



# Draft Coordination Plan

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## Environmental Impact Statement Toll 49, Segment 6

CSJ: 0910-00-129

Smith County, Texas

May 2020 (Version 5)

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

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## 1.0 PURPOSE OF THE COORDINATION PLAN

In accordance with 23 U.S. Code §139(g), the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has prepared this coordination plan for the proposed expansion of Toll 49 in Smith County. The North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority (NET RMA) is the project sponsor. This plan is intended to establish a schedule and process for coordinating public and agency participation and comment during the environmental review process. The coordination plan is developed early in the environmental and planning process and will be adjusted and updated as input is received from cooperating and participating agencies and as the complexity of potential environmental issues is identified.

To provide for more efficient environmental reviews for project decision making, Section 6002 of Public Law 109-59, “Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users,” (SAFETEA-LU), enacted on August 10, 2005, implemented the development of a Coordination Plan for all projects for which an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. On December 16, 2014, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) assumed responsibility from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for reviewing and approving certain assigned NEPA environmental documents. 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 (MOU) dated December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

## 2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Project Location

The proposed Toll 49 Segment 6 project is located east of the city of Tyler, in Smith County, Texas. The limits of the proposed project are from the existing Toll 49 Segment 5 terminus at State Highway (SH) 110, southeast of Tyler, to U.S. Highway (US) 271, northeast of Tyler. **Figure 1** shows the Toll 49 Segment 6 study area, in relation to the cities of Tyler and New Chapel Hill. The existing Toll 49 roadway extends from US 69 in northwest Smith County, approximately 25 miles southeast to SH 110.

