



# TXDOT TEAMWORK:

An Interdisciplinary Approach to Ensure Meaningful Public Involvement in an Ever Changing Landscape

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# TxDOT Public Involvement Policy

*“The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) commits to purposefully involve the public in planning and project implementation by providing for early, continuous, transparent and effective access to information and decision-making processes. TxDOT will regularly update public involvement methods to include best practices in public involvement and incorporate a range of strategies to encourage broad participation reflective of the needs of the state’s population.”*

Minute Order No. 112555

Signed by the Texas Transportation Commission on Jan. 27, 2011



# Commission Objectives

- Solicit and encourage proactive public involvement that can be fully integrated into the planning process and incorporated in the various planning activities.



- Proactively seek early and continuing public input and involvement, and be responsive to inquiries and suggestions.
- Utilize multiple methods to explain TxDOT's processes, priorities and procedures, so the public will have a solid foundation upon which to make requests, inquires and suggestions.

# Environmental Affairs Division Guidance and Training

- Ensure compliance with state and federal regulations
  - 23 CFR 771.111
  - Executive Orders 12898 and 13166
  - 43 TAC Chapter 2 (State rules)
- Provide guidance to district environmental coordinators
- Ensure NEPA document sufficiency
- Attend public involvement activities
- Present *Public Involvement for NEPA* training class



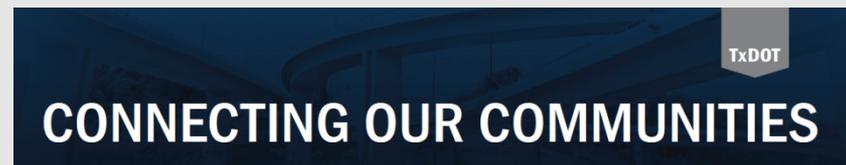
# District Environmental Coordinators – Boots on the Ground



- Attend public involvement activities
- Meet with individual property owners
- Conduct informal meetings and formal hearings
- Provide information on potential environmental impacts
- Provide summary and analysis of each meeting to ENV for review and approval

# Public Involvement Section- Resource and Engagement

- Carry out our mission and policy
- Create project-specific public involvement plans
- Provide on-site resources
- Help determine appropriate outreach methods
- Facilitate public meetings and hearings



## Director's Corner

It is springtime in Texas; the temperature is all over the place, the bluebonnets are beginning to bloom, and TxDOT is conducting public outreach at a quickening pace. Your efforts to ensure meaningful civic engagement are contributing to the success of our programs and projects. A few things I would ask us to focus on as we proceed into calendar year 2019.

First is ensuring that public meeting notices and information posted to [txdot.gov](http://txdot.gov) receive sufficient scrutiny at the district level before being sent to us here in PI. A significant amount of time and effort is undertaken by both you and us to rewrite, double check, and edit meeting postings. This back-and-forth can delay the timing of when a meeting notice can be posted. We know errors will be made, and we are here to work with you to ensure the postings are correct. Last minute changes, such as dates, locations, and description of improvements, can lead to delays. Please help both of us by taking the time to ensure meetings and hearing postings are as accurate as possible before you send them to us.

Second, and speaking of [txdot.gov](http://txdot.gov), please keep in mind that [txdot.gov](http://txdot.gov) is the official website of the agency. Guidance from the administration has stressed that we must all first look to utilizing [txdot.gov](http://txdot.gov) prior to any consideration of new sites. Hand-in-hand with this guidance is to ensure that we all properly use TxDOT's logo and branding templates. Information on this may be found [here](#).

And then finally, change is inevitable at TxDOT and how we adapt to what lies before us will surely contribute to our success. The pace of project development now and in the next few years will be accelerating. The number of projects heading to letting will be unparalleled. When the breakneck pace of it all may at times be overwhelming, keep in mind that we exist here to support you as we all work to meet the expectations of the Commission's PI policy—and that is to provide for purposeful efforts to ensure public access to our decision-making processes and to be creative in our methodology for reaching a diverse and changing state population. We are here for you. 🍓

## I-69 Website Redesign

Continued support from the Texas Transportation Commission in developing the I-69 system through Texas has made the effort to provide transparent current information a top priority. With the original "I-69 Driven by Texas" website being more than ten years old, it was time to bring it "up to speed". The collaborative effort was taken on by TPP's Corridor Planning, Data Management and PI Sections; Creative Services Section of the Communication Division and input from the I-69 Districts.

We surveyed the public, the I-69 Advisory Committee and key TxDOT staff on what information was most important, what kind of information users would like to see included, and how and when the website was used. This resulted in an improved look with updated navigation features. The site also incorporates individual Project Tracker maps that highlights projects in the future I-69 system. Now finding your way to maps highlights and listings of future I-69 projects and other information is just a click away from the homepage.

We are happy to introduce the redesigned "I-69 Driven By Texans" website and hope that you take a few minutes to drive through the site. 🍓



SPRING 2019

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For more information or if you have questions, please visit [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) and search: **US 59 Shepherd-Cleveland**  
 Para más información, visite [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) palabra clave: **US 59 Shepherd-Cleveland**

**Tuesday, May 14, 2019**  
**Martes, 14 de mayo de 2019**

**4 - 5:45pm Open House**  
 (Exhibición Pública)  
**6-7pm Public Hearing**  
 (Audiencia Pública)

**Shepherd High School Cafeteria**  
**1 Pirate Lane**  
**Shepherd, TX 77371**

## YOU'RE INVITED!

### US 59 UPGRADE SHEPHERD TO CLEVELAND (FUTURE I-69) PUBLIC HEARING

### ¡Está Invitado! Modernización del US 59 de Shepherd hasta Cleveland (Próxima I-69) Audiencia Pública

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is hosting a public hearing regarding the upgrade of US 59 (Future I-69) to meet interstate standards from FM 2914 south of Shepherd in San Jacinto County to the north end of the Cleveland Relief Route in Liberty County. Come visit with staff one-on-one from 4 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. to ask questions regarding the project. Formal presentation will begin at 6 p.m.

