



Texas Department of Transportation

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Public Hearing Notice - Statewide Transportation Improvement Program

The Texas Department of Transportation (department) will conduct a virtual public hearing on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Central Standard Time (CST) to receive public comments on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for FY 2021-2024. The hearing will be conducted via electronic means due to the public health precautions surrounding COVID-19.

Instructions for accessing the hearing will be published on the department's website at: <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/get-involved/about/hearings-meetings.html>

The STIP reflects the federally funded transportation projects in the FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) for each Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in the state. The STIP includes both state and federally funded projects for the nonattainment areas of Dallas-Fort Worth, El Paso, Houston and San Antonio. The STIP also contains information on federally funded projects in rural areas that are not included in any MPO area, and other statewide programs as listed.

Title 23, United States Code, §134 and §135 require each designated MPO and the state, respectively, to develop a TIP and STIP as a condition to securing federal funds for transportation projects under Title 23 or the Federal Transit Act (49 USC §5301, et seq.). Section 134 requires an MPO to develop its TIP in cooperation with the state and affected public transit operators and to provide an opportunity for interested parties to participate in the development of the program. Section 135 requires the state to develop a STIP for all areas of the state in cooperation with the designated MPOs and, with respect to non-metropolitan areas, in consultation with affected local officials, and further requires an opportunity for participation by interested parties as well as approval by the Governor or the Governor's designee.

A copy of the proposed FY 2021-2024 STIP will be available for review, at the time the notice of hearing is published, on the department's website at:

<https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/transportation-planning/stips.html>

Persons wishing to speak at the hearing may register in advance by notifying Angela Erwin, Transportation Planning and Programming Division, at (512) 416-2187 no later than 12:00 p.m. CST on Wednesday, March 17, 2021. Speakers will be taken in the order registered and will be limited to three minutes. Speakers who do not register in advance will be taken at the end of the hearing. Any interested person may offer comments or testimony; however, questioning of witnesses will be reserved exclusively to the presiding authority as may be necessary to ensure a complete record. While any persons with pertinent comments or testimony will be granted an opportunity to present them during the course of the hearing, the presiding authority reserves the right to restrict testimony in terms of time or repetitive content. Groups, organizations, or associations should be represented by only one speaker.

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Speakers are requested to refrain from repeating previously presented testimony.

The public hearing will be conducted in English. Persons who have special communication or accommodation needs and who plan to participate in the hearing are encouraged to contact the Transportation Planning and Programming Division, at (512) 486-5003. Requests should be made at least three working days prior to the public hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate the needs.

Interested parties who are unable to participate in the hearing may submit comments regarding the proposed FY 2021-2024 STIP to Jessica Butler, P.E., Director of the Transportation Planning and Programming Division, P.O. Box 149217, Austin, Texas 78714-9217. In order to be considered, all written comments must be received at the Transportation Planning and Programming office by 4:00 p.m. CST on Monday, March 29, 2021.