

Notice Virtual Public Meeting RM 2243 From US 183A to Southwest Bypass CSJ: 2103-01-038 Williamson County, Texas



The Texas Department of Transportation and Williamson County are proposing the reconstruction and widening of RM 2243 from 183A to Southwest Bypass in Williamson County, Texas. The project would improve roadway design and increase safety for motorists in the rapidly growing area. This notice advises the public that TxDOT and the County will be conducting an online virtual public meeting on the proposed project on **Tuesday, May 25, 2021, at 9 a.m**. To access the virtual public meeting, click on the following link: www.wilco.org/RM2243.

A recorded presentation by project staff will include audio and visual information on the project. The presentation will be available beginning on **Tuesday, May 25, 2021, at 9 a.m.** Information from the virtual public meeting will be available until *Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at 5 p.m.* If you do not have internet access, you may call 512-400-4162, extension 1, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, for questions.

Project Purpose and Description

The proposed project is a controlled-access roadway, which would improve safety and design standards by widening and realigning to straighten RM 2243. Currently, the roadway is narrow and curvy in several sections. The first phase of construction is anticipated to include a single frontage road, which would serve two-way traffic until the other frontage road is built in a future phase. Limits of the first phase of construction will be dependent on funding. The ultimate project design could potentially have three frontage lanes and two controlled-access lanes in each direction, with a concrete barrier. The first phase of the proposed project would be primarily funded through the voter-approved 2019 Road Bond.

Existing right of way (ROW) is currently between 80 – 100 feet. Approximately 350 feet of ROW is expected to be required for the ultimate roadway construction. ROW acquisition has been funded by the City of Leander and Williamson County from 183A to Garey Park. Additional phases of the project would be considered as growth warrants and funding becomes available.

Roadway Design and Alignment

Several considerations are evaluated when setting roadway alignments, some of which include: engineering and construction feasibility, ROW analysis, land use, environmental impacts, cultural resources, and community impacts.

The proposed project would require additional ROW and displacements. If a qualifying owner or occupant is displaced from their home or business as a direct result of the project, then the County will make relocation assistance benefits available according to the provisions and requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act ("The Uniform Act"). Information about services and benefits for those displaced and other affected property owners, as well as information about the tentative schedule for right-of-way acquisition and construction, can be obtained from the Williamson County Public Information Office by calling 512-943-1195.

The proposed project would occur within the Edwards Aquifer recharge and contributing zones.

Translation Assistance

The virtual public meeting will be conducted in English. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English is not your primary language or you have difficulty communicating effectively in English, one will be provided to you. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation services or you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to participate in the virtual public meeting, please contact the Williamson County Public Information Office at 512-943-1195 no later than Wednesday, May 19, 2021, at 4 p.m. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for the County to arrange.

Public Comments

Please provide public comments before *Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at 5 p.m.* using the <u>online comment</u> <u>form</u> or any of the following methods:

 Mail:
 Williamson County Public Information Office

 710 S. Main Street, Suite 101

 Georgetown, TX 78626

 Email:
 roads@wilco.org

 Voicemail:
 512-400-4162, extension 2

Environmental documentation and/or studies, maps and drawings showing project location and design, tentative construction schedules and other information regarding the proposed project will be available online at <u>www.wilco.org/RM2243</u>. Responses to comments received during the public comment period will be available on the website once they have been prepared. If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the virtual meeting, please contact the Williamson County public involvement team at 512-400-4162, extension 1, or <u>roads@wilco.org</u>.

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 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.