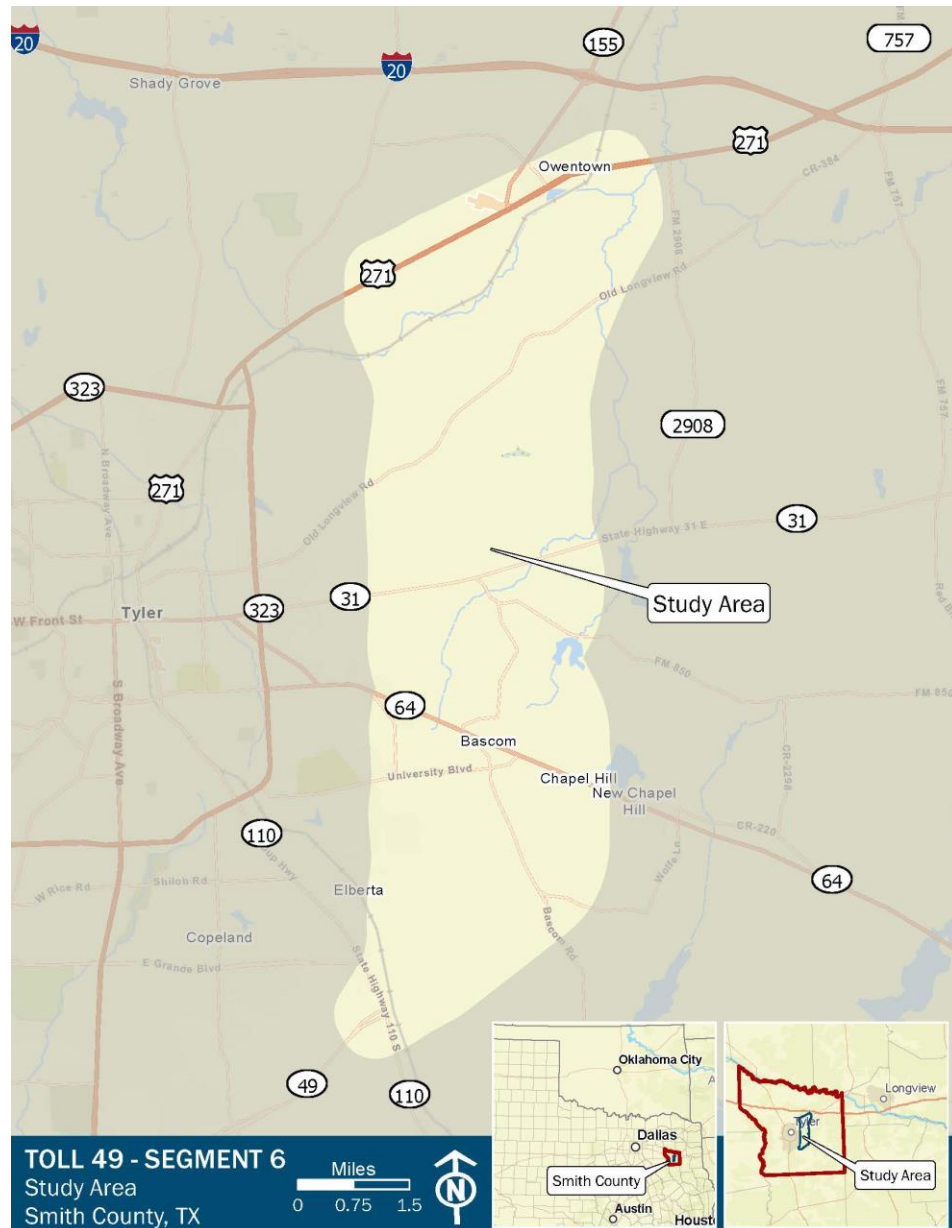
### 2.2 Project History

The Toll 49 Segment 6 project is an initiative of the NET RMA to explore potential route options for a proposed extension of Toll 49 from SH 110 north to US 271. Toll 49 is the proposed corridor in North East Texas connecting Tyler, Longview and Marshall. It is comprised of three previously unrelated projects; Toll 49, a TxDOT project, the proposed outer loop around Tyler, Texas which has been in the planning stages for over 30 years; the Longview Outer Loop, a proposed project that has conceptually been known as the East Texas Hourglass (ETHG), with connection to Marshall and the US 59/I-69 corridor; and the Lindale Relief Route, an extension of Toll 49 from I-20 west of Tyler to US 69 north of Lindale. Toll 49 has been broken into segments of independent utility, each with logical termini, for further project development.

Based on preliminary analysis and feedback from the public, it was determined that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be prepared for Toll 49 Segment 6. The EIS will develop and evaluate a range of alternatives including “No-action” (the no-build alternative) and roadway build alternatives.

The EIS will analyze potential direct, indirect and cumulative impacts from construction and operation of proposed corridor improvements including, but not limited to, the following: transportation impacts; air quality and noise impacts; water quality impacts including storm water runoff; impacts to waters of the United States including wetlands; impacts to floodplains; impacts to historic and archeological resources; impacts to threatened and endangered species; socioeconomic impacts including environmental justice communities; impacts to and/or potential displacements of land use, vegetation, residents and businesses; and impacts to aesthetic and visual resources.

**Figure 1 • Study Area Map**



### 3.0 AGENCY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Early identification of the roles and responsibilities of the various agencies involved in the NEPA process will facilitate the timely review and resolution of issues. The environmental coordination process will involve the following entities:

**Lead Agency – TxDOT will serve as the lead agency and will be responsible for facilitating the expeditious resolution of issues and concerns that arise during the environmental review process. TxDOT will ensure that the EIS is completed under the requirements of NEPA.**

The lead agency will:

- identify and involve cooperating and participating agencies in the environmental review process;
- develop the Coordination Plan;
- solicit input from the public and participating agencies on the project's purpose and need;
- finalize the purpose and need statement;
- provide opportunities for the public and agencies to provide input on the range of reasonable alternatives and the alternatives analysis methodology; and
- manage the environmental review process and assist in addressing/resolving any potential issues.

**Cooperating Agencies** – Agencies with jurisdiction by law or with special expertise are invited to serve as cooperating agencies in the preparation and review of the EIS (**Table 3-1**). These agencies will have a higher degree of authority, responsibility, and involvement in the environmental review process than participating agencies. Cooperating agencies must approve schedule changes if revisions are proposed. **Appendix C** includes the letter inviting the cooperating agencies to take part in the study, as well as the contact information.

**Participating Agencies** – Federal, State, regional, and local government agencies that may have an interest in the project are invited to serve as participating agencies. Agencies involved with coordination and review of the project include the federal and non-federal agencies listed below in **Table 3-1**. The agencies will participate in meetings with the project team during the study and will be invited to attend public meetings. If a participating agency is not able to attend scheduled meetings, the project team will offer the agency an alternative opportunity to provide input. **Appendix C** includes the letter inviting the participating agencies to take part in the study, as well as the contact information.

**Indian Tribal Governmental Units** – Tribal parties will be invited to be Participating Agencies.

**Table 3-1** summarizes the roles and responsibilities of potential participating and cooperating agencies identified to date.

<b>Table 3-1: Cooperating and Participating Agencies</b>			
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Environmental Protection Agency	Cooperating	Cooperating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comment on possible effects to air quality under Section 309 of Clean Air Act.</li> </ul>
United States Army Corps of Engineers, Ft Worth District	Cooperating	Cooperating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 404 of CWA permit jurisdiction.</li> </ul>
United States Department of the Interior	Cooperating	Cooperating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure compliance with Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966</li> </ul>
United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Southwest Region	Cooperating	Cooperating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 7 of Endangered Species Act permit jurisdiction.</li> </ul>
United States Department of Agriculture, NRCS	Cooperating	Cooperating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jurisdiction with the Farmland Protection Policy Act.</li> </ul>
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Cooperating	Cooperating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jurisdiction with NFIP.</li> </ul>
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comment on possible effects to tribal issues.</li> </ul>
Cherokee Nation	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comment on possible effects to tribal issues.</li> </ul>
Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comment on possible effects to tribal issues.</li> </ul>
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comment on possible effects to tribal issues.</li> </ul>
Caddo Nation	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comment on possible effects to tribal issues</li> </ul>
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comment on possible effects to tribal issues</li> </ul>
Mescalero Apache Tribe	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comment on possible effects to tribal issues</li> </ul>
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comment on possible effects to tribal issues</li> </ul>
Delaware Nation	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comment on possible effects to tribal issues</li> </ul>
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comment on possible effects to tribal issues</li> </ul>
United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comment on possible effects to tribal issues</li> </ul>

