

Notice

Virtual Public Hearing

TEMPLE OUTER LOOP WEST PHASE I

From 522 feet South of Jupiter Drive to 20 feet North of Riverside Trail

CSJ: 0909-36-168

BELL County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and City of Temple are proposing to widen a portion of Old Waco Road from 522 feet south of Jupiter Drive to 20 feet north of Riverside Trail in Bell County, Texas. This notice advises the public that TxDOT will be conducting an on-line virtual public hearing on the proposed project. The virtual hearing will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation and will include both audio and visual components. The presentation will be posted online by November 28, 2022 at 10:00 am. To log onto the virtual public hearing, go to the following web address at the date and time indicated above: www.txdot.gov. In the "Search TxDOT" box in the upper-right-hand corner of the webpage, enter the search term: "Outer Loop West, Phase I". Click on the video to see the presentation. Following the virtual public hearing, the presentation will remain available for viewing at the web address indicated above until at least December 13, 2022 at 11:59 pm. If you do not have internet access, you may call (254) 899-6314 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, to ask questions and access project materials during the project development process.

Members of the public may call (254) 899-6314 to provide verbal testimony immediately following the conclusion of the virtual public hearing presentation at 10:00 am on November 28, 2022 through 11:59 pm on December 13, 2022. Formal written comments may also be provided by mail or email as explained below. All verbally provided testimony and timely written comments will be considered by TxDOT and included as part of the official record. Responses to verbally provided testimony and comments will be prepared by TxDOT, included as part of the hearing and project record, and made available online at www.txdot.gov.

The existing facility along Old Waco Road is currently a two-lane roadway with 12-foot-wide travel lanes and no associated shoulders in an approximate 65-foot, varying-width right-of-way. The proposed project includes a four-lane divided facility, approximately 1.3 miles in length, along the existing alignment with two, 12-foot lanes in each direction and five-foot outside bike lane in each direction. In addition, a separated ten-foot hike-and-bike trail will be constructed in each direction to better accommodate multimodal transportation. A curb and gutter would also be installed along the edge of the roadway to convey drainage. To accommodate the proposed improvements, approximately 26 acres of new right-of-way would be required for the project. The new right-of-way width for the proposed project would be widened to approximately 180 feet.

Although additional right-of-way would be required, no residential or non-residential structures are anticipated to be displaced at this time. Information concerning services and benefits available to affected property owners and information about the tentative schedule for right-of-way acquisition and construction can be obtained from Kasberg Patrick & Associates (KPA Engineers) by calling (254) 899-6314.

The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain at the northern end of the project area.

Any environmental documentation or studies, maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at KPA Engineers, ATTN: R. David Patrick, PE, 19 North Main Street, Temple, TX 76501 and (254) 899-6314.

Project materials are also available online at www.txdot.gov under the search term: "Outer Loop West, Phase I".

The virtual public hearing will be conducted 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 attend and participate in the virtual public hearing, please contact Kasberg Patrick & Associates (KPA Engineers), at (254) 899-6314 no later than 4 p.m. CT, November 21, 2022. 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 Waco District Office, c/o KPA Engineers, ATTN: R. David Patrick, PE, 19 North Main Street, Temple, TX 76501. Written comments may also be submitted by email to dpatrick@kpaengineers.com. All written comments must be received on or before Tuesday, December 13, 2022. Additionally, as stated above, members of the public may call (254) 899-6314 and verbally provide testimony from 10:00 am on November 28, 2022 until 11:59 pm on Tuesday, December 13, 2022. Responses to written comments received and public testimony provided 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 the virtual hearing, please contact R. David Patrick, PE, (254) 899-6314, and dpatrick@kpaengineers.com.

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.