



FONSI Notice of Availability

**Finding of No Significant Impact
Available for Public Review
FARM-TO-MARKET (FM) 723
From Avenue D to FM 1093
CSJs: 0188-09-040 and 0188-09-042
Fort Bend County, Texas**

Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, §2.108, this notice advises the public that the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has issued a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for the proposed FM 723 roadway widening project from Avenue D to FM 1093 in Fort Bend County, Texas. 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.

The proposed FM 723 roadway widening project would include four 11-foot lanes (two in each direction) and 5-foot wide sidewalks on both sides of the road within the existing right-of-way (ROW) (typically 60 feet). The Brazos River Bridge would be re-striped to include four 12-foot lanes (two in each direction) and a 5-foot sidewalk on the west side of the roadway, within existing ROW. From north of the Brazos River bridge to FM 1093 the roadway would be widened to four 12-foot lanes (two in each direction) and 12-foot outside shoulders. A two-foot curb offset would be constructed on the inside lanes. The roadway would be divided by an 18-foot raised median, with intermittent median openings and left turn lanes. The typical proposed ROW width between the Brazos River bridge and FM 1093 is 180-feet. Six-foot sidewalks would be constructed within the ROW on both sides of the roadway beginning from the Brazos River Bridge to just north of FM 1093. In addition, the proposed project includes the construction of six detention ponds located adjacent to the roadway. The proposed project would be 9.23 miles in length and would require 97.9 acres of new ROW and 0.0 acre of temporary or permanent easements are required.

To avoid noise impacts that may result from future development adjacent to a proposed highway project, a traffic noise analysis is included in the final environmental assessment (EA), which includes predicted noise impact contours for currently undeveloped areas. These impact contours are intended as a general guide to assist local planning officials and developers plan and construct new activities in locations that would not result in traffic noise impacts. On the date of approval/clearance of an EA/FONSI (including the traffic noise analysis) for a proposed highway project, TxDOT is no longer responsible for providing noise abatement for new development. Additionally, as TxDOT does not provide retroactive (retrofit) abatement (known as a Type II program), this project area would not be eligible for potential noise abatement until the next major highway improvement project.

Copies of the approved final EA and FONSI, certification of public involvement, and supporting documentation are available for public inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., excluding state holidays, at the TxDOT Houston District Office, located at 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007 and is available online, <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/houston/fm723-fort-bend-county.html>. For further information, please contact Samuel Ainabe, at (713) 802-5260 or at samuel.ainabe@txdot.gov.