**Table 3-1: Cooperating and Participating Agencies**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide input on potential threatened and endangered species and habitat that could be impacted in the project.</li> </ul>
Texas Historical Commission	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review project effects under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 USC 303).</li> </ul>
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review project impacts to hazardous material sites, compliance with the Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES), and air quality issues.</li> </ul>
Railroad Commission of Texas	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification and resolution of any issues of concern regarding underground utilities within the project area.</li> </ul>
Texas General Land Office	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review project impacts and provide information related to land owned by the state.</li> </ul>
Public Utility Commission of Texas	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification and resolution of any issues of concern regarding utilities within the project area.</li> </ul>
Texas Department of Agriculture	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review project impacts to agriculture soils and land.</li> </ul>
Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification and input on interests regarding housing and development within the project area.</li> </ul>
Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification and input on interests regarding impacts to soil and water resources within the project area.</li> </ul>
East Texas Council of Governments	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification and input on interests regarding impacts to regional planning priorities.</li> </ul>
Tyler Transit	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification and input on interests regarding impacts to transportation planning priorities</li> </ul>
Smith County Engineer	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification and input on interests regarding the project effects within the county's jurisdiction</li> </ul>
Smith County Historical Society	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide input on historic resources that could be impacted in the project area</li> </ul>
Smith County Historical Commission	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide input on historic resources that could be impacted in the project area</li> </ul>
City of Tyler	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification and resolution of project effects to areas within the city limits and area of extraterritorial jurisdiction</li> </ul>
City of New Chapel Hill	Participating	Participating agency invitation mailed on ____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification and resolution of project effects to areas within the city limits and area of extraterritorial jurisdiction</li> </ul>



## 4.0 PROJECT COORDINATION

### 4.1 Agency Coordination

TxDOT and NET RMA will facilitate the agency coordination process through the scheduling of agency scoping meetings to ensure meaningful participation during the project development process. **Table 5-1** identifies key agency coordination points throughout the project development and NEPA process. This list does not preclude additional coordination opportunities with these agencies during the EIS process.

### 4.2 Public Involvement and Stakeholder Outreach

Given the local and regional importance of the Toll 49 project, the public involvement activities planned will include a comprehensive outreach program designed to engage and encourage participation of all interested stakeholders. A copy of the Public Involvement Plan is included in **Appendix B**. The Public Involvement Plan (Plan) will be periodically updated as a result of ongoing public involvement and input. Additionally, issues specific to this project may require adjustments to the Plan to address communication obstacles encountered during public outreach efforts. **Table 5-1** identifies key public involvement and stakeholder outreach efforts that will be undertaken throughout the project development and NEPA process.

## 5.0 PROJECT MILESTONES/SCHEDULE

Major milestones and general timeframes are identified in **Table 5-1**. It is the intent of the lead agency to develop a more detailed schedule reflective of these milestones.

Table 5-1: Project Process and Schedule*		
Activity	Timeframe	Involvement
<b>Draft Purpose and Need</b> The project team will develop the purpose and need of the proposed project. Input will be solicited from the public, agencies and stakeholders at the agency and public meetings.	Early 2020	TxDOT and Consultant Team
<b>Draft Coordination Plan</b> The project team will develop the Draft Coordination Plan and schedule. Input will be requested from agencies.	Early 2020	TxDOT and Consultant Team
<b>Publication of Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register</b> An NOI to prepare an EIS will be published in the Federal Register.	Early 2020	TxDOT and Consultant Team

Table 5-1: Project Process and Schedule*		
<b>Develop preliminary alternatives for DEIS</b> The three route concepts from the Feasibility Study are being further reviewed and evaluated to develop conceptual alternatives. Cooperating and participating agencies will be requested to provide information regarding resources that are considered important to protect within the project study area.	Early 2020	TxDOT and Consultant Team
<b>Project Webpage</b> The consultant team will continue to update the existing Toll 49, Segment 6 webpage.	Throughout Project	Consultant Team
<b>Agency Scoping Meeting</b> An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held to present and solicit input and receive comments on the proposed study area, draft purpose and need, draft coordination plan and schedule. <b>The range of alternatives, methodologies and level of detail for analyzing alternatives will also be presented.</b>	Summer 2020	TxDOT, Consultant Team and Agencies
<b>Public Scoping Meeting</b> The general public, government officials, Federal, State and local agencies and stakeholders will be invited. The draft purpose and need, draft coordination plan and schedule, preliminary concepts and other materials to assist the public in their understanding of the project. <b>The range of alternatives, methodologies and level of detail for analyzing alternatives will also be presented.</b>	Summer 2020	TxDOT Consultant Team, Stakeholders, Public and Agencies
<b>Stakeholder Meetings (including Working Group Meetings)</b> These meetings involve representatives from local agencies and governments who have a role in funding, permitting and/or planning/implementing proposed improvements within the study area. Additional meetings are anticipated with stakeholder groups. Meetings will maintain stakeholder involvement, through the EIS process and solicit input on the Purpose and Need, project study area, and possible alignment options.	Early 2020 through 2023	TxDOT, Consultant Team, Agencies and Stakeholders
<b>Screening of preliminary alternatives</b> Develop methods to be used and the level of detail required for the analysis of the alternatives.	Summer 2020	TxDOT and Consultant Team

