



## Notice

### Final Environmental Assessment Available for Public Review

#### STATE LOOP (SL) 195

#### FM 755 to US Highway (US) 83-One Mile NW of the Loma Blanca Intersection

#### CSJs: 3632-01-001, etc.

#### Starr County, Texas

This notice advises the public that the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has issued a final environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed State Loop (SL) 195 project, and that the final EA is available for public review. The proposed SL 195 project would entail the construction of a new-location four-lane divided highway, connecting FM 755 to US 83, from FM 755 to US Highway (US) 83-One Mile NW of the Loma Blanca Intersection in Starr County, Texas.

The proposed project is a new-location reliever route. FM 755 (the eastern terminus) is a two-lane undivided roadway, and US 83 (the western terminus) has two lanes in each direction with a center left-turn lane. The proposed SL 195 project would connect these two existing roadways.

The new roadway's typical section would have two 12-foot vehicle travel lanes in each direction and a grassy median; the roadway would expand to include left-turn lanes at the at-grade intersections with existing roadways and at the turn-around locations provided along the alignment. The roadway would have four-foot inside shoulders and 10-foot outside shoulders within a typical 300-foot-wide right-of-way. There would be an overpass approach at the intersection with US 83/Loma Blanca Road. In the areas with future overpasses, the right-of-way would increase to 450 feet wide to accommodate future main lanes over the intersection. The overpass approach at US 83/Loma Blanca Road would have two 12-foot vehicle travel lanes in each direction with 17-foot inside shoulders and 10-foot outside shoulders. The proposed project would also include improvements to FM 3167 and FM 649. At these locations, the cross streets would be widened to provide a travel lane and left-turn lane in each direction, for a length of 285 feet within the intersection.

Designs for this project are preliminary, and the calculations for potential impacts at jurisdictional features (Los Olmos Creek and Arroyo Garceno) have not been finalized. It is anticipated that impacts to these features will be authorized through NWP #14. If permanent impacts exceed 200 linear feet or 0.10 acres, a PCN would be required and TxDOT would submit a jurisdictional determination to the USACE for the project. Impacts to these features would be minimized to the extent practicable and if permanent impacts are maintained below the PCN thresholds, then no coordination with the USACE would be required. The project area crosses the mapped FEMA-designated 100-year floodplain of 17 crossings. Potential fill within the floodplain would be determined during final design and coordinated with the appropriate local floodplain administrators. The proposed project would not raise the base flood elevation to a level that would violate applicable floodplain regulations or ordinances.

The proposed project would require approximately 667.01 acres of new right-of-way. Potential displacements include one commercial, five residential, and seven other structures that appear to be non-habitable sheds or other outbuildings located adjacent to residences. Relocation assistance is available for those displaced through TxDOT's Relocation Assistance Program. The relocation process would be

conducted according to the Title II and Title III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970. Information about the benefits, services and Right-of-Way Acquisition schedule can be obtained by calling the TxDOT District Office at (956) 702-6110.

The approved final EA is available online at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov), keyword: “**SL 195**”.

Pursuant to 23 CFR 771.119(h), TxDOT will issue a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for this project no sooner than 30 days after the issuance of this notice of availability.

For further information or to request a copy of the approved final EA, please contact Robin Gelston, Environmental Supervisor/Coordinator, (956) 702-6130, and [Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov](mailto:Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov).

The EA is written in English. 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 review the EA, please contact Norma Robledo, TxDOT Pharr District, at (956) 702-6161 no later than 4 p.m. CT, at least three business days before the date on which you would like to review the EA. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange.

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.