



## **Notice of Public Hearing SH 365**

The Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority (HCRMA) in conjunction with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a public hearing on:

Tuesday, May 26, 2015,  
South Texas College – Technology Campus  
3700 West US 281 (Military Highway)  
McAllen, Texas 78503  
Displays will be available for viewing at 5:30 P.M.  
Formal hearing commencing at 6:30 P.M.

The purpose of the hearing is to present the proposed State Highway 365 (SH 365) controlled access tolled facility from Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 1016 (Conway Avenue) east to U.S. Highway 281 (Military Highway) in Hidalgo County, Texas, and to receive public comment.

The intent of the proposed project is to: improve east-west mobility and interconnectivity necessary to effectively distribute traffic between existing and planned border crossings and local freight transfer facilities; reduce community disruption south of Interstate Highway 2 (I-2/US 83) associated with increasing freight movement originating from and destined to the border to access local freight transfer facilities; address safety concerns regarding the mix of vehicle types and conflicting movements on the arterial and local street network; and construct the proposed project through the use of vehicle registration fees, toll revenue bonds, state/federal funding, SIB loan, TIFIA Bonds, and TRZ revenues, as the funding needs cannot be addressed through traditional non-tolled funding sources.

The proposed SH 365 project would initially be developed as a four-lane divided controlled access toll facility divided by a grassy median with Rights-of-Way (ROW) reserved for future widening for the ultimate facility when necessary. The ultimate facility would consist of six travel lanes divided by a flushed median with a concrete barrier. The 16.53-mile-long proposed tolled facility is primarily on new location within a typical 300-foot ROW, which varies from 160 feet to 400 feet. A total of approximately 741 acres of ROW (including levee relocations and utility easements) would be required, mainly from private landowners, for the proposed project. The logical termini for the proposed project are from FM 1016 (Conway Avenue) to US 281 (Military Highway) with construction limits for the proposed toll project from 0.5 mile west of FM 1016 (Conway Avenue) east to Spur 29 (Veterans Boulevard), located south of US 281 (Military Highway).

Construction of the proposed project would be conducted in three phases. Phase I construction would include:

- a non-tolled facility from 0.45 mile east of SP 600 to FM 2557 (Stewart Road) along US 281 (Military Highway), including a grade-separated interchange at the SH 365/US 281 (Military Highway) intersection, and
- a 0.70-mile one way, one-lane non-tolled BSIF Connector from US 281 (Military Road) to SP 29 (Veterans Boulevard).

Phase II construction would include a 13.4-mile tolled facility from FM 396 (Anzalduas Highway) to US 281 (Military Highway).



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Phase III construction would include a 3.13-mile tolled facility from FM 1016 (Conway Avenue) to FM 396 (Anzalduas Highway), with transition westward past FM 1016 (Conway Avenue).

The proposed project would displace two residences, one church, a structure associated with a residential property, and five buildings associated with businesses. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program, benefits and services for displacements will be available at the hearing. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. The tentative ROW acquisition schedule is available at the HCRMA offices, located at 118 S. Cage 4th Floor, Pharr, Texas 78577.

Approximately 174.57 acres of the proposed ROW are located within the floodplain. It is anticipated that levees would be relocated for approximately 45 acres; bridges would span approximately 20 acres; and culverts would be provided for approximately 48 acres. A total of 19.23 acres of waters of the U.S., including 15.13 acres of wetlands and 4.10 acres of open waters are located within the proposed ROW.

Maps and other drawings showing the proposed project's location and design will be displayed at the hearing. Environmental documentation for the project will also be available for inspection at the hearing. Other information about the proposed project is on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the HCRMA Office located at 118 S Cage, Pharr, TX.

All interested citizens are invited to attend this public hearing. Verbal and written comments from the public regarding this project are requested and may be presented for a period of 10 calendar days following the hearing. Written comments may be submitted either in person or by mail to the HCRMA Office, attention of Mr. Pilar Rodriguez, P.E., Executive Director, located at 118 S. Cage 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Pharr, Texas 78577. Comments must be received on or before Friday, June 5, 2015 in order to become part of the official hearing record.

The public hearing will be conducted in English; however, some Spanish meeting materials and Spanish-speaking project team members will be available. Persons interested in attending the meeting who have special communication or accommodation needs, or need an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Flor Koll at (956) 402-4762. Requests should be made at least three days prior to the public hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs. If you have general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project, you may contact Flor Koll at (956) 402-4762.

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.