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June 9, 2023

The Honorable Trey Duhon
ATTN: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT DIRECTOR
Judge, Waller County
836 Austin Street, Suite 203
Hempstead, Texas 77445

**RE: Noise Analysis
Fort Bend County
US 90: FM 359 to FM 1463
Control: 0271-09-025**

Dear Judge Duhon:

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is concerned about traffic noise and its potential impacts on communities adjacent to our highways. Part of TxDOT's mission is to ensure that transportation improvement projects are developed and constructed in an environmentally sensitive manner. For this reason, comprehensive environmental studies, including traffic noise analyses, are conducted for all proposed major highway improvement projects.

A noise analysis was conducted for the proposed widening from two (2) lanes to four (4) lanes for US 90 between FM 359 and FM 1463. The results of this analysis indicated that noise barriers were not merited.

Furthermore, in order to assist in planning for development, future noise levels have been estimated for undeveloped lands along the corridor. For noise levels of 71 dBA and higher, the abatement threshold for commercial type developments, are expected within 30 feet of the Right of Way (ROW). For noise levels of 66 dBA and higher, the abatement threshold for residential developments, are expected within 80 feet of the ROW. These estimates are provided so that future development can make allowances for future noise conditions.

It is important to note that as of the date an environmental document (including the traffic noise analysis) for a proposed highway project is approved, TxDOT is no longer responsible for providing noise abatement for new development. For this project, the date of approval is March 16, 2023.

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 the 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated December 9, 2019, and executed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and TxDOT.

Should you have any questions, please contact Adam Wood at (713) 802-5267 or via email at Adam.Wood@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Eliza C. Paul, P.E.
District Engineer
Houston District

CC: Susan K. Theiss, Environmental Schematic Design Director, Houston District, TxDOT
Terri L. Dedhia, Environmental Supervisor, Houston District, TxDOT
Darrell D. Dooley, Environmental Specialist, Houston District, TxDOT
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