Welcome to the Virtual Public Hearing for the TxDOT Wichita Falls District's US 287 Clay County project. This is a pre-recorded video presentation.

The Texas Department of Transportation is proposing to extend existing concrete barriers to prevent direct access to and from Burford Street and Betz Street from the US 287 main lanes within the city limits of Bellevue, in Clay County, Texas. The proposed project would also repair and resurface the US 287 Northbound main lanes from Lone Star Road to the Montague (MON-TAGE) County line. My name is Madeline Jurek, and I am part of the project team. I would like to thank you for your interest in the project.

This hearing presentation is available for viewing starting Thursday, November 16 at 5 p.m. During the virtual public hearing you may pause the presentation and navigate forward or backward using your video player to allow more time to review the information.

November 7, 2000, was the last deathless day on roadways in Texas. That means for nearly 23 years, at least one person has died every single day. We all have a part to play to change that. This message is that reminder – to End the Streak of deaths on Texas highways. We need drivers and passengers to act more responsibly and help us reach our goal of zero deaths by 2050. Texans can play a major role in ending fatal crashes with a few simple driving habits: wear seatbelts, drive the speed limit, put away the phone and other distractions, and never drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs. So please do your part and share this message with your friends and family.

Purpose of this Public Hearing

- Provide project information
- Describe the project so the public can determine how they may be affected
- Provide an opportunity to receive public input
- Maintain effective communication with the public regarding the project

The purpose of this public hearing is to provide project information, describe the project so the public can determine if and how they may be affected, provide an opportunity to receive public input, and maintain effective communication with the public regarding the project.

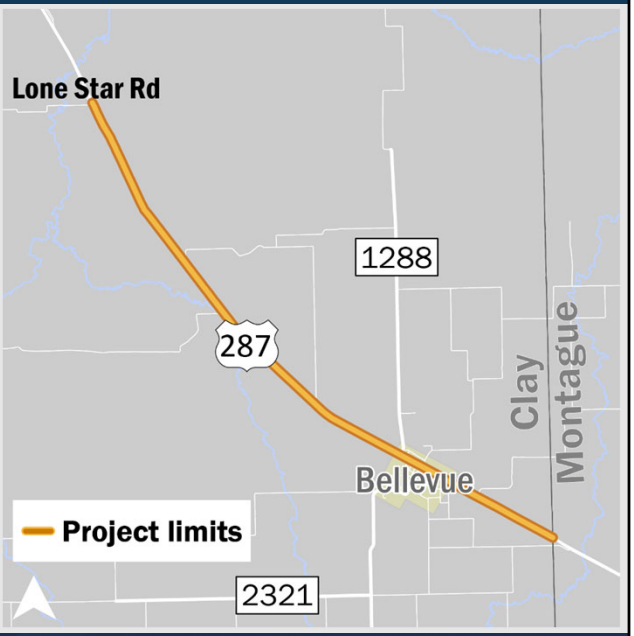
Agenda

1. Project overview
2. Purpose and objectives
3. Proposed changes
4. Anticipated schedule
5. How to view project materials
6. How to submit comments or verbal testimony

During this presentation, we will go over the project overview, purpose and objectives and the proposed changes. In addition, we will provide an anticipated schedule, and provide information on how you can request project materials and submit comments or verbal testimony.

Project Overview

- Proposed roadway rehabilitation along US 287 from Lone Star Road to the Montague County line
  - Repair and resurface the US 287 Northbound mainlanes and shoulders (within the divided sections)
  - Repair and resurface the US 287 mainlanes, shoulders and frontage roadways within the city limits of Bellevue
  - Install concrete traffic barriers
  - Install advanced flashing beacons for 55 mph speed zone



