

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING NOTICE
NORTH HOUSTON HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), will hold a second public scoping meeting regarding the North Houston Highway Improvement Project. The project limits are from the interchange of US 59 and SH 288 to the interchange of IH 45 and Beltway 8 North, a distance of approximately 16 miles. The study area includes portions of IH 10, US 59, and SH 288 near downtown Houston; Hardy Toll Road from north of downtown Houston to Beltway 8 North; and IH 610 and Beltway 8 North between IH 45 and Hardy Toll Road.

TxDOT is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, to analyze potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to the human and natural environment that may occur from the construction and operation of proposed transportation improvements in the project area.

Two identical public scoping meetings will be held in the project area. An open house meeting format will allow the public to come and go at their convenience. Project team members will be available to discuss issues and answer questions regarding the proposed improvements and the EIS process. A short video regarding the project will be presented throughout the meeting. Maps of the study area and exhibits of the preliminary alternatives will be on display. The same information will be presented at both meetings. The public is encouraged to attend anytime between the hours of 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the most convenient meeting location.

Tuesday
October 9, 2012
Jefferson Davis High School
1101 Quitman Street
Houston, TX 77009

Thursday
October 11, 2012
Aldine Ninth Grade School
10650 North Freeway
Houston, TX 77037

The purpose of this public scoping meeting is to present information about, and receive public feedback on, preliminary alternatives for highway improvements in the North Houston corridor, the process being used to evaluate these alternatives, and how community feedback has been incorporated to date in the planning process. The revised Need and Purpose Statement and Project Coordination Plan documents will be available for review. After the scoping meetings, the information presented at the meetings will be available for review and reproduction on the project website www.IH45NorthandMore.com, and at the TxDOT Houston District office, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding state holidays.

The public will have the opportunity to provide written comments during and after the meeting. If you are unable to attend one of the public scoping meetings, you may view project information and submit comments on the project website www.IH45NorthandMore.com, or you can mail comments to: Director of Project Development, Texas Department of Transportation, P.O. Box

1386, Houston, Texas 77251-1386. You may also email comments to the address: HOU-piowebmail@txdot.gov. Comments received by email or postmarked by Friday, October 26, 2012, will be included in the public meeting record.

Your participation is encouraged in this important step of the EIS process. We appreciate your interest in the proposed project and hope you will attend this second public scoping meeting. Meeting materials will be presented in English, with some materials also in Spanish. Spanish-speaking project team members will be available to assist with translation of other materials. Persons interested in attending the public meeting who have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact TxDOT's District Public Information Office at (713) 802-5072 by Friday October 5, 2012. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate special needs. For more information regarding the North Houston Highway Improvement Project, please visit the project website www.IH45NorthandMore.com.