

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Houston District Office, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251-1386. Written comments also may be submitted by email to HOU-piowebmail@txdot.gov. All written comments must be received or postmarked on or before Friday, August 6, 2021. Additionally, as stated previously, members of the public may call (713) 565-7001 and provide verbal testimony from 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, through 11:59 p.m. on Friday, August 6, 2021. Responses to written comments received and public testimony provided will be available online at www.txdot.gov by searching "FM 517 from SH 35" once they have been completed.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or Virtual Public Hearing or in-person option, please contact Reina Gonzalez, Project Manager, at (713) 802-5269 or via email at reina.gonzalez@txdot.gov.

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 Dec. 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

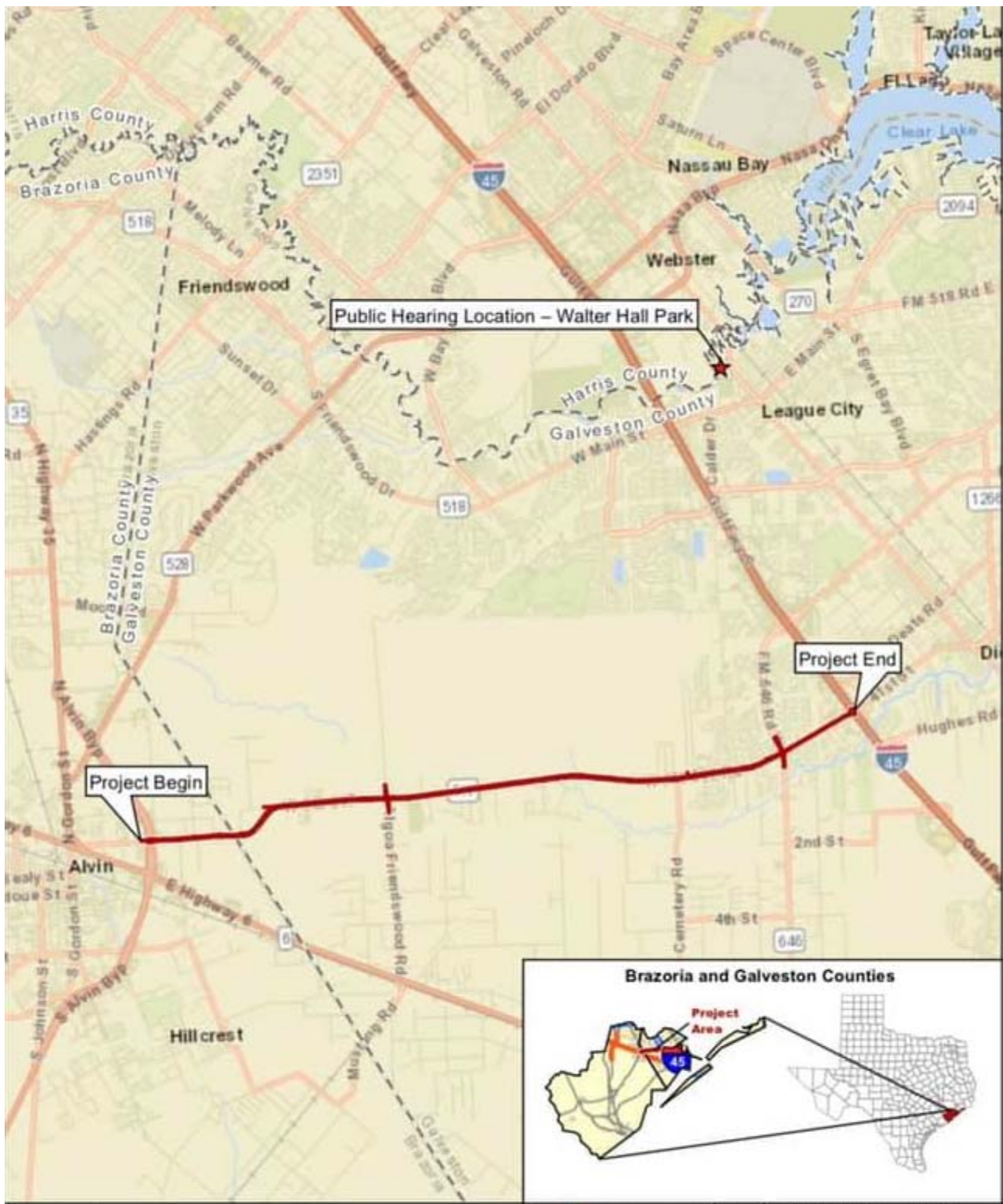




Figure 1
Project Location (Road Base)
 FM 517 from SH 35 to IH 45

 Project Location
 
 CSJ: 1002-01-006, 1002-02-016,
 and 0978-01-039

0	1.73 Miles	1 in = 1.73 miles
0	2 Kilometers	Scale 1:110,000
		Date: 6/22/2021

Base Source: ESRI (2021)

From east of FM 646 to I-45 the improvements would include the addition of a 16-foot-wide raised median with turn lanes at intersections and a 10-foot-wide shared use path for pedestrians and bicyclists on the north side of FM 517. This section currently has four 12-foot-wide travel lanes without shoulders. The existing ROW width would remain 100 feet in this section.

The project also would include improvements at Old Alvin Road, McFarland Road/Algoa-Friendswood Road and FM 646. Improvements at Old Alvin Road would extend approximately 440 feet to the north of FM 517 and include realignment of the intersection. Improvements at McFarland Road/Algoa-Friendswood Road extend approximately 900 feet to the north and south of FM 517 and include realignment of the intersection and construction of left and right turn lanes. Improvements at FM 646 would extend approximately 1,000 feet to the north and south of FM 517 and include construction of left and right turn lanes at the intersection.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require approximately 61 acres of additional ROW and potentially displace three commercial facilities. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program and services and benefits for those displaced and other affected property owners, as well as information about the tentative schedule for ROW acquisition and construction, can be obtained from the TxDOT District Office by calling (713) 802-5269.

The proposed project would involve construction in wetlands. Anticipated impacts to Waters of the U.S., including wetlands, consist of nine manmade ditches, Dickinson Bayou and Cedar Creek. The impacts are anticipated to be authorized by an Individual Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain. Approximately 30 acres of the proposed project area is within the Federal Emergency Management Agency designated 100-year floodplain. The proposed project would not raise the base flood elevation to a level that would violate applicable floodplain regulations or ordinances.

The draft EA, any maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules and other information regarding the proposed project are on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the TxDOT Galveston Area Office, 5407 Gulf Freeway (I-45), La Marque, Texas 77568. Project materials are also available online at www.txdot.gov, by searching **"FM 517 from SH 35"**. These materials will also be available in hard copy form for review at the in-person option.

The Virtual Public Hearing and in-person option will be conducted in English and Spanish. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English or Spanish is not your primary language or have difficulty communicating effectively in English, one will be provided to you. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation services or are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend and participate in the Virtual Public Hearing or in-person option, please contact Reina Gonzalez, Project Manager, at (713) 802-5269 no later than 4 p.m., Monday, July 19, 2021. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange.