

Notice

Draft Environmental Assessment and Virtual Public Hearing Loop 88 Segments 1 and 2 from US 84 to US 62/82 (CSJ: 1502-02-002)

Loop 88 Segment 4 from US 87 to US 84 (CSJ: 1502-03-006) Lubbock and Lubbock County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing to construct Loop 88 Segments 1, 2, and 4. Segments 1 and 2 project limits are from US 84 (near Shallowater at FM 2641) to US 62/82 (near Wolfforth at FM 1585) in Lubbock and Lubbock County. Segment 4 project limits are from US 87 (at FM 1585) to US 84 (near Slaton) in Lubbock County. This notice advises the public that the draft environmental assessments (EA's) for these two projects are available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting a virtual public hearing on the proposed project. The virtual public hearing will be held on June 9, 2020 at 4 p.m. To log onto the virtual public hearing and view hearing materials, go to https://www.co.lubbock.tx.us/ and search "Loop 88 Public Hearing" at the date and time indicated above. Project staff will give a presentation regarding the project. The presentation will include both audio and visual components. If you do not have internet access, you may call (806) 748-4406 to ask questions about the project and access project materials at any time during the project development process. Members of the public may call (806) 370-8060 and verbally provide testimony from 4 p.m. on June 9, 2020 until 5 p.m. on June 24, 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. 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.

TxDOT plans to construct Loop 88 by converting the existing rural roadways to an access-controlled six-lane divided freeway with frontage roads and ramps. Interchanges will be developed at designated cross streets. Loop 88 Segments 1 and 2 project limits are from US 84 to US 62/82, a length of approximately 16.05 miles in Lubbock and Lubbock County. Loop 88 Segment 4 project limits are from US 87 to US 84, a length of approximately 8.8 miles in Lubbock County. The existing farm-to-market roadways are two-lane rural roadways approximately 80- to 120-feet wide and the county roadways are unimproved dirt roads approximately 20- to 24-feet wide. The proposed project is an added capacity roadway project with a proposed right-of-way (ROW) width of 400 feet.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require additional right of way and potentially displace 12 residential properties for Segments 1 and 2. Segment 4 the proposed project would potentially displace 11 residential properties and 5 non-residential properties. 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 (806) 745-4411.

The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain.

The draft EA's and any maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project is available online at http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/lubbock/outer-route.html.

TxDOT makes every reasonable effort to accommodate the needs of the public. The virtual public hearing will be in English. 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 Dianah Ascencio at (806) 745-4472 no later than Friday, June 5, 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 projects are requested and may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Lubbock District Office, 135 Slaton Road, Lubbock, TX 79404-5202. Written comments may also be submitted by email to LBB Projects@txdot.gov. All written comments must be received on or before June 24, 2020. Additionally, as stated above, members of the public may call (806) 370-8060 and verbally provide testimony from 4 p.m. on June 9, 2020 until 5 p.m. on June 24, 2020. Responses to written comments received and public testimony provided will be available online at www.txdot.gov (Search: Loop 88 Public Hearing) once they have been prepared.

If you do not have internet access or have general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the virtual public hearing, please contact Shelley Harris, P.E. at (806) 748-4406 or shelley.harris@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.