

FM 565

Environmental Narrative Attachment

There is no attachment. No environmental documentation is available.

## FM 565

### Natural/Cultural Resources

The environmental process for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended is incomplete. A limited reconnaissance including the local knowledge of the TxDOT Area Engineer for Chambers County and a review of readily available desktop data by TxDOT Beaumont District environmental staff revealed that an Environmental Assessment would be prepared to identify potential social, economic, and environmental issues and assess the impacts of the project. As a minimum, the No Build and the Build scenario will be evaluated. The No-Build scenario would not have the impacts of the Build scenario; however, the No-Build scenario is anticipated to have a negative impact as traffic increases and FM 565 becomes more congested. The Build scenario is expected to improve mobility and safety. A wetland delineation conducted in 2008 along FM 565 from FM 2354 to FM 1405 confirmed the presence of jurisdictional wetlands. For a Build scenario, it is anticipated that a Section 404 Individual Permit issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would be required and the TCEQ Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction General Permit would be applicable.

## Project Need

### FM 565

FM 565 is a two-way, two-lane rural roadway. This facility is insufficient for the travel demand during peak periods and offers limited refuge for disabled vehicles (i.e., mechanical breakdowns, etc.). For the project limits of SH 146, east to SH 99, the roadway lacks geometric uniformity and consists of a travel lane width that varies between 12 feet and 9 feet. Although minor pavement widening has occurred in some locations to preserve the edge of pavement, the roadway in general has unpaved shoulders and open roadside ditches have front and back slopes that exceed 3H:1V. FM 565 links the Baytown, Mont Belvieu, Cove, and Beach City. The adjacent land use is primarily light industrial and commercial use with pockets of residential developments. The development of new and expanding industrial facilities along this route is occurring and expected to continue. Residential development is expanding. The travel demand is approaching or exceeding the roadway capacity for both a.m. and p.m. daily commute periods. Truck traffic volume is increasing. Congestion is expected to increase and impair the mobility and safety of the travelling public along this route.

FM 565

**Project Purpose**

The proposed project improves mobility and reduces congestion by providing additional travel lanes of consistent width (12 feet) and enhances the safety of the travelling public by providing a continuous paved shoulder (10 feet wide).

FM 565

Public Involvement

Proposed as an added capacity project and developing an Environmental Assessment, as a minimum, TxDOT Beaumont District would afford the opportunity of a public hearing.