



***Virtual Public Meeting***  
***FM 121 Gunter Relief Route and FM 121W***  
***CSJ: 0091-19-189 & 0729-01-045***  
***Grayson County, Texas***  
***Tuesday, June 21, 2022***

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**TxDOT**

**SLIDE 1 – Title Slide**

Welcome to the FM 121 Gunter Relief Route and FM 121W in Grayson County virtual public meeting presented by The Texas Department of Transportation Paris District.

Thank you for joining us. My name is Dan Perry and I serve as the Director of Transportation Planning and Development for the Paris District. On behalf of Paris District Engineer Noel Paramanatham and Project Manager Duane Good, the department appreciates your interest in the FM 121 Gunter Relief Route and the FM 121W projects.

At the conclusion of this presentation, you will be provided several methods to submit your comments to the department. Your comments will be addressed in the formal meeting documentation and will be given full consideration as the department prepares final recommendations for these two projects.

All maps and exhibits showing the project location and design as well as other information and materials about the proposed project are available for your review at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) by searching “FM 121 Gunter Relief Route” or “FM 121W”.

**SLIDE 2 – Public Meeting**

The in-person public meeting is being held on June 21, 2022 in the Gunter High School Cafeteria at 1102 N 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Gunter, Texas 75058. Both the virtual and in-person meetings will cover the same project information. The virtual public meeting has been designed to mirror a traditional public meeting while giving you a chance to review the material and provide input at your convenience.

I will now introduce engineering firm, BGE, who has been assisting TxDOT with developing this virtual public meeting.



**BGE, Inc**

**SLIDE 3– Project Overview**

Thank you, Dan.

For the FM 121 Gunter Relief Route Project, the TxDOT Paris District, and the Grayson County Regional Mobility Authority, also known as GCRMA, is proposing to construct a new location roadway from Scharff Road to SH 289, also referred to as Preston Road. The approximate project length is 4.3 miles and traverses primarily open pastures.

For the FM 121W Project, the TxDOT Paris District is proposing to widen the roadway from a two lane rural roadway to a four lane rural roadway with a center two-way left turn lane from SH 289 to FM 3356 in Grayson County, Texas. The approximate project length is 7.2 miles.

**SLIDE 4 – Project Goals**

Both projects have similar goals. These goals include improving safety along the existing corridor and increasing regional mobility. The proposed projects would reroute future high traffic volumes away from the City of Gunter while improving sight distance for both directions of traffic. Turning movements would be improved by providing a median left-turn lane throughout the project.

Regional Mobility would be improved by providing a connection from FM 3356 to the future FM Spur 121, which is currently under construction along existing Scharff Road. FM Spur 121 is an extension of North Texas Tollway Authority’s Dallas North Tollway from the Grayson County Line to FM 121.

**SLIDE 5 – Comparison Matrix Analysis**

The first public meeting for FM 121 Gunter Relief Route Project was held October 27, 2020. The first public meeting for FM 121W Project was held January 31, 2019.



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At the first public meetings, three alternatives were presented for each project. After these public meetings, the three alternatives were analyzed and compared to determine the recommended alignment. The project team and TxDOT evaluated environmental resources, engineering constraints, public and stakeholder input, utilities, right of way, and construction cost to prepare the recommended alternatives being presented today. This slide summarizes the resources used in the alternatives analysis.

### **SLIDE 6 – Existing Typical Section**

Currently FM 121 is a two-lane rural roadway with two 11-foot lanes in each direction as well as a two to four foot shoulder on either side of the highway with roadside ditches.

### **SLIDE 7– Proposed Section**

Both project facilities include a four-lane roadway with a center two-way left turn lane. The Gunter Relief Route Project is being designed at 70 miles per hour. The FM 121W project is being designed for a 70 to 50 mile per hour from SH 289 to FM 3356. The proposed typical section features roadside ditches for the majority of the project with a corridor reserved adjacent to the proposed right of way for future sidewalks and utilities.

The FM 121W Project from Durning Road to FM 3356 features an urban section with curb and gutter, and slotted curbs to reduce impacts to utility substations.

### **SLIDE 8– Gunter Relief Route**

The Gunter Relief Route Project crosses Preston Road approximately 0.8 miles south of the existing FM 121 crossing. The project includes the realignment and reconfiguration of Westman Road and Little Elm Creek Road.

The connectivity between Westman Road and Little Elm Creek Road would be changing. Westman Road at Little Elm Creek Road would no longer be a through movement. Motorist traveling northbound on Westman Road would enter FM 121 Gunter Relief Route to access SH 289 (Preston Road) or would enter FM 121 Gunter Relief Route and turn right onto Westman Road.



