



LEGAL NOTICE

TYLER DISTRICT

Steven Swindell, P.E.
(903) 510-9100
steven.swindell@txdot.gov

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice of Draft Environmental Assessment Availability for Public Review and Public Hearing, Texas Department of Transportation FM 2493, from FM 346 in Flint, S. to U.S. 69, Smith and Cherokee Counties, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing roadway improvements for FM 2493, from FM 346 in Flint, south to U.S. 69 near Bullard, in Smith and Cherokee Counties, Texas. This notice advises the public that a draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting a public hearing on the proposed project. The hearing will be held on November 15, 2018, at the Bullard Elementary School Cafeteria, 2008 Panther Crossing, Bullard, Texas. Displays will be available for viewing at 5 p.m. with the formal hearing starting at 6 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements and to receive public comment on the proposed project. The public hearing will be held in accordance with Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code. At the public hearing, all interested persons have the right to appear, and be heard on the using or taking of public land designated and used as parkland, consisting of approximately 0.22 acre of land, situated in the City of Bullard Park in the City of Bullard in Smith County, Texas.

The public hearing will present plans to upgrade and widen FM 2493 by converting the existing two lane rural roadway to a four lane divided roadway. An interchange will be developed at FM 2493 and U.S. Highway 69. The project length is approximately 9.2 miles. The proposed project is an added capacity roadway project and would require approximately 68 acres of additional right-of-way which will include displacements in commercial and residential properties. This project anticipates the relocation of 22 residential properties and 4 commercial properties. Information about the state's Relocation Assistance Program, the benefits and services for displacees and information concerning the relocation assistance office as well as information about the tentative schedule for right-of-way acquisition can be obtained from the TxDOT Tyler District Office.

As part of this project, TxDOT is considering a Section 4(f) *de minimis* impact determination for impacts to the City of Bullard Park. Approximately 0.22 acre located along the eastern boundary of the park would be required for permanent incorporation into the proposed transportation facility. A Section 4(f) *de minimis* finding means that the proposed project would not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes that qualify the City of Bullard Park for protection under Section 4(f). The City of Bullard and TxDOT will consider comments received during the environmental process before making a final Section 4(f) *de minimis* determination. The Draft EA, maps showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information will be displayed at the public hearing. Environmental documentation for the project will also be available for inspection at the hearing. Project materials are also on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Tyler District Office, 2709 W. Front St. in Tyler. This information will also be available online at <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/tyler/fm-2493.html>.

Verbal and written comments are requested and will be received at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted for a period of 15 calendar days (Friday, November 30, 2018) following the hearing by mail to Steven Swindell, P.E., at 2709 W. Front St., Tyler, TX 75702-7712, by email to steven.swindell@txdot.gov in order to become part of the official hearing record. If you have general questions or concerns regarding the project, please contact Steven Swindell.

The public meeting will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending who have special communication or accommodation needs, such as the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact TxDOT at (903) 510-9100. Requests should be made at least five days prior to the public hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

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 16, 2014, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration and TxDOT.

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