



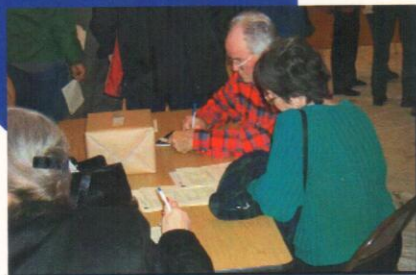
**DON'T
FORGET!**

**We want your
input on :**

- 1. Need and
Purpose
Statement**
- 2. Agency
Coordination
and Public**

**BOTH DRAFT
DOCUMENTS ARE
AVAILABLE AT THIS
MEETING AND
ON THE
PROJECT WEBSITE**

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



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 IH 45 to the interchange of IH 45 and Beltway 8 North, a distance of approximately 16 miles. The proposed project area also includes portions of IH 10, IH 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 IH 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).

North-Hardy Corridor Studies History

Transportation needs and alternatives to address those needs in the North-Hardy Corridor were documented in three reports listed below. The studies evaluated transit and highway improvement alternatives for a corridor from downtown Houston to 30 miles north, principally in the area between IH 45 and the Hardy Toll Road, and including Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) and segments of IH 45 and US 59 south of downtown.

2003 North-Hardy Corridor Alternatives Analysis Report

Examined transit and highway alternatives; recommended that transit alternatives be examined prior to detailed evaluation of highway alternatives

2004 North-Hardy Corridor Planning Studies, Alternatives Analysis Report (Transit Component)

Findings used to develop a regional Transit System Plan that combines an aggressive bus service program with Advanced High Capacity Transit (light rail)

2005 North-Hardy Planning Studies, Alternatives Analysis Report (Highway Component)

The Recommended Highway Alternative from downtown Houston to Beltway 8 North is to add four managed lanes to the IH 45/Hardy Toll Road corridor

How to Submit Comments by December 5, 2011

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