

Parcel 2A-2.32 acres. Black Otter Sub.

The land requested by the Montana Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be used as Right of Way for the MDOT's Airport Road project which will replace the existing two-lane roadway with a four-lane roadway from the intersection of State Secondary Highway 318 and Main Street in the Billings Heights to the airport entrance intersection at 27th Street. The project also includes the construction of two new intersections: At Alkali Creek and State Secondary Highway 318 and the intersection at North 27th and Highway 3. This project will enhance the route for large truck traffic for the "Camino Real," a north-south trade route connecting Canada, the U.S. and Mexico via 1-25, 1-90, 1-15, U.S. 87 and MT 3 which runs adjacent to the airport's southern property line, subsequently increasing the capacity of the vehicle traffic coming to the airport and the safety of those using the airport's entrance.

The transfer of land is necessary to comply with Federal Aviation Administration Grant Assurances that do not allow federally acquired airport property to be used for non-aviation purposes. The property is being exchanged in-kind for monetary consideration equivalent to the appraised value of similar property in the area of the airport. All costs associated with the exchange will be borne by the Montana Department of Transportation (MDOT).

Any person may inspect, by appointment, the request in person at the FAA office listed above under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

In addition, any person may, upon appointment and request, inspect the application, notice and other documents germane to the application in person at the Billings Logan International Airport.

Issued in Helena, Montana on May 15, 2008.

**Gary M. Gates,**

*Acting Manager, Helena Airports District Office.*

[FR Doc. E8-12027 Filed 5-30-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-M**

## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

### **Federal Highway Administration**

#### **Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement: Travis County, TX**

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to 40 CFR 1508.22 and 43 TAC § 2.5(e) (2), the FHWA and Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) are issuing this notice to advise the public that a limited scope supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) will be prepared for a transportation project in Travis County, Texas.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Salvador Deocampo, District Engineer, District A, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Texas Division, 300 East 8th Street, Rm 826, Austin, Texas 78701, Telephone 512-536-5950.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FHWA in cooperation with TxDOT will prepare a limited scope SETS for the proposed improvement of State Highway (SH) 71 from Riverside Drive to SH 130, in Travis County, Texas. The project length is approximately 6.5 miles. The improvements proposed between Riverside Drive and Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 973 were originally considered in a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) covering improvements to SH 71/US 290 from Ranch-to-Market Road (RM) 1826 to FM 973. A Record of Decision (ROD) was issued by FHWA on August 22, 1988. The mid-section of the original project limits, between Joe Tanner Lane and Riverside Drive, has been constructed. Since the issuance of the SH 71/US 290 ROD, changes in adjacent land use, the construction of SH 130, and proposed design modifications have resulted in the need to supplement the original FEIS to evaluate the change in potential impacts from the proposed project. As a result, the unconstructed eastern portion of the original FEIS, between Riverside Drive and FM 973, will be the subject of a limited scope SEIS. Due to the proximity of intersections on SH 71 at FM 973 and at the recently constructed SH 130, the SH 71/US 290 SEIS would extend beyond the limits of the original FEIS to include the new interchange at SH 130 to provide for a more logical terminus and transition back to existing SH 71 east of SH 130. Information from the FEIS and subsequent ROD (June 5, 2001) for SH 130 from IH 35 north of Georgetown to IH 10 near Seguin will be incorporated into the subject SEIS.

The project is listed in the Capital Area Metro Planning Organization (CAMPO) Mobility 2030 Plan, as amended, (the long-range transportation plan) as a six-lane tolled freeway between Riverside Drive and Spirit of Texas Drive. From Presidential Avenue to SH 130, the project is listed as a six-lane freeway but is being considered for

tolling. The need for the proposed project, as stated in the 1988 FEIS, stems from congestion and low travel speeds caused by rapid population growth in the Austin metropolitan area. Crash data have also indicated safety concerns as a primary need for this project. Additionally, the economic growth of the SH 71/US 290 corridor is dependent on the ability of the roadway network to accommodate both local trips created by recent nearby development as well as regional through traffic. In order to address these needs, the purpose of the proposed project is to increase traffic flow capacities and improve mobility in the roadway corridor while enhancing safety and system interconnectivity, in compliance with the adopted GAMPO Mobility 2030 Plan.

The SEIS will evaluate potential impacts from construction and operation of the proposed roadway including, but not limited to, the following: Transportation impacts (construction detours, construction traffic, and mobility improvement), air quality and noise impacts from construction equipment and operation of the facilities, water quality impacts from construction area and roadway storm water runoff, impacts to waters of the United States including wetlands from right-of-way encroachment. Impacts to historic and archeological resources impacts to floodplains, and impacts and/or displacements to residents and businesses, land use, vegetation, wildlife, aesthetic and visual resources, socioeconomic resources, and cumulative and indirect impacts.