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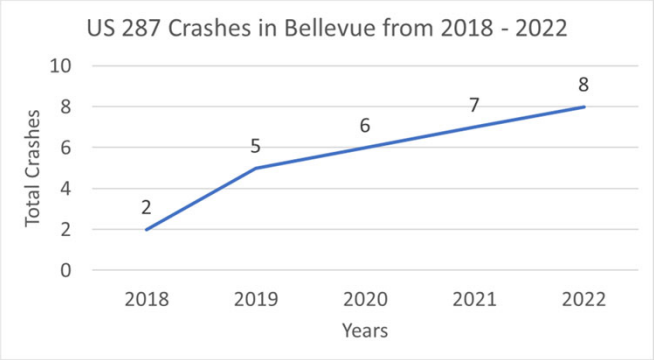
- This slide provides a description of the limits of the project and proposed work.
- The project extends from Lone Star Road to the Montague County line in Clay County, Texas totaling just over 10 miles.
- The roadway rehabilitation would repair and resurface the US 287 northbound main lanes and shoulders (within the divided sections) throughout the project limits. The roadway rehabilitation would include all the US 287 main lanes, shoulders and the frontage road within the limits of the City of Bellevue. In addition, the project proposes to install concrete traffic barriers and advanced flashing beacons for the 55 miles per hour speed zone to notify motorists of a change in speed while entering Bellevue.

Purpose and Objectives (Proposed Concrete Traffic Barriers)

- The purpose of the proposed barriers would limit the amount of direct access points to and from the mainlanes of US 287.
  - Current average daily traffic (total = 17,170)
  - Projected average daily traffic (total = 24,038)
  - Historical crash data (total = 28)
  - Poor sight distance at the closure locations
- The main objectives:
  - Enhance safety
  - Decrease the probability of crashes
  - Control access



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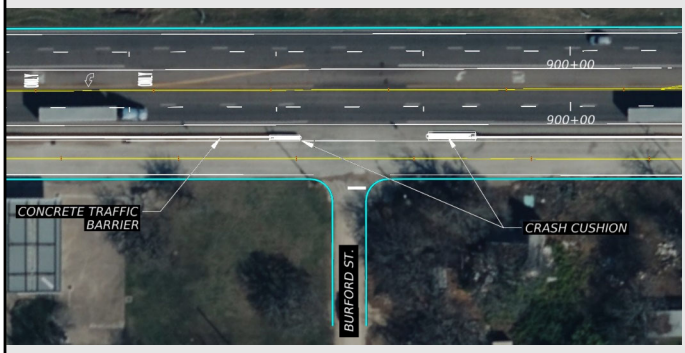
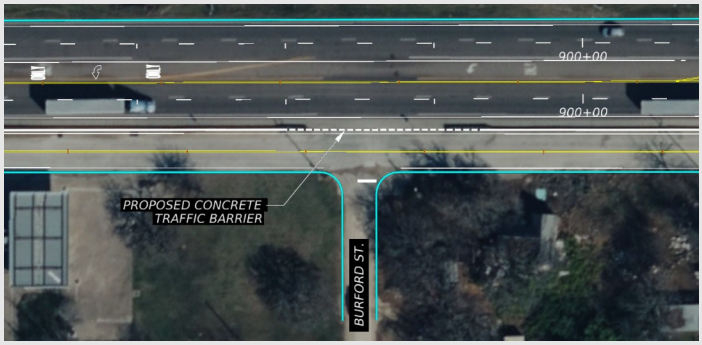
The purpose of the proposed barriers would limit the amount of direct access points into the City of Bellevue from the main lanes of US 287. There are currently 6 city streets that have direct access to and from the main lanes all within a ½ mile segment. This ½ mile segment currently sees 17,170 motorists per day. There has been a total of 28 crashes from 2018 to 2022 within the limits of Bellevue. One of those crashes resulted in a fatality. The graph indicates an upward trend in crashes within these limits. The poor sight distance at these access points increases the risk of a crash occurring. Our main objectives will be to enhance safety and decrease the probability of crashes occurring.

Proposed changes at Burford St.

EXISTING LAYOUT



PROPOSED LAYOUT

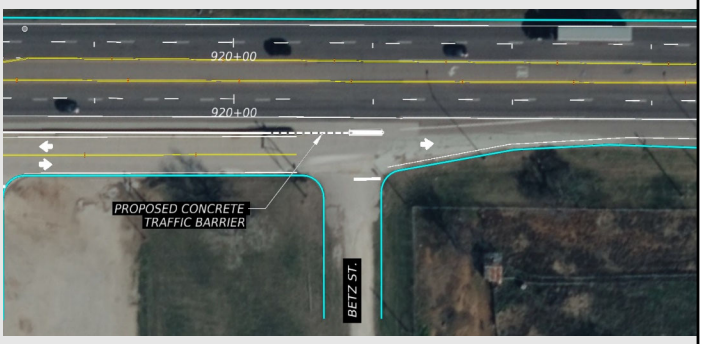


- The existing layout at Burford Street includes an opening that allows direct access to and from the US 287 main lanes. The proposed work would close off this opening with a concrete barrier.