El Departamento de Transportación de Texas (TxDOT) le invita a una audiencia pública con respecto de modernizar US 59 (Future I-69) para satisfacer los estándares interestatales de FM 2914 al sur de Shepherd en el Condado de San Jacinto hasta el extremo norte de la nuevo proyecto de Cleveland en el Condado de Liberty. Podría comunicarse con el personal del TxDOT y podrá hacer preguntas entre 4 p.m. y 5:45 p.m. la presentación formal comenzara a las 6 p.m.



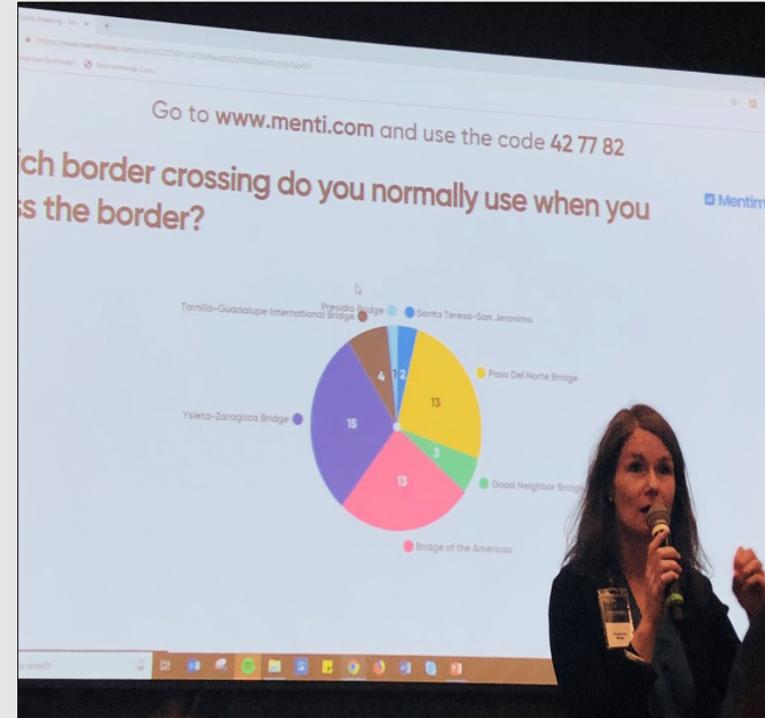


# Going Beyond the Traditional Approach

## TxDOT YouTube Virtual Open House for US 54 in Dalhart, TX



## Online polling tool Mentimeter



Open House at a Mall

# Online Engagement Using MetroQuest

DFW Pedestrian Safety Action Plan Progress

✓ We want to hear from you!

WELCOME

We want your opinion about walking in DFW!

Walking is a mode of transportation. What can TxDOT and NCTCOG do to improve walking as a transportation option in the Metroplex?

Begin

BARRIERS TO WALKING

MARK IT ON THE MAP

PRIORITIES

THANK YOU

A pedestrian should be able to enjoy a safe and connected network as a transportation option. This clean mode of travel improves health, reduces stress and helps reduce traffic congestion. And walking plays a unique role in meeting local transportation challenges.



Help Privacy About MetroQuest

¡Solicitamos su Opinión! Progreso

← SH 3 - Estudio de Acceso

BIENVENIDO

¡Solicitamos Su Opinión!

TxDOT está llevando a cabo un estudio vial para el control de acceso de un segmento de 14 millas de la Carretera Estatal 3 (SH 3) de Brookglen Drive hasta el límite del Condado Harris (Clear Creek). Solicitamos su opinión durante el proceso de planificación para identificar soluciones que mejoren su comunidad.

English Comenzar

VIALIDAD

CICLISTAS/PEATONES

MAPA DE SEÑALES

MANTÉNGASE INFORMADO

¿Sabía usted que... el control de acceso vehicular busca mejorar la seguridad al planear cómo los vehículos fluyen a través de las ciudades de Houston interactúan con los desarrollos vecinos mediante una sistemática de puntos de conflicto vehicular?



- December 16, 2014 TxDOT/FHWA MOU for NEPA Assignment
- TxDOT assumes all responsibilities for complying with NEPA and all federal environmental laws
- FHWA monitoring and oversight
- Monthly reporting
- Self-Assessment including public involvement
- Renewal of MOU in progress

# Self Assessment of Public Involvement Program

- Scope of the review
  - Department-wide analysis
  - Statewide trends
  - Identify problem areas
  - Opportunities for improvement
- Gathered data
- Determined areas needing improvement
- Corrective actions implemented

# TxDOT's Approach to Effective Public Involvement

## Environmental Affairs Division

### Guidance and Training

- Ensure compliance with state and federal regulations
- Provide guidance to district environmental coordinators
- Ensure NEPA document sufficiency
- Attend public involvement activities
- Conduct Public Involvement for NEPA training class

## Public Involvement Section

### Resource and Engagement

- Carry out our mission and policy
- Create project-specific public involvement plans
- Provide on-site resources
- Help determine appropriate outreach methods
- Facilitate public meetings and hearings

## District Personnel

### Boots on the Ground

- Attend public involvement activities
  - Meet with individual property owners
  - Conduct informal meetings and formal hearings
  - Provide information on potential community impacts
- Provide summary and analysis of each meeting to ENV for review and approval

## Take Away

- Interdisciplinary approach to ensure a comprehensive program.

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