



December 2, 2008

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the Federal Highway Administration and Williamson County welcome you to tonight's Public Hearing concerning plans to improve Ranch-to-Market Road 2338 (RM 2338) from Farm-to-Market Road 3405 (FM 3405) to proposed Ronald Reagan Boulevard in northwestern Williamson County west of Georgetown, Texas. An agenda for the hearing and information regarding the proposed improvements are attached for your information.

Please feel free to examine the exhibits on display from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. Project staff members will be available to answer your questions during this time. A technical presentation on the proposed improvements will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by a brief recess and public comment period.

If you wish to present verbal comments during the public comment portion of the hearing, please complete a speaker registration card (available at the registration table) and return it before the end of the recess.

Comments may also be presented in writing. For your convenience, a comment form is included in this information packet. Written comments not submitted during the hearing may be mailed to: TxDOT – Austin District, Environmental Coordinator, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas, 78761-5426 or faxed to (512) 832-7157. Written comments must be received by Friday, December 12, 2008 to be included in the official Public Hearing record.

All verbal comments received at the Public Hearing, as well as written comments received by Friday, December 12, 2008 will be taken into consideration during future project development.

Thank you for attending tonight's Public Hearing. Public involvement is a vital part of the TxDOT project development process, and we sincerely appreciate your participation. If you have any questions after tonight's hearing, please call Shelly Eason at (512) 832-7001.



RM 2338

**From FM 3405 to Proposed Ronald Reagan Blvd.
Williamson County, Texas**

PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA

Tuesday, December 2, 2008

INTRODUCTIONS AND HEARING FORMAT

Greetings and Format of the Hearing

Marcus Cooper, TxDOT Public Information Officer

TECHNICAL PRESENTATION

Project History and Description of the Proposed Improvements

Perry Steger, Steger & Bizzell Engineering, Inc.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRESENTATION

Overview of the Environmental Process

Clifton Ladd, Loomis Partners, Inc.

RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION AND RELOCATION ASSISTANCE

Bob Harwood, TxDOT Austin District Right of Way

BREAK

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ADJOURN

RM 2338
From FM 3405 to Proposed Ronald Reagan Blvd.
Williamson County, Texas

OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in cooperation with Williamson County is in the process of developing a project to improve Ranch-to-Market Road 2338 (RM 2338) from Farm-to-Market Road 3405 (FM 3405) to proposed Ronald Reagan Boulevard in northwestern Williamson County west of Georgetown, Texas. The project length is approximately 3.5 miles. Attached is a project location map.

Within the proposed project limits, the existing RM 2338 is a rural two-lane undivided roadway composed of two 12-foot travel lanes and 10-foot shoulders contained within a typical right-of-way width of 80 feet. An existing typical section is attached to this packet.

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve mobility and public safety on RM 2338 within the project limits. The existing roadway would be upgraded to meet current TxDOT design standards. There is a need to add capacity to accommodate the projected traffic volumes and there is a need to separate the directions of travel and provide refuge for vehicles turning from the travel lanes. The proposed project is included in the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) fiscal year 2008 – 2011 Transportation Improvement Program (adopted February 12, 2007).