Table 5-1: Project Process and Schedule*		
<b>Screen design of reasonable alternatives</b> Evaluate the design pursuant to the analysis methodology developed above and refined as appropriate.	Late 2020	TxDOT and Consultant Team
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Public Meeting/Open House No.2</b> The range of alternatives, methodologies and level of detail for analyzing alternatives will be presented. Appropriate exhibits will be displayed. Comments will be solicited and received.	Early 2021	TxDOT, Consultant Team, Agencies, Stakeholders and Public
<b>Preparation of DEIS and identification of recommended preferred alternative and potential environmental impacts</b> The project team will prepare a report that documents the need for the project, describes the alternatives analysis process, analyzes the likely impacts from each alternative, and describes the steps to avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts.	2021-2022	TxDOT and Consultant Team
<b>Notice of Availability and DEIS Circulation</b> The DEIS will be made available for review and comment prior to the public hearing. The DEIS will identify a recommended alternative.	Early 2023	TxDOT, Consultant Team, Agencies, Stakeholders, Public
<b>Public Hearing and presentation of recommended preferred alternative</b> A Public Hearing will be held to present the results of the preliminary engineering and environmental studies and analysis. The recommended alternative will be presented. Verbal and written comments will be solicited. The Public Hearing will be held at least 15 days after the DEIS is available for public and agency review. The comment period for the hearing will end no sooner than 30 days after the hearing.	Early 2023	TxDOT, Consultant Team, Agencies, Stakeholders, Public
<b>Response to Public and Agency comments on the DEIS</b> Responses will be prepared to the comments received. As noted below, responses will be included in the FEIS.	Winter/Spring 2023	TxDOT and Consultant Team

Table 5-1: Project Process and Schedule*		
<b>Preparation of FEIS/ROD and other federal approvals</b> A combined FEIS/ROD will be prepared. The ROD will document TxDOT's decision. The FEIS/ROD will document the preferred alternative and will provide a response to comments made on the DEIS.	Winter 2023 – Summer 2023	TxDOT and Consultant Team
<b>Issue combined FEIS/ROD</b> The public and agencies will have the opportunity to review the FEIS/ROD. The FEIS will be available for review online, and the NET RMA office.	Fall 2023	TxDOT and Consultant Team

\*Schedule is draft and subject to change.

NET RMA will develop a detailed project schedule for completion of the Toll 49 EIS.

Potential issues that may affect the schedule include community concerns, impacts to cultural resources (such as archeological sites and historic properties); and impacts to natural resources, (such as wetlands and potential threatened and endangered species habitat). The schedule may be extended pending unforeseen circumstances but may only be shortened with the concurrence of affected cooperating agencies. The updated schedule reflecting major project milestones will be available at public and agency coordination meetings and on the project website.

## 6.0 REVISION HISTORY

Table 6-1: Revision History	
Effective Date	Reason for and Description of Change
November 2019	Initial draft version for TxDOT review and comment.
January 2020	Addressed ENV comments.
February 2020	Addressed minor ENV comments, including updated tribal coordination.
March 2020	Updated schedule (Table 5-1) and changed Study Team references to Consultant Team consistent with the PIP.
May 2020	Updated the schedule in Table 5-1 and one update to Table 3-1.

## **APPENDIX A**

### List of Cooperating and Participating Agencies and Invitation Letters

TO BE INCLUDED WITH NEXT REVISION

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Draft Public Involvement Plan**



# Draft Public Involvement Plan

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## Environmental Impact Statement Toll 49, Segment 6

CSJ: 0910-00-129  
Smith County, Texas  
May 2020 (Version 3)

*This public involvement plan is a living document. The plan may be updated to add or remove objectives, stakeholders, strategies or methods as needed to adapt to new and changing circumstances as project development progresses.*

*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 December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.*



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## **1.0 Overview**

### **1.1 Public Involvement**

Public involvement is vital to the successful delivery of transportation projects. In recognition of the size, scope, and complexity of the proposed Toll 49, Segment 6 Project, the project team will lead a strategically designed and proactive outreach plan in order to engage stakeholders and the general public, and to provide an open and continuous public involvement process.

This document will address the public involvement and outreach activities for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) phase of the proposed Toll 49, Segment 6.

### **1.2 Goals**

The Public Involvement Plan (PIP) establishes the strategy and activities to inform, gather input and communicate with stakeholders, the public, and Environmental Justice (EJ) and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) populations in and around the project area to ensure that the community is provided timely information early in project development and can provide input continuously throughout the process. The tools and activities outlined in the PIP will be implemented by the project team.

