

Notice Draft Environmental Assessment and Public Hearing

State Loop (SL) 1853 Madisonville Relief Route
From SH 21 approx. 0.7 miles east of FM 1452 to SH 21 approx. 0.4 miles west of FM 2346
CSJ: 0917-31-030, 0171-11-002, -003, -004, 0675-05-105
Madison County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing to construct a new relief route located south of the City of Madisonville designated as State Loop 1853 in Madison County, 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 Tuesday, May 23, 2023, from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Madisonville High School located at 811 S. May Street, Madisonville, TX 77864. Attendees will be able to review project displays and ask questions of TxDOT staff in an open house format prior to a formal hearing presentation starting at 5:30 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to present the proposed project and receive public comment.

The project limits extend from SH 21 near FM 1452 west of Madisonville to SH 21 east of Madisonville near FM 2346 for a length of approximately 7.5 miles. The proposed project would construct a 4-lane divided highway consisting of two 12-foot wide travel lanes in each direction separated by a grassy median. The travel lanes would be bounded by 4-foot wide inside and 10-foot wide outside shoulders. Overpasses would be constructed at SH 90, SH 75, I 45 and Pee Dee Lane with entrance and exit ramps at SH 90, SH 75, and I 45. The proposed right of way width on the relief route would typically be between 300 and 380 feet.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require approx. 400 acres of right of way and potentially displace one residence and five non-residential, non-commercial structures. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program and services and benefits for those displaced and other affected property owners, as well as information about the tentative schedule for right of way acquisition and construction, can be obtained from the TxDOT Bryan District Right of Way Office by calling (979) 218-2870.

The proposed roadway would cross the Caney Creek floodplain. As such, the proposed project would involve construction in wetlands and would involve an action in a floodplain.

The draft EA, 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 TxDOT Bryan District Office, 2591 North Earl Rudder Freeway, Bryan, TX 77803, (979) 778-9719. These materials will also be available for review at the hearing.

The public hearing will be conducted in English. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English is not your primary language or 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 are a person with a



disability who requires an accommodation to attend and participate in the public hearing, please contact Mr. Bob Colwell, Bryan District Public Information Officer, at (979) 778-9764 no later than 4 p.m. CT, Thursday, May 18, 2023. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be presented at the hearing. Written comments may also be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Bryan District Office, Attn: Juan Quiroz, P.E., 2591 North Earl Rudder Freeway, Bryan, TX 77803 or by email to Juan.Quiroz@txdot.gov. All comments must be received on or before Wednesday, June 7, 2023 to be included as part of the official public hearing record. Responses to comments received will be on file and available for inspection at the TxDOT Bryan District Office once they have been prepared.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the hearing, please contact Mr. Juan Quiroz, P.E., TxDOT Planning Engineer, at (979) 778-9719 or by email at Juan.Quiroz@txdot.gov.

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.