



Notice

**Finding of No Significant Impact
Available for Public Review**

FM 518

From SH 288 to SH 35

CSJ(s): 0976-02-086 and 3416-01-012

Brazoria 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 518 project from SH 288 to SH 35 in Brazoria 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 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

The proposed project would reconstruct and widen the existing FM 518 roadway from two lanes to three lanes in each direction. The typical section would include two 12-foot-wide travel lanes and one 15-foot-wide outside travel lane (in each direction), a typical 18-foot raised median, and 5-foot-wide sidewalks on both sides of the roadway. The project would convert the open ditches to a curb-and-gutter drainage system. The preferred alternative would require approximately 25 acres of additional right-of-way. The proposed right-of-way within this section would be approximately 150 feet. The lane configurations (e.g. number of lanes) vary along the project limits to accommodate turning movements at various intersections and driveways. Improvements to cross streets (Walnut Street, Halbert Drive, and McLean Road) at the eastern project terminus are also proposed. The construction limits extend from SH 288 to approximately 0.75 mile west of SH 35 between McLean Road and Johnston Street. This construction limit was chosen in order to avoid potential significant historic impacts through downtown Pearland.

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 at TxDOT Houston District Office located at 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007 and on the TxDOT website:

www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/houston/fm518-sh288-to-sh35.html

For further information, please contact Amanda Austin, Transportation Engineer, at (713) 802-5270 or by email at Amanda.Austin@txdot.gov.