The goals of the PIP include the following:

- Identify stakeholders who are affected and may have an interest in the project.
- Inform, educate, and actively engage the public early and often throughout the project.
- Give proposed facility users, property and business owners, elected/local officials, governmental and municipal agencies, community groups, and other stakeholders a variety of opportunities to provide input.
- Ensure that traditionally underrepresented populations have opportunities to engage and provide input.
- Create public friendly information, materials, handouts, and presentations.
- Develop opportunities to gather comments, recommendations, and input from stakeholders as well as providing information to stakeholders.
- Provide a contact to listen, acknowledge, and respond promptly to public questions, concerns and issues.
- Address concerns and correct misinformation about the project.
- Document and update the public on the public involvement and outreach efforts that will be performed for the project.
- Provide multiple distribution channels that help facilitate communication with various stakeholder groups.
- Ensure consideration of public input occurs throughout the decision-making process.
- Develop and build informed consent with the community about the purpose and need, as well as its recommended solutions to the mobility and safety problems to be addressed.

All efforts will be developed and implemented in accordance to state and federal requirements and with guidance from the TxDOT Environmental Handbook for Public Involvement.

The PIP is a living document and should be reviewed periodically for relevancy and efficacy. Revisions will be incorporated as determined by project team and stakeholder feedback, public information output, and outcome evaluation.

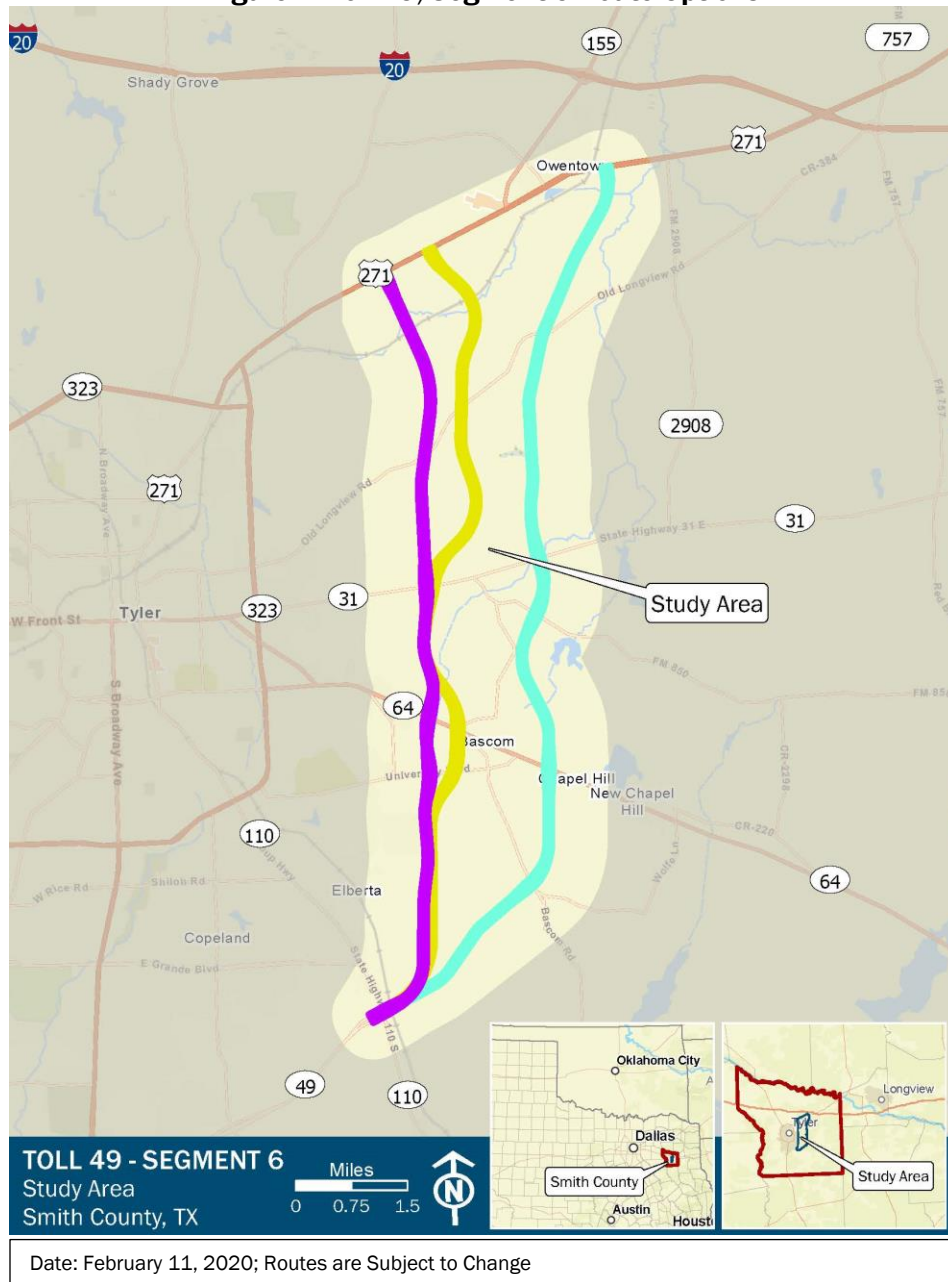
### **1.3 Project Description and Location Map**

The Toll 49, Segment 6 Project is an initiative of the North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority (NET RMA) to explore potential route options for a proposed extension of Toll 49 north to United States (US) 271. The limits of the proposed Toll 49 Segment 6 are from the Toll 49 Segment 5 eastern terminus at State Highway (SH) 110 to US 271 in Smith County, Texas.