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Motorist traveling southbound on Westman Road would enter FM 121 Gunter Relief Route then turn right onto Westman Road or continue on FM 121 Gunter Relief Route to access SH 289 (Preston Road). Motorist wishing to travel eastbound on Little Elm Creek traveling southbound on Westman Road would enter FM 121 Gunter Relief Route and turn left onto Little Elm Creek Road.

Motorist traveling westbound on Little Elm Creek Road would enter FM 121 Gunter Relief Route and then turn right onto northbound Westman Road or cross FM 121 Gunter Relief Route to southbound Westman Road. Please see schematic sheet 3 for more information.

This project also features a bridge over Little Elm Creek and a bridge over the railroad and SH 289. The proposed right of way for the project varies from 220 feet to 320 feet. A copy of the schematic roll plots can be downloaded for review from the TxDOT public meeting website under “downloads”.

### **SLIDE 9– FM 121W**

The FM 121W Project uses the existing Sharp Road intersection to provide access to SH 289. Due to the location of the railroad, a traditional ramp configuration does not allow access to all directions, a proposed jug handle would allow traffic to access all turning movements from FM 121 to SH 289. The project includes the realignment of Block Road, and the reconstruction of existing bridges along FM 121. The proposed right of way for the project varies from 120 feet to 335 feet. A copy of the schematic roll plots can be downloaded for review from the TxDOT public meeting website under “downloads”.

### **SLIDE 10 – Environmental Review**

Environmental Documentation will be prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This will include reviewing Air Quality, Traffic Noise, Social & Community Impacts, Hazardous Materials, Biological Resources, Water Resources, and Historic and Archaeological Resources. Alternatives are evaluated and compared based on impacts to all environmental constraints.



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An initial environmental constraints map is available for both FM 121 Gunter Relief Route and FM 121W on the project website for review.

Once the environmental technical reports are complete, they will be available for public review and comment. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for the spring of 2023.

### **SLIDE 11 & 12 – Environmental Constraints Map**

The Environmental Constraints Map contains a legend on the bottom of the map and identifies the shading and symbols used on the map. As a friendly reminder, a copy of this exhibit is available for download on the virtual public meeting website under “downloads”.

### **SLIDE 13- Schedule**

Both FM 121 Gunter Relief Route and FM 121W have conducted their first public meetings. Today we are presenting the recommended alignment from those meetings to obtain feedback and input from the public. The comment period for this meeting will remain open through July 7, 2022.

Once the public feedback from this public meeting has been reviewed the projects will begin to develop their environmental findings and finalize roadway designs. There is a Public Hearing planned for the Spring of 2023 that will give the public another chance to provide feedback. Right of way acquisition is planned to begin in the Fall of 2023 after environmental clearance is received.

### **SLIDE 14 – Public Comments**

As previously stated, one of the goals of this public meeting is to receive your thoughts, questions, and concerns about the proposed projects. There are several ways to submit your comment:

1. You may email your comments to: [Duane.Good@txdot.gov](mailto:Duane.Good@txdot.gov).
2. Mail your comments to Duane Good, P.E., TxDOT Paris District Office, 1365 North Main Street, Paris, TX 75460.
3. You may submit your comments online:



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- a. Visit [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov).
  - b. In the “Search TxDOT” box in the upper-right hand corner of the webpage, enter the search term: FM 121 Gunter Relief Route or FM 121 W.
  - c. Select the Virtual Public Meeting webpage, then click on the “Submit Your Comment” button at the top right of the page or click on the email link at the bottom of the page.
4. You may also scan this QR Code with your smartphone or tablet to access the electronic comment form.

All comments regarding the FM 121 Gunter Relief Route and FM 121W Projects must be received or postmarked on or before Thursday, July 07, 2022, to be included in the formal meeting documentation.

### **SLIDE 15 – Public Inquiries**

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the FM 121 Gunter Relief Route and the FM 121W Projects, please contact the TxDOT project manager, Duane Good, during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., by phone at (903) 737-9282 or by email at [Duane.Good@txdot.gov](mailto:Duane.Good@txdot.gov).

Thank you for attending the virtual or in-person public meeting and for your interest concerning the proposed design of the FM 121 Gunter Relief Route and FM 121W Projects.

Please visit [TxDOT.gov](http://TxDOT.gov) for additional project information and to subscribe for project updates and meeting notices.

Thank you.