



Notice
Virtual Public Meeting with In-Person Option
Interstate Highway I-69E
From Spur 54 to Spur 413
CSJs: 0039-07-249, 0327-08-094, 0327-10-063, 0039-07-257
Cameron and Willacy Counties, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Pharr District is proposing to reconstruct the Interstate 69E (I-69E) main lanes from Spur 54 to Spur 413 in Cameron and Willacy Counties, Texas. This notice advises the public that TxDOT will be conducting an online virtual public meeting on the proposed project with an in-person option. The virtual meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 5 p.m.** To log onto the virtual public meeting, go to the following web address (www.txdot.gov) at the date and time indicated above and type "I-69E Interstate Improvements" into the search box at the top right corner of the webpage. Project staff will give a presentation, which will be a pre-recorded video and will include both audio and visual components. Please note that the presentation will not be available on the website until the time and date listed above. Following the virtual public meeting, the presentation will remain available for viewing at the web address indicated above until **Friday, June 11, at 11:59 p.m.** If you do not have internet access, you may call Javier Lopez P.E. at (956)-702-6195, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., 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 delivered in the online public meeting, which will be playing on a screen, review hard copies of project materials, ask questions of TxDOT staff and/or consultants from a socially distanced approach, and leave written comments. The in-person option will be held on **Thursday, May 27, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.** at the TxDOT San Benito Area Office, 1350 East Bus Highway 77, San Benito, Texas 78586. Attendance at the in-person option will be by appointment only. Individuals wishing to attend the in-person option must call Javier Lopez P.E. at (956)-702-6195, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., to make an appointment. In recognition of COVID-19, enhanced safety measures will be applied at the in-person option, including a requirement to have an appointment and follow social distancing practices. If anyone arrives without an appointment, they may be asked to wait outside to ensure we maintain appropriate occupancy within the meeting room.

The proposed project would redesign this roadway configuration to interstate standards, consisting of a divided six-lane highway with 10-foot-wide inside and outside shoulders, and a continuous concrete barrier to separate opposing traffic. The proposed project also would include the redesign of the intersection of Loop 499 with Business 77 and Starbuck Road with Business 77, the construction of frontage roads, and the redesign/reconfiguration of several access ramps. The project would also require additional right of way of approximately 1.06 acres at Starbuck Road.

The purpose of the project is to reconstruct the I-69E main lanes for future highway conditions and to increase the design speed to interstate standards for approximately 12 miles. The current roadway consists of a divided four-lane highway with four-foot-wide inside shoulders, 10-foot-wide outside shoulders, and a grass median with a combination cable and concrete barrier, to separate opposing traffic.

Although additional right of way would be required, no residential or non-residential structures are expected to be displaced at this time. Information concerning services and benefits available to potentially 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 (956)-702-6287.

The proposed project may involve construction in wetlands and is within 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 will be available online on May 26, 2021 at 5 p.m. at www.txdot.gov by typing the keyword "I-69E Interstate Improvements" in the search box. These materials will also be available in hard copy form for review at the in-person option.

The virtual public meeting and in-person option will be conducted in English and Spanish. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English is not your primary language or you have difficulty communicating effectively in English, 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 virtual public meeting or in-person option, please contact Norma Robledo, Pharr District, at (956)-702-6161 no later than **5 p.m., Friday, May 21, 2021**. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for the Texas Department of Transportation to arrange.

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Pharr District Office, Attn: I-69E Interstate Improvements, 600 West Interstate 2, Pharr, Texas 78577. Written comments may also be submitted by email to jose.j.lopez@txdot.gov. All comments must be received on or before Friday, June 11, 2021. Responses to comments received will be available online at www.txdot.gov once they have been prepared.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or virtual meeting or in-person option, please contact Javier Lopez P.E., Project Manager, by phone (956)-702-6195 or email jose.j.lopez@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.