Proposed changes at Betz St.

EXISTING LAYOUT

PROPOSED LAYOUT



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- The existing layout at Betz Street includes an opening that allows direct access to and from the US 287 main lanes. The proposed layout would extend the concrete barrier to close off this opening. The concrete barrier prevents left turns from Betz Street onto US 287 Northbound and directs right turns from Betz Street onto US 287 Southbound. The entrance ramp to US 287 Southbound from the frontage roadway will remain in place and accessible from Betz Street.

Anticipated schedule

Project Schedule

Funded for construction starting in 2024

Project Funding

$6 Million

Ongoing Public Involvement

Complete Preliminary Design	Environmental Decision	Project Released (LET)	Begin Construction	Completed Construction
December 2023	December 2023	February 2024	May 2024	October 2024

* Project schedule and dates are preliminary and subject to change.

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The estimate for this work will be around $6 million dollars. We will be completing the preliminary design in December of this year and the project will let in February 2024. The anticipated construction start date will be in May of 2024 and the completion date for this project will be in October of 2024. The project schedule and dates are preliminary and subject to change.

Project materials

- Project materials are available at:
  - The TxDOT Wichita Falls District Office by appointment Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

  Or

  - www.TxDOT.gov, keyword search “US 287 Clay County”
- For questions about the project or to schedule an appointment, please call Jeremy Hansen at (940) 720-7757 or email Jeremy.hansen@txdot.gov

Project materials are available at the TxDOT Wichita Falls District Office by appointment Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Please call ahead to schedule an appointment to see these materials. In addition, project materials are available on the project website at www.txdot.gov, keyword search “US 287 Clay County.”
If you have any questions about the project, please call Jeremy Hansen at (940) 720-7757 or email Jeremy.hansen@txdot.gov any time during the project development process.

How to submit comments or provide verbal testimony

Comment Form	Email	Mail	Verbal Testimony
Fill out a comment form in person and drop it in the comment box, email or mail it back or fill out the online comment form.	Nellie.Bennett@txdot.gov	Texas Department of Transportation Attn: Nellie Bennett 1601 Southwest Pkwy Wichita Falls, TX 76302	To provide verbal testimony, call (512) 314-3104

Comments must be received by Friday, December 1, 2023.

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Comments must be received or postmarked by December 1st, 2023 to be included in the virtual public hearing summary report. You can submit comments in the following ways:

1. Fill out a comment form in person by filling out the paper comment form and leave it in the comment box. You can also provide your comments via the online comment form. To access this form, go to the virtual hearing webpage at www.TxDOT.gov and search for "US 287 Clay County"
2. You can email comments to Nellie.Bennett@txdot.gov
3. Mail comments to: Texas Department of Transportation, Attention: Nellie Bennett, 1601 Southwest Parkway, Wichita Falls, TX 76302
4. The public is invited to provide verbal comments starting at 5pm on Nov. 16, 2023, to Friday, December 1, 2023 by calling 512-314-3104 and leaving a voicemail. Please limit your verbal comments to three minutes.

Please be sure to submit your written and verbal comments no later than Friday, December 1st, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. The responses to your comments submitted during the comment period will be included in the hearing summary report. This report will be posted to the TxDOT website once approved.

Memorandum of Understanding

NEPA Assignment to the Texas Department of Transportation

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 the Federal Highway Administration and TxDOT.

Prior to December 16, 2014, the Federal Highway Administration, otherwise known as FHWA, reviewed and approved documents prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). However, on December 16, 2014, the Texas Department of Transportation assumed responsibility from FHWA for reviewing and approving certain assigned NEPA environmental documents. This memorandum of understanding was renewed on December 9, 2019. This review and approval process applies to this proposed project as it is receiving federal funds; therefore, TxDOT is required to assess the potential environmental effects of the proposed project in accordance with Federal standards.

Again, we would like to thank you for your participation in this public hearing for the US 287 Clay County project.