The intent of the project is to help identify a route that improves the efficiency of the regional transportation network and enhances mobility throughout Northeast Texas. A feasibility study was conducted from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019 to evaluate route options and identify the three (3) route options to carry forward into the EIS (see **Figure 1** on page 3).

As currently proposed, Toll 49, Segment 6 would consist of the design and construction of an interim two-lane (one lane in each direction) roadway with intermittent passing lanes. The ultimate design includes four lanes (two in each direction) with either a grassy median or a concrete barrier.

**Figure 1: Toll 49, Segment 6 Route Options**



#### 1.4 Current Issues of Public/Stakeholder Concern

The project team anticipates active public interest in the EIS. Some of the concerns the NET RMA and consultant team will be prepared to address include:

- Potential impacts to private property
- Water-related considerations including water quality, flooding, wells, and/or resource impacts
- Environmental concerns in and around Lake Tyler
- Confusion about the overall project development process
- Proposed roadway proximity to schools, churches, and historic sites
- Traffic noise impacts to nearby residents
- Safety for the traveling public, as well as pedestrians
- Changes to access for residents and businesses
- Toll financing

#### 1.5 Project Team

The Toll 49, Segment 6 project team is comprised of staff from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the NET RMA, NET RMA's General Engineering Consultant (GEC), and NET RMA's Environmental and Engineering Services Consultant (Engineer). The consultant team is comprised of Atkins, CP&Y, and K Strategies. This PIP will be implemented through the coordinated efforts of representatives of these parties. **Table 1** provides a general overview of the project team.

**Table 1: Project Team Overview**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Agency/Firm</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
<b>Lead Agency</b>	<b>TxDOT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scott Ford, Environmental Affairs Project Delivery Manager</li><li>• Seth Howard, Transportation Planning and Programming Division, Public Involvement Specialist</li></ul>	TxDOT will serve as the lead agency for the EIS process. TxDOT will ensure that the EIS is completed under the requirements of NEPA and all applicable state and federal laws.
<b>Owner of the Toll 49 Project</b>	<b>NET RMA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chris Miller, Executive Director</li><li>• Everett Owen, Project Director</li></ul>	Provide oversight and delivery of the Toll 49 Project.
<b>General Engineering Consultant</b>	<b>Atkins</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Elizabeth Story, Project Manager</li><li>• Ryan Hill, Environmental Manager</li></ul>	Provide management and consultant oversight services to NET RMA in the development of Toll 49, Segment 6 Project.
<b>Environmental and Engineering Services Consultant</b>	<b>CP&amp;Y, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Andy Atlas, Project Manager</li><li>• Kelly Saladis, Environmental Manager</li><li>• Paul Schrader, Deputy Project Manager</li><li>• Michelle Neeley, Public Involvement</li></ul> <b>K Strategies Group</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Toni Leathers, Public Involvement</li></ul>	Conduct alternatives development and evaluation, environmental studies, public involvement and outreach, preliminary engineering, and schematic development.

## **1.6 Past Public Outreach**

Prior to development of this PIP, members of the consultant team engaged in various meetings with the public during the feasibility study phase of the project. This included four working group meetings, two open house public workshops, more than 100 one-on-one stakeholder meetings with community members, and multiple presentations to organizations and neighborhood associations.

### *Working Group Meetings:*

- Working Group Meeting No. 1 – November 13, 2018 | 10 Attendees
- Working Group Meeting No. 2 – February 28, 2019 | 12 Attendees
- Working Group Meeting No. 3 – May 3, 2019 | 13 Attendees
- Working Group Meeting No. 4 – September 25, 2019 | 15 Attendees

### *Public Workshops:*

- Public Workshop No. 1 – December 11, 2019 | 271 Attendees
- Public Workshop No. 2 – June 4, 2019 | 159 Attendees

Both public workshops were held from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel Hill High School Gymnasium, 13172 SH 64 East, Tyler, Texas, 75707.

## **2.0 Public Outreach**

### **2.1 Stakeholder Identification and Database**

The stakeholder database developed during the feasibility study will be continuously updated to include appropriate contact information for stakeholders, as well as key representatives from relevant local, state, and federal agencies; special interest groups; and other individuals, businesses and groups who may be affected by or interested in the project.

The stakeholder database will be maintained and updated continuously throughout the project. Stakeholders will be included by request through a variety of methods, including at public meetings and stakeholder meetings, by email, phone, or through the project website. Potentially impacted and adjacent property owner mailing lists will be updated using information from Smith County Tax Appraisal District, as well as information self-identified by stakeholders through the methods mentioned above. In addition, the consultant team will continue to do field research to identify and add stakeholders to the database.

