



# NORTH HOUSTON HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

PUBLIC MEETING

APRIL 23, 28 &amp; 30, 2015

## WHERE TO GO?

- Sign-In
- Pick-Up Handouts
- View Video
- View Exhibits
- Ask Questions
- Share your Thoughts
- Leave your Comments

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
<a href="#">Welcome to the Meeting</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Public Meetings</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Purpose of the Meeting</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Project Description</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Alternatives Evaluation Process</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">How to Submit Comments</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Recommended Alternative - Descriptions and Project Area Map with Segments</a>	<a href="#">3</a>

## Welcome to the Meeting!

Welcome to the 4th Public Meeting for the North Houston Highway Improvement Project, located in Harris County, Texas.

This evening's meeting is an integral part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process and the Preliminary Engineering phase of this project.

We greatly appreciate your participation.

This handout will detail the many ways you may be involved throughout this project.



### PUBLIC MEETINGS

**Thursday, April 23, 2015**  
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
OPEN HOUSE  
Aldine Ninth Grade School  
10650 North Freeway  
Houston, Texas 77037

**Tuesday, April 28, 2015**  
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
OPEN HOUSE  
Houston Community College  
Central Campus  
Learning Hub/Science Building  
1300 Holman Street  
Houston, Texas 77004

**Thursday, April 30, 2015**  
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
OPEN HOUSE  
Jefferson Davis High School  
1101 Quitman Street  
Houston, Texas 77009

## Purpose of the Public Meeting

- \* Present Evaluation and Analysis Process for the Reasonable Alternatives
- \* Present and gather your input on the Proposed Recommended Alternative
- \* Discuss the project with you and answer any questions
- \* Present the project timeline, history and background
- \* Gather your input on the project, process and alternatives
- \* Encourage your continued involvement

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, executed by FHWA and TxDOT.



## Project Description

The proposed project and study limits begin at the interchange of US 59 and SH 288 south of downtown Houston and follow northward along I-45 to the interchange of I-45 and Beltway 8 North. The proposed study area also includes portions of I-10, I-610, and US 59 near downtown Houston; and the Hardy Toll Road corridor from downtown to Beltway 8 North.

Projected increases in population and employment in the Houston metropolitan area will contribute to additional traffic congestion on I-45, which is currently classified as serious to severe. The proposed project is needed to address the congestion and to accommodate existing and anticipated future traffic. Additionally, the project is needed to bring the roadway up to current design standards, which would improve safety and provide for more efficient movement of people and goods. Improved efficiency is also needed to aid in evacuation events. The purpose of the proposed North Houston Highway Improvement Project is to create additional roadway capacity to manage congestion, enhance safety, and to improve mobility and operational efficiency. The costs and sources of funding for future project implementation have not been determined.

A reasonable range of alternatives will be considered to satisfy the identified need for and purpose of the project. The alternatives will include the no-build alternative as well as managed lane/tolling alternatives. The proposed project will be developed in compliance with Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

## Alternatives Evaluation Process

### INITIAL SCREENING PROCESS

⇒ An Initial Screening Process was used to narrow the Universe of Alternatives down to six Preliminary Alternatives for each of three study segments, which were presented at the 2nd Public Scoping Meeting in October 2012.

### SECONDARY SCREENING PROCESS

⇒ A Secondary Screening Process was used to narrow the six Preliminary Alternatives for each segment to the three Reasonable Alternatives for each segment, which were presented at the 3rd Public Meeting in November 2013.

### PRELIMINARY EVALUATION OF REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES

⇒ The three Reasonable Alternatives for each segment were evaluated using engineering, traffic, and environmental criteria.

⇒ One Proposed Recommended Alternative for each segment was identified.

### DETAILED EVALUATION AND ANALYSIS

⇒ The next steps are to consider input from the public and agencies, evaluate the reasonable alternatives, complete the environmental study (called the Draft Environmental Impact Statement – DEIS), and identify the recommended alternative. The environmental study and the recommended alternative will be presented for your review and comment during the public hearing in early 2016.

**DON'T FORGET!**

**We want your input on the:**

**1. Alternatives Evaluation**

**Screening Process**

**2. Proposed Recommended Alternatives**

**ASK QUESTIONS TONIGHT SO WE CAN ANSWER THEM**

**PROVIDE COMMENTS IN WRITING**

All information presented at tonight's meeting may also be viewed on the project website.

## How to Submit Comments by Thursday, May 14, 2015



There are several convenient ways to submit your comments about the project:

- **Use the comment box at this meeting to submit comments**

- **Mail comments to:**  
Director of Project Development  
Texas Department of Transportation  
P.O. Box 1386  
Houston, TX 77251

- **Email comments to:**  
HOU-piowebmail@txdot.gov
- **Go to the project website:**  
www.IH45northandmore.com and click on the "Comments/Contact Us" tab.

**Your input is important to us.**  
**Please submit your comments!**

**Project website: [www.IH45northandmore.com](http://www.IH45northandmore.com)**

Proposed Recommended Alternative

Preliminary  
Subject to Change



ALSO  
AVAILABLE  
ON PROJECT  
WEBSITE

**Segment 1: Beltway 8 to I-610**

New Roadway Capacity

- Add four (4) managed lanes
- Add one (1) frontage road lane in each direction
- Add full-width shoulders
- Add bike/pedestrian features along frontage roads
- Approximately 170 to 225 feet of additional right of way

–Between Beltway 8 and Airline Drive

- Right of way required on west side of I-45

–Between Airline Drive and I-610

- Right of way required on east side of I-45

**Segment 2: I-610 to I-10**

New Roadway Capacity

- Add four (4) managed lanes
- Add full-width shoulders
- Add bike/pedestrian features along frontage roads

Between I-610 and Cavalcade St.

- Mainlanes are elevated
- Frontage roads are at grade
- Approximately 10 to 80 feet of additional right of way

Between Cavalcade St. and Quitman St.

- Mainlanes are depressed
- Frontage roads are at grade
- No new right of way required, except at intersections

**Segment 3: Downtown Loop System**

- Realign I-45 to be parallel with I-10 and US 59/I-69
- Depress US 59/I-69 from Spur 527 to Downtown
- Add I-10 Express Lanes from I-45 to US 59/I-69
- Remove existing I-45 Pierce Elevated

See Exhibit Area for Maps and  
Additional Information

