

Notice Affording an Opportunity for Public Hearing

The City of Pharr proposes to widen Owassa Road from FM 3362 (Jackson Road) to US Highway (US) 281/Interstate Highway 69-C (I-69C) in Hidalgo County, Texas, a total distance of 1.2 miles. The proposed project is being conducted in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), City of Edinburg, and Hidalgo County Precinct Nos. 2 and 4. In accordance with the Texas Administrative Code Title 43, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter 3, Rule §2.107, a public meeting was held on March 5, 2014, to provide information regarding the proposed project and to gather input from the public.

The existing facility consists of a two-lane undivided roadway with 11-12-foot lanes in each direction and no shoulders. The current posted speed limit in this section of Owassa Road is 30 miles per hour.

The proposed project would widen Owassa Road from a two-lane undivided urban collector to a four-lane roadway with a continuous center left-turn lane, shared lanes for bicycle use, and sidewalks. The purpose of the proposed project is to update the roadway to current design standards and to allow for a more continual flow of traffic than currently exists. Additionally, updating this portion of Owassa Road to current design standards would result in a more consistent facility through the City of Pharr and City of McAllen to the west. The majority of the roadway improvements would be constructed within the existing right of way, with the exception of a 0.33-acre tract of newly acquired right of way on the south side of Owassa Road adjacent to an agriculture field. The proposed project also includes associated drainage improvements south of Owassa Road extending to south of Minnesota Road.

Although additional right of way is required, no houses or businesses would be displaced. Information concerning services and benefits available to affected property owners and information about the tentative schedule for right of way acquisition may be obtained from the City of Pharr office. Additionally, no adverse impacts to communities, including to minority and low-income populations, would occur as a result of the improvements.

Maps showing the project location and design, the environmental documents, the tentative construction schedule, and other information relative to the proposed project are on file for review during regular business hours at the City of Pharr office at 118 S. Cage Boulevard, Pharr, Texas 78577.

Any interested citizen may request a public hearing covering the social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed project. Requests for a public hearing must be submitted in writing on or before [May 1, 2015](#) to:

William F. Ueckert, Jr., P.E., City Engineer
118 S. Cage Boulevard, 1st Floor
Pharr, Texas 78577

For any questions regarding the proposed project, please contact William F. Ueckert, Jr., P.E., at the address above, by telephone at (956) 402-4242, or by email at william.ueckert@pharr-tx.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 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.