The database will be used to keep stakeholders informed of upcoming public meetings/hearing, project updates, and other project information via email and USPS mail.

Stakeholders include, but will not be limited to:

- Potentially Impacted and Adjacent Property Owners
- Local Residents
- Businesses and Business Groups
  - Tyler Chamber of Commerce
  - Brookshires
  - Sanderson Farms
  - GG Distribution
  - Southern Utilities Company
  - UT Health Science Center
  - The University of Texas at Tyler

- Faith/Church Leaders
  - New St. Matthew Missionary Baptist Church
  - Landmark Baptist Church
  - East Texas Islamic Society
  - Lake Tyler Baptist Church
  - Smith Baptist Association
  - The Woods Baptist Church
  - John Paul the Great Catholic Campus
  - Our Lady of Guadalupe
  - Trinity Fellowship Church
- Homeowner Associations
  - Woods Garden Club
  - Horseshoe Club Lake
  - Chapel Woods
  - Del Coronado
  - Hamptons Retirement Community
- Elected Officials
  - Tyler Mayor Martin Heines
  - Tyler City Council
  - Chapel Hill Mayor Riley Harris
  - Smith County Judge Moran
  - Smith County Commissioners
  - Texas Representative Matt Schaefer
  - Texas Senator Bryan Hughes
  - US Representative Louie Gohmert
  - US Senator John Cornyn
  - US Senator Ted Cruz
- Local, Regional, State, and Federal Agencies
  - Chapel Hill ISD
  - Tyler ISD
  - Tyler Police Department
  - Tyler Fire Marshal
  - Smith County Sheriff
  - Smith County Emergency Services
  - Smith County Fire Marshal
  - Champion EMS
  - UT Health East Texas EMS
  - Tyler and Longview MPO
  - East Texas Council of Governments
  - Cities of Whitehouse and Troup
- Special Interest Groups and Regional Stakeholders
  - Save Kids from Loop 49
  - Keep Loop Off Lake
  - Grassroots America
  - Greater Tyler Realtor Association
  - Tyler Economic Development Council
  - Tyler Chamber Surface Area Transportation Committee
- Media
  - Tyler Morning Telegraph
  - Longview News-Journal
  - CBS 19

- KLTV
- KETK/FOX 51
- EastTexasMatters.com
- La Opinion
- Noticias Este De Texas
- Spanish radio stations include: La Invasora, Mega 99.3 and Super 103.1

## **2.2 Public Information and Communication Tools**

To deliver a uniquely identifiable brand and consistent information and communication to the public the NET RMA Toll 49 project brand will be used on materials. All public facing materials for the project will be branded publicly using the NET RMA and Toll 49 logos. Agency facing materials will be branded with the TxDOT logo. Formal EIS documentation and technical reports will be branded per TxDOT guidance and templates. Any deliverables with the TxDOT logo will be sent to TxDOT for review and approval, prior to use or distribution.

To ensure all audiences receive information, the most useful communication methods will be provided through a mix of traditional, digital, and innovative outreach tools. As such, a variety of materials and tools will be developed to inform and communicate with stakeholders and the public. Tools and materials may include, but are not limited to the following:

### *Project Materials:*

- NET RMA and Toll 49 Brand, Logos, and Messaging
- Project Hotline (903-594-4831) and Point of Contact Email (toll49segment6@gmail.com)
- Fact Sheet
- Flyers
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Advertisements (including newspaper and digital)
- PowerPoint Presentations
- Maps and Renderings
- 3D Animation
- Direct Mail / Door Hangers
- Email Notifications and Campaigns
- Social Media (including the NET RMA's Facebook account and @NETRMA49)
- NET RMA Toll 49 Text Alerts

### *Project Website:*

A project webpage has been created on the NET RMA's parent website and will be maintained by NET RMA ([www.netrma.org/projects/segment-6](http://www.netrma.org/projects/segment-6)). The purpose of the webpage is to provide the public access to project information and history, schedules, maps, and upcoming meetings; past meeting documentation and comment/response reports; the Environmental Impact Statement, its corresponding appendices and technical reports. The webpage also includes an online webform where the public can provide comments and questions on the project from their computer, laptop, or smart phone. Further, additional materials, as accessible from TxDOT's Hearings, and Meetings page, will be linked to this webpage.

Additionally, on this webpage, the public can request to be added to the project stakeholder database to receive future emails.

The webpage will be updated prior to, and after, all major public involvement events and with any milestone update throughout the life of the project.



## **2.3 Media Outreach**

The project team will develop and maintain a Communications Plan regarding media outreach in order to help enhance public awareness and participation during the environmental study process.

Project-related news releases will be developed to announce information on the project, schedule, upcoming public meetings/hearing, and opportunities for the public to provide input. Anticipated news releases include announcements of the EIS initiation, the Public Scoping Meeting/Open House No. 1, Open House No. 2, the Draft EIS release, the Public Hearing, and the Record of Decision.