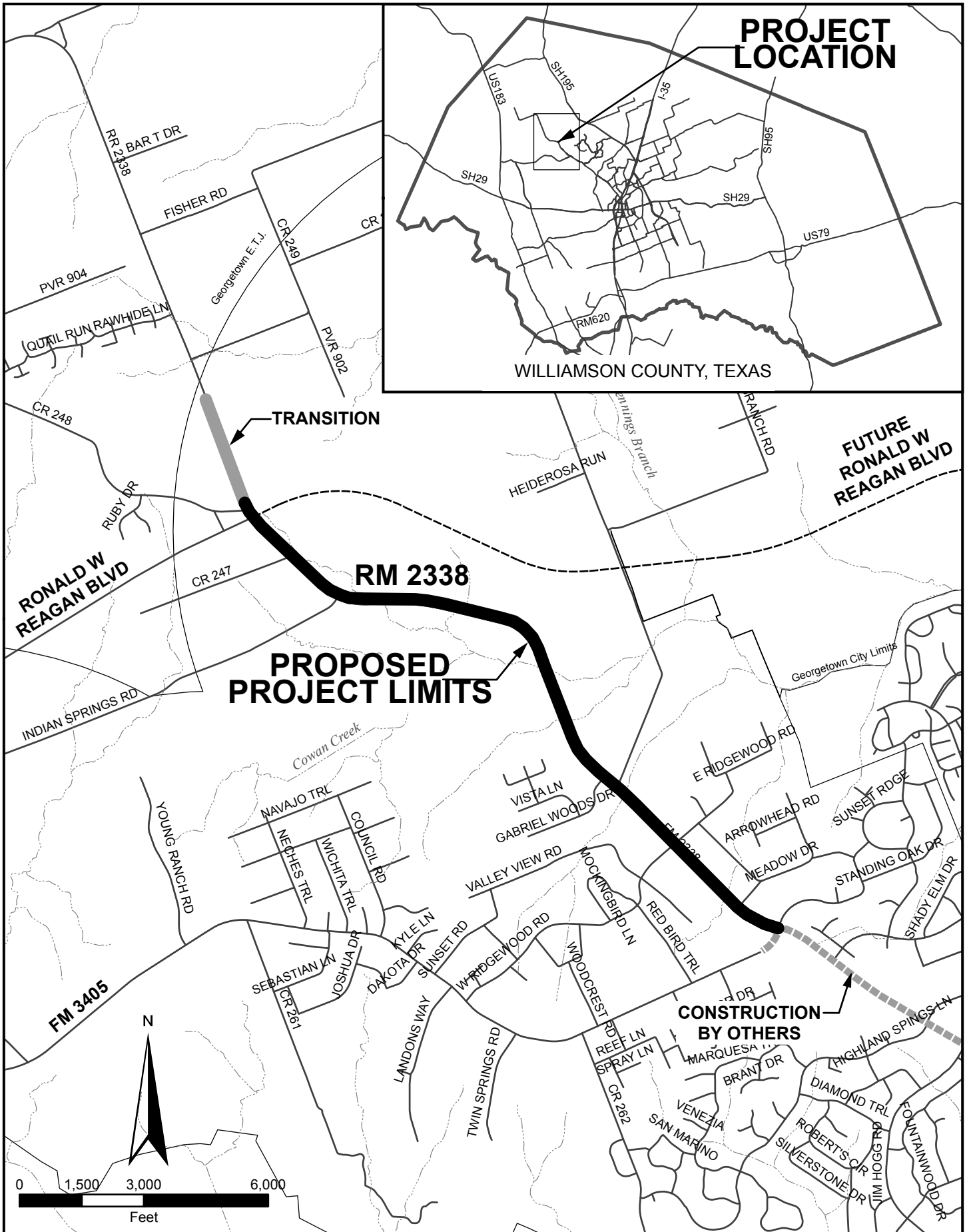
Proposed improvements include widening RM 2338 within the project limits from the existing two-lane section to a five-lane rural section composed of two 12-foot travel lanes in each direction with a 14-foot continuous two-way left-turn lane and 10-foot paved shoulders within a proposed right-of-way width of 150 feet. A proposed typical section is attached to this packet.

The proposed improvements were evaluated based on a combination of the design criteria and constraints, environmental constraints, construction feasibility, and other factors.

Approximately 34 acres of new right of way and drainage easements would be needed to complete the proposed improvements. During project planning, designers evaluated the corridor to determine where additional right-of-way could be acquired while avoiding and/or minimizing impacts to adjacent properties and other environmental features. As a result, new right of way would be added to one or both sides of the existing right of way depending on constraints to avoid or minimize impacts to adjacent properties and other environmental features. No business or residential displacements are anticipated at this time.

