

Notice Draft Environmental Assessment and Virtual Public Hearing

SOUTHEAST CONNECTOR

I-20 FROM FOREST HILL DRIVE TO PARK SPRINGS BOULEVARD, I-820 FROM I-20 TO BRENTWOOD STAIR ROAD, & US 287 FROM BISHOP STREET TO SUBLETT ROAD

CSJs: 0008-13-125, 0008-13- 206, 0172-06-080, 0172-09-028, and 2374-05-066

Tarrant County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation ("TxDOT"), is proposing to reconstruct and widen I-20, I-820, and US 287 including the three major interchanges in southeast Tarrant County, Texas. This notice advises the public that a draft environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting an on-line virtual public hearing on the proposed project. The virtual hearing will be held June 4, 2020 at 6 p.m. To log onto the virtual public hearing, go to the following web address at the date and time indicated above: www.txdot.gov and search keywords: "Southeast Connector". The virtual hearing will be held via pre-recorded presentation. The presentation will include both audio and visual components. If you do not have internet access, you may call (817) 370-6807 to ask questions about the project and access project materials at any time during the project development process.

Members of the public may call (817) 887-6150 and verbally provide official testimony from 6 p.m. on June 4, 2020 until 5 p.m. on June 22, 2020. Formal written comments may also be provided by mail or email as explained below. All verbally provided testimony and timely written comments submitted by mail or email will be included as part of the official record for this hearing and project, and considered by TxDOT, if submitted by June 22, 2020. 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.

Along I-20, from Forest Hill Drive to the I-820/I-20 interchange, proposed improvements would reconstruct and widen the existing four to five main lanes in each direction to six main lanes in each direction. The project would also reconstruct the two to three-lane frontage roads to include two to four new continuous frontage road lanes in each direction. Between I-820 and US 287, five main lanes in each direction, four-lane collector-distributor (C-D) roads, and new two to four-lane frontage roads in each direction would be constructed. From the I-20/US 287 Interchange to Park Springs Boulevard, improvements would include reconstruction and widening to five main lanes in each direction, reconstruction of existing frontage roads from two to four lanes each direction, and construction of new frontage roads between Green Oaks Boulevard and Kelly Elliot Road.

Improvements to I-820 would include reconstruction and widening from two to four main lanes in each direction to seven main lanes in each direction between I-20 and US 287. From US 287 to Meadowbrook Drive, improvements would include reconstructing and widening the existing two to four main lanes to four main lanes in each direction, with auxiliary lanes between entrance and exit ramps. Additionally, the current frontage roads along I-820 would be reconstructed and widened to two to four lanes in each direction.

The main lanes of US 287 would be reconstructed and widened from two to three main lanes in each direction to three main lanes in each direction with auxiliary lanes between entrance and exit ramps. The frontage road lanes within this section would be reconstructed to two to three lanes in each direction.

Bicycle or pedestrian accommodations including shared-use paths and sidewalks along frontage roads and at cross-street intersections would be included. Separate bike lanes and sidewalks are proposed at cross streets when shared use paths are not provided.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require additional right of way and potentially displace 23 residences and 19 non-residential structures. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program and services and benefits for displaces 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 district office by calling (817) 370-6807. Driveway locations and denial of access from adjacent properties to the frontage roads would be revised in locations where entrance and exit ramps are being adjusted.

The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain.

The draft EA, and any maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are available online at www.txdot.gov by searching keywords: "Southeast Connector".

TxDOT makes every reasonable effort to accommodate the needs of the public. The virtual public hearing will be available in English and Spanish. If you have a special communication accommodation or need for an interpreter, a request can be made. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can also be made to accommodate most needs, please call (817) 370-6807 no later than June 1, 2020. Please be aware that advance notice is requested as some accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange.

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Fort Worth District Office, ATTN: Loyl C. Bussell, P.E., 2501 SW Loop 820, Fort Worth, Texas 76133. Written comments may also be submitted by email to SoutheastConnector@txdot.gov. All written comments must be received on or before June 22, 2020. Additionally, as stated above, members of the public may call (817) 887-6150 and verbally provide testimony from 6 p.m. on June 4, 2020 until 5 p.m. on June 22, 2020. Once prepared, responses to written comments received and public testimony provided will be available online at www.txdot.gov and search keywords: "Southeast Connector".

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the virtual hearing, please contact Curtis Loftis, P.E., Project Manager at (817) 370-6807 and/or SoutheastConnector@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.