Public involvement is a critical component of the project development process and will occur throughout the planning and study phases. Opportunities for public involvement exist during public meetings and public review of the draft SEIS. A public meeting will be held on Tuesday June 24, 2008 at 6 p.m. at the Del Valle High School located at 5201 Ross Road, Del Valle, Texas 78671.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to the appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, and private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action is addressed and all significant issues are identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the SEIS should be directed to FHWA at the address above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway, Planning, and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: May 22, 2008.

**Salvador Deocampo,**

*District Engineer.*

[FR Doc. E8-12146 Filed 5-30-08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

[FHWA Docket No. FHWA-2008-0053]

#### Surface Transportation Project Delivery Pilot Program; Caltrans Audit Report

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** Section 6005 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) established the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Pilot Program, codified at 23 U.S.C. 327. To ensure compliance by each State participating in the Pilot Program, 23 U.S.C. 327(g) mandates semiannual audits during each of the first 2 years of State participation. This notice announces and solicits comments on the first audit report for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before August 1, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail or hand deliver comments to Docket Management Facility: U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. You may also submit comments electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, or fax comments to (202) 493-2251.

All comments should include the docket number that appears in the heading of this document. All comments received will be available for examination and copying at the above address from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Those desiring notification of receipt of comments must include a self-addressed, stamped postcard or you may print the acknowledgment page that appears after submitting comments electronically. Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments in any one of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted

on behalf of an association, business, or labor union). You may review the DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70, Pages 19477-78) or you may visit <http://DocketsInfo.dot.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Ruth Rentch, Office of Project Development and Environmental Review, (202) 366-2034, [Ruth.Rentch@dot.gov](mailto:Ruth.Rentch@dot.gov), or Mr. Michael Harkins, Office of the Chief Counsel, (202) 366-4928, [Michael.Harkins@dot.gov](mailto:Michael.Harkins@dot.gov), Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Electronic Access

An electronic copy of this notice may be downloaded from the Office of the Federal Register's home page at <http://www.archives.gov> and the Government Printing Office's Web site at <http://www.access.gpo.gov>.

##### Background

Section 6005 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) (codified at 23 U.S.C. 327) established a pilot program to allow up to five States to assume the Secretary of Transportation's responsibilities for environmental review, consultation, or other actions under any Federal environmental law pertaining to the review or approval of highway projects. In order to be selected for the pilot program, a State must submit an application to the Secretary.

On June 29, 2007, Caltrans and FHWA entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that established the assignments to and assumptions of responsibility to Caltrans. Under the MOU, Caltrans assumed the majority of FHWA's responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act, as well as the FHWA's responsibilities under other Federal environmental laws for most highway projects in California.

To ensure compliance by each State participating in the Pilot Program, 23 U.S.C. 327(g) requires the Secretary to conduct semiannual audits during each of the first 2 years of State participation; and annual audits during each subsequent year of State participation. The results of each audit must be presented in the form of an audit report and be made available for public comment. This notice announces the

availability of the first audit report for Caltrans and solicits public comment on same.

**Authority:** Section 6005 of Pub. L. 109-59; 23 U.S.C. 315 and 327; 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: May 21, 2008.

**James D. Ray,**

*Administrator, Federal Highway Administration.*

#### Surface Transportation Project Delivery Pilot Program

##### FHWA Audit of Caltrans

January 29-31, 2008

##### Background

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) section 6005(a) established the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Pilot Program (Pilot Program), codified at Title 23, United States Code (U.S.C.), section 327. The Section 6005 Pilot Program allows the Secretary to assign, and the State to assume, the Secretary of Transportation's (Secretary) responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for one or more highway projects. Upon assigning NEPA responsibilities, the Secretary may further assign to the State all or part of the Secretary's responsibilities for environmental review, consultation, or other action required under any Federal environmental law pertaining to the review of a specific highway project. When a State assumes the Secretary's responsibilities under this program, the State becomes solely responsible and liable for carrying out the responsibilities it has assumed, in lieu of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

To ensure compliance by each State participating in the Pilot Program, 23 U.S.C. 327(g) mandates that FHWA, on behalf of the Secretary, conduct semiannual audits during each of the first 2 years of State participation; and annual audits during each subsequent year of State participation. The focus of the FHWA audits is to assess a pilot State's compliance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)<sup>1</sup> and applicable Federal laws and policies, to collect information needed to evaluate the success of the Pilot Program, to evaluate pilot State progress toward achieving its performance measures, and to collect information needed for the Secretary's annual report to Congress on the

<sup>1</sup> Caltrans MOU available at: [http://environment.fhwa.dot.gov/stmlng/safe\\_cdot\\_pilot.asp](http://environment.fhwa.dot.gov/stmlng/safe_cdot_pilot.asp).