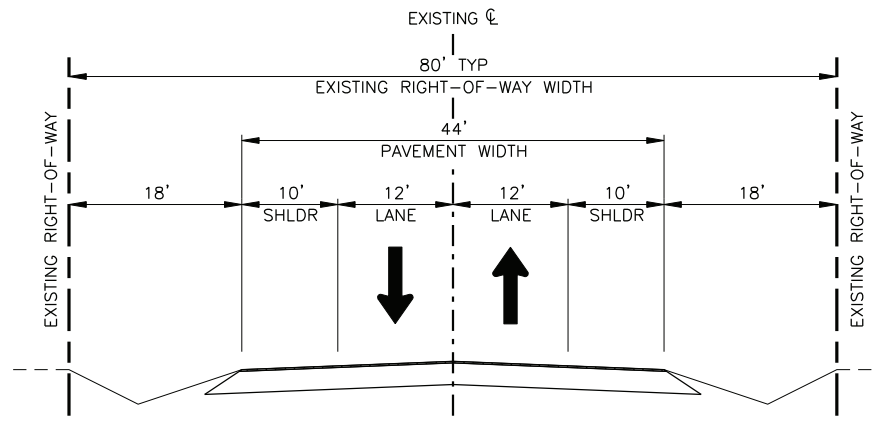
There is no potential habitat for federal and/or state listed threatened or endangered species within the project limits. Potential impacts to waters of the U.S. would be permitted by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permits for Linear Transportation Crossing and Structural Discharges. The proposed project is located over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone, and a Water Pollution Abatement Plan would be prepared and approved prior to construction by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to be in compliance with the Edwards Aquifer Rules. The proposed project would not require the acquisition of public land designated and used as a park, recreation area, wildlife refuge, historic or cultural site, or scientific area.

After tonight's hearing, responses to all comments will be compiled into a Summary and Analysis/Comment and Response Report. Changes to the proposed design may occur as a result of the comments we receive. FHWA will review the Summary and Analysis/and Comment and Response Report, and the draft environmental document. If FHWA issues a Finding of No Significant Impact, the environmental document will be finalized and right of way acquisition and utility relocation may begin. Plans, Specifications, and Estimates would be completed and, as funding is secured, the project would be scheduled for construction.



