



The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will hold a public meeting to solicit public comment on the proposed US 83 Relief Route project at La Joya/Peñitas in Hidalgo County, Texas. The design schematic along the technically preferred route and the proposed drainage outfalls will be presented. The proposed project consists of constructing a four-lane controlled access expressway facility within a usual 350 foot wide to a maximum 450 foot wide right-of-way (ROW). The project begins approximately 1.0 mile east of FM 886 (El Faro Road) and runs east to approximately 0.50 mile west of Showers Road. The total project length is approximately 8.9 miles. The meeting details are below:

Thursday, May 9, 2013 La Joya High School Cafeteria 604 N. Coyote Blvd. La Joya, Texas Exhibit Viewing Period: 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Presentation: 6:00 p.m.

The purpose of the proposed project is to address traffic congestion, connectivity, and safety. It is anticipated that the proposed project would be constructed in two or more phases. Phase I would involve construction of a four-lane divided rural highway consisting of two roadways separated by a depressed median, which would serve as the future frontage roads. Each roadway would consist of two 12-foot wide travel lanes, a 4-foot wide inside shoulder, and a 10-foot wide outside shoulder. Future phases of construction would include main lanes and overpasses within the depressed median. These main lanes would consist of two 12-foot wide travel lanes with a 4-foot wide inside and a 10-foot wide outside shoulders in each direction of travel. Controlled access ramps would provide connectivity between the main lanes and the frontage roads constructed during Phase I. Approximately 340 acres of additional ROW would be required for the project and would include potential relocations of residential and commercial properties. Drainage within the project ROW would be accomplished using roadside ditches and culverts that would ultimately drain storm runoff into the drainage outfalls identified for the project.

All interested citizens are invited to attend this meeting to gather information and provide input regarding the proposed project. Project information and exhibits detailing the schematics and typical sections can be viewed prior to the presentation during the exhibit viewing period. Verbal and/or written comments will be accepted at the public meeting. Written comments may also be submitted up to 10 days after the public meeting, on or prior to Sunday, May 19, 2013. Comments can be sent by mail to the Pharr District Engineer, Mario Jorge, P.E., at P.O. Box 1717, Pharr, Texas 78577, by fax to (956) 702-6110, or by email to <u>Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov</u>.

Spanish translations services will be available. Upon request, special accommodations can be made available at the public meeting for persons with special communication needs. Persons with special communication and/or accommodation needs who are interested in attending the meeting are asked to contact Norma Robledo at (956) 702-6161 at least five working days prior to the meeting.