right-of-way (ROW). There are no historic properties are in the Area of Potential Effect (APE).

SUBJECT: Internal review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement (Section 106 PA) among the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Texas State Historic Preservation Officer, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and TxDOT.

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 MOU dated December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

Project Description

Please see the attachment from TxDOT's Environmental Compliance Oversight System (ECOS) that describes the project, setting, and amount of ROW and easements necessary for the project.

Determination of Eligibility

TxDOT historians reviewed the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the list of State Antiquities Landmarks (SAL), the list of Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHL), and TxDOT files and found no historically significant resources previously documented within the area of potential effects (APE). The TxDOT Section 106 PA defines the APE for this project as the existing ROW and 150 feet from proposed new ROW.

TxDOT oversaw a **reconnaissance survey** of historic-age properties within the APE. The survey identified 81 historic-age properties (built before 1984) in the APE. The historic-age properties surveyed primarily included residential and commercial properties, dating ca. 1930 to ca. 1985. Based on the **Historic Resources Survey Report (HRSR)**, all the historic-age properties surveyed have no known historic associations with important events or persons. Moreover, they are common designs that lack architectural merit, are not works of a master, and are therefore not eligible for

NRHP listing under *Criteria A, B, or C*. Please see "Approved_HIST HRSR 2560-01-085 (5-24).pdf" for details.

Consultation

On May 31, 2024, TxDOT sent Section 106 letters with maps and photos to the City of Nacogdoches (CLG) and Nacogdoches County Historical Commission (CHC), informing them of the project. TxDOT received an emailed response from the CLG on June 12, 2024, concurring with TxDOT findings. Please see "HIST CLG 2560-01-085 (05-24).pdf" and "HIST CLG Response 2560-01-085 (07-24).pdf" for correspondence. The CHC responded on June 26, 2024, stating the CHC was not aware of historic sites in the area. Moreover, they shared that the Nacogdoches Caddo Indians had undefined settlements north of Nacogdoches. This information was shared with ARCH for their convenience. Please see "HIST CHC 2560-01-085 (05-24).pdf" and "HIST CHC Response 2560-01-085 (07-24).pdf" for correspondence.

Conclusion

Therefore, pursuant to Stipulation X, Appendix 6 "Undertakings with the Potential to Cause Effects per 36 CFR 800.16(i)" of the Section 106 PA and the MOU, TxDOT historians determined that there are **no historic, non-archeological properties in the APE**. In compliance with the Antiquities Code of Texas and the MOU, TxDOT historians determined project activities **have no potential for adverse effects**. Individual project coordination with SHPO is not required.

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Project Definition

Project Name:

CSJ: - -

Anticipated Environmental Classification:

Type:

Criterion:

Is this an FHWA project that normally requires an EIS per 23 CFR 771.115(a)?

- Project Association(s)
- DCIS Project Funding and Location
- DCIS & P6 Letting Dates
- DCIS Project Description
- Jurisdiction

Environmental Clearance Project Description

Project Area

Typical Depth of Impacts: (Feet) Maximum Depth of Impacts: (Feet)

New ROW Required: (Acres)

New Perm. Easement Required: (Acres) New Temp. Easement Required: (Acres)

Project Description

Describe Limits of All Activities:

The proposed project will extend approximately 3.7 miles along US 59 from 2.4 miles south of the US 59/US 259 North Interchange to 1.3 miles north of US 59/US 259 North Interchange. The proposed project will also include work along US 259 from 0.4 miles south of the US 59/US 259 North Interchange to 1.2 miles north the US 59/US 259 North Interchange. Intersection improvements will also be included at FM 343 (Industrial Drive) and Loop 224 (Stallings Drive/Westward Drive).

The proposed project will require the acquisition of approximately 64 acres of right of way (ROW) west of US 59; 32 acres of ROW east of US 59; 15 acres of ROW north of US 259; and 4 acres of ROW south of US 259. This will result in a new minimum ROW width of 190 feet and a maximum width of 780 feet along US 59. The new ROW width along US 259 will range from 120 to 440 feet.

Describe Project Setting:

The project is located in Redfield, an urban/suburban area within Nacogdoches County. Substantial traffic generators in the area include Central Heights High School, Stephen F. Austin State University, Walmart, residential commuting and logging/timber trucks.

Vegetation in the project area includes pasture, common roadside grasses, and deciduous woodlands with dense understory brush. Land use consists of residential, commercial, and maintained agricultural land.

The project crosses five streams, including Bonita Creek, Toliyar Branch, and three unnamed streams. There are three potential wetlands immediately adjacent to the proposed ROW.

Describe Existing Facility:



The existing US 59 facility provides two 12-foot travel lane with 4-foot inside shoulders and 10-foot outside shoulders in both directions and a 48-foot grass median south of the US 59/US 259 North Interchange. North of the US 59/US 259 North Interchange, the existing US 59 facility provides two 12-foot travel lanes with 10-foot outside shoulders in both directions and a 16-foot turn lane. The existing ROW width varies from 155 to 519 feet. Access is non-controlled and drainage is conveyed via open ditches.

The existing US 259 facility provides two 12-foot travel lanes with 2-foot outside shoulders in both directions south of the US59/US 259 North Interchange. North of the US59/US 259 North Interchange, the existing US 259 facility provides two 12-foot travel lanes with 10-foot outside shoulders in both directions and a 16-foot turn lane. The existing ROW width varies from 120 to 175 feet. Access is non-controlled and drainage is conveyed via open ditches.

Within the project limits, there are two 185-foot-long by 40-foot-wide concrete bridges over Loop 224; two 190-foot-long by 40-foot-wide concrete bridges over FM 343; two 300-foot-long by 40-foot-wide concrete bridges over the abandoned UPRR; two 222-foot-long by 40-foot-wide concrete bridges over US 59; and a bridge class culvert at Bonita Creek.

There are overpasses at Loop 224 and FM 343. There is an underpass and cloverleaf ramps at the US 59/US 259 North Interchange.

Describe Proposed Facility:

The proposed US 59 facility will provide two 12-foot travel lanes with 10-foot inside shoulders and 12-foot outside shoulders in both directions with a concrete median barrier. The US 59 facility will also include frontage roads consisting of two 12-foot travel lanes, 4-foot inside shoulders, 10-foot outside shoulders, and 10-foot shared-use paths. The proposed ROW width varies from 165 to 695 feet. The proposed ROW (total of 115 acres) will be expanded generally on both sides of the roadway along US 59 and US 259. Access will be controlled in locations with the new frontage roads and will be non-controlled where there is no frontage road. Drainage will be conveyed via open ditches and storm sewer.

The proposed US 259 facility will provide two 12-foot travel lanes with 4-foot inside shoulders and 10-foot outside shoulders in both directions and a curbed median and 5-foot sidewalks. The proposed ROW width varies from 120 to 330 feet. Access will be controlled and drainage will be conveyed via open ditches and storm sewer. The project would include construction of a truck parking area on the southbound frontage road between Stallings and FM 343. Current proposed ROW acreage includes this area.

Within the project limits, there will be a 360-foot-long by 122-foot-wide concrete bridge constructed over Loop 224; a 360-foot-long by 122-foot-wide concrete bridge constructed over FM 343; a 300-foot-long by 122-foot-wide concrete bridge constructed over the abandoned UPRR ROW; two 225-foot-long by 100-foot-wide concrete bridges over US 59; a 400-foot-long by 55-foot-wide

<input type="button" value="No"/> Would the project add capacity?
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Clearance Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Project Contacts
Last Updated By: Scott Wahlberg
Last Updated Date: 10/16/2023 10:53:48