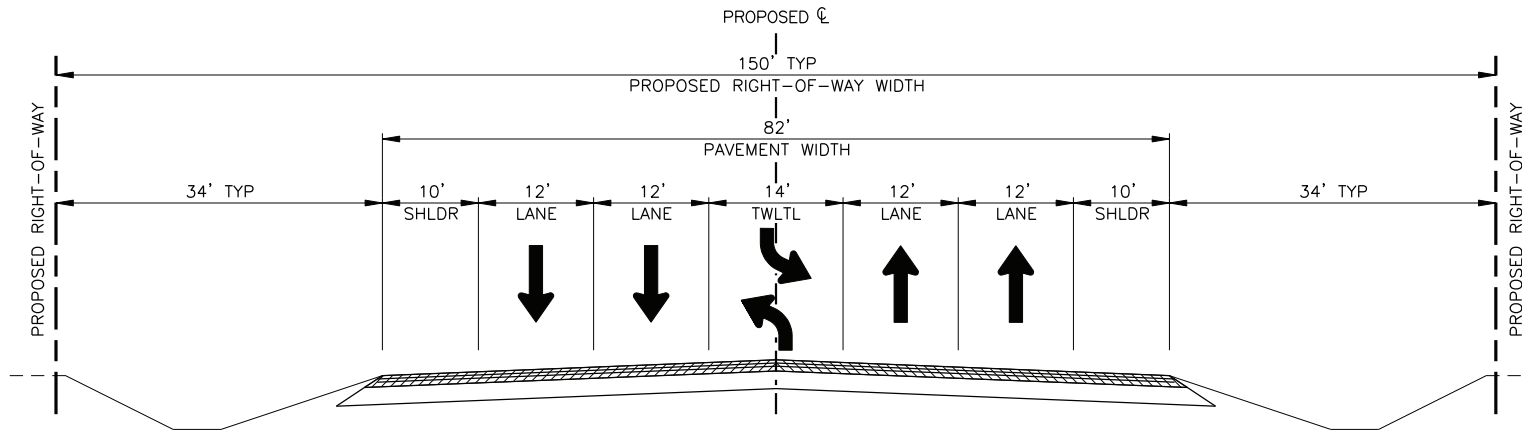
RM 2338 PROJECT LOCATION MAP

FROM FM 3405 TO RONALD REAGAN BLVD



RM 2338 EXISTING TYPICAL SECTION

NOT TO SCALE



RM 2338 PROPOSED TYPICAL SECTION

NOT TO SCALE

PROJECT TYPICAL SECTIONS

RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION AND RELOCATION ASSISTANCE

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO RM 2338 From FM 3405 to Proposed Ronald Reagan Blvd.

The subject of tonight's public hearing is the proposed improvements to RM 2338 from FM 3405 to proposed Ronald Reagan Blvd. in northwestern Williamson County west of Georgetown, Texas. The proposed project is described in the Overview of the Project, which is included in this information package.

The acquisition of additional right of way would be required to construct the proposed improvements to RM 2338 within the project limits. At this time it is not anticipated that the proposed improvements would result in the displacement of residences or businesses.

Williamson County would be responsible for the cost of the acquisition of property needed for the project and the relocation of qualifying utilities. For each property acquired, with the exception of donated properties, an appraisal would be completed to determine just compensation under the laws of the State of Texas. The determined value would then be offered to each property owner. Each property owner would be afforded the opportunity to accompany the appraiser(s) during the inspection of the property.

In all cases, the property owner would be reimbursed for any reasonable, incidental expenses necessarily incurred in transferring title to the property for use by TXDOT. Expenses eligible for reimbursement generally include recording fees, transfer taxes, and similar expenses incidental to conveying the real property to the State and penalty costs that are required for prepayment of the pre-existing recorded mortgage entered into in good faith encumbering the real property.

It is the policy of TxDOT and the United States Department of Transportation that no family or individual would be required to relocate unless and until adequate replacement housing has been made available to all affected persons. Further, replacement housing must be offered to all affected persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. All replacement housing must be fair housing, open to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

The information brochure *Relocation Assistance* is available at this public hearing. The brochure outlines the services offered and any payments for which displaced individuals, families, businesses, and non-profit organizations may be eligible to receive, such as moving expenses and replacement housing payments for residential owners and tenants. The brochure also outlines the eligibility requirements for receiving these payments. Another brochure titled *Purchase of Right of Way by Counties and Cities* is also available at this public hearing. This brochure outlines the basic procedures for right of way acquisition when it is acquired by a local public agency acting on behalf of the State of Texas. A representative from the TxDOT Austin District Right of Way Office is available to answer questions you may have.

COMMENT SHEET

Public Hearing
Proposed Improvements to RM 2338
From FM 3405 to Proposed Ronald Reagan Boulevard
In Williamson County, Texas
Ford Elementary School, 210 Woodlake Drive, Georgetown, Texas
December 2, 2008

Name (Please print): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please include your name and mailing address with all written comments. Comment sheets and/or letters should be mailed to: TxDOT – Austin District, Environmental Coordinator, P.O. Box 15426, Austin, Texas, 78761-5426 or faxed to (512) 832-7157. **All written comments received on or before Friday, December 12, 2008, will be included in the official hearing records.** Submittal of written comments does not preclude your making verbal comments at this hearing. If you wish to make a verbal comment, please fill out a speaker registration card and leave it at the sign-in table. If you have any questions, please contact Shelly Eason at (512) 832-7001.

This form may be used to provide written comments on this project. Any questions placed on this form will not be considered an open records request and will not be treated as such. If you have an open records request, it must be submitted under a separate letter.