These releases will be distributed by the NET RMA through local news channels, including, but not limited to:

- Tyler Morning Telegraph
- Longview News-Journal
- CBS 19
- KLTU
- KETK/FOX 51
- EastTexasMatters.com
- La Opinion
- Noticias Este De Texas

All media inquiries and responses will be funneled through NET RMA and its designated consultants. A TxDOT media relations liaison will be assigned to the project as an additional resource (see 5.0 for Media Protocols).

## **2.4 Elected Official Outreach**

Updates and notice of public involvement events will be disseminated to elected officials on NET RMA branded letterhead and signed by Chris Miller, NET RMA Executive Director. In addition, NET RMA staff and its designated consultants will communicate with, and respond to, elected officials via phone calls, emails, and in person meetings. NET RMA will present project information and answer questions at various council/commission/board meetings as requested.

## **2.5 Stakeholder Outreach**

As necessary throughout the project, the team will meet with individuals, organizations, or other interested stakeholders to discuss the project. Attendees will receive a fact sheet and fill out a sign in sheet for the record, if the meeting is in person. Meeting minutes or a call log will be prepared.

Outside of the official comment periods of the public meetings and hearing, stakeholders can submit questions and input via the online webform on the project website, project hotline, and mail to the NET RMA Office. This input and team responses will be documented in the project file.

### **3.0 Public Involvement**

Public engagement for the project will incorporate a mixed-method approach, utilizing both in-person and online tools, such as the project website (see 2.2). The following strategies include potential associated activities to be implemented through the course of the project. Activities will be determined based on project needs.

#### **3.1 Working Group**

The working group that was engaged during the feasibility study phase of the project will continue to meet throughout the course of the EIS phase of the project. Meetings will be coordinated throughout the EIS to gain local insights and additional preferences about the project.

The purpose of the working group is to provide additional local insight and input on important community considerations, including, but not limited to, emergency service response, planned transportation projects in the area, and traffic and safety.

The working group members are from established local jurisdictions and large community institutions. Membership includes leadership from the city of Tyler, the city of Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill ISD, UT Tyler, Smith County, Tyler MPO, Longview MPO, TxDOT Tyler District, Tyler Chamber of Commerce, and local law enforcement. This outreach tool provides the team with streamlined input, but the working group does not have decision-making authority during the environmental study process.

#### **3.2 Agency/Public Meetings**

##### **Agency Meetings**

The agency scoping meeting will help engage and provide an opportunity for the participating/cooperating agencies to review and comment on the draft coordination plan and schedule, the draft project purpose and need, the range of alternatives, and methodologies and level of detail for analyzing alternatives.

Invitations to participating/cooperating agencies will be branded on TxDOT letterhead and signed by TxDOT and the NET RMA. Information will be provided to agencies in advance and will also be presented in a PowerPoint presentation at this meeting. Pertinent documents will be available on the project website throughout the comment period. To ensure comments are included in the project record, agencies shall submit comments within 15 days of the meeting date.

Further agency coordination, including additional meetings, will occur as necessary.

##### **Public Meetings**

Two (2) public meetings are anticipated for the EIS phase of the project: a Public Scoping Meeting and an additional open house meeting.

The purpose of the Public Scoping Meeting/Open House No. 1 is to engage the community and provide an opportunity for public comment on the draft coordination plan and schedule, the draft project purpose and need, the range of alternatives, as well as the methodologies and level of detail for analyzing alternatives.

The purpose of Open House No. 2 is to provide an update on the EIS process, report out on what the project team has heard from the community, and present the status of the alternatives analysis and draft schematic designs. Public comments will be solicited.

Both meetings will utilize an open house, come-and-go format where the public will be able to review project exhibits and documentation, discuss the environmental study process with project staff on a one-on-one basis, as well as the opportunity to provide written comments. A court reporter will also be available to record verbal comments. The room will be set up to encourage attendees to understand the process, ask questions, and provide comments.

Both meetings will utilize materials and exhibits showing the project history, draft purpose and need, draft coordination plan and schedule, design alternatives and other materials to assist the public in their understanding of the project.

Print and digital collateral will be developed to ensure the message, voice and tone is targeted for the project stakeholders (see 2.1). All deliverables will be designed to be easy to read and understand. Meeting materials will be made available on the NET RMA website the day of or day after the meeting. Supporting documents, such as the draft Purpose & Need, will be on the webpage during the comment period to facilitate review and input.

The project team will identify and recommend safe, convenient, and easily accessible locations for these meetings on or near the project limits/study area that meets Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility standards. The venue will be spacious enough to accommodate a large number of people to allow for effective flow and be adequately staffed for all exhibit stations and help with navigation or questions. Security personnel will be present at the public meetings.

To help increase public awareness about upcoming meetings, a variety of communication methods will be utilized, to distribute notifications to the study mailing list (including potentially impacted and adjacent property owners); elected officials; the media; the general public; Federal, State, and local agencies; and other interested parties. The distributions methods include, but are not limited to the following:

- NET RMA website/project webpage
- TxDOT Hearings and Meetings page
- Print and digital advertisements
- News releases/media outreach
- Direct mail
- Email campaigns
- Social media

To help accommodate the public, a variety of channels will be provided to collect official comments, including in person, online (through the project website), or mailed through the United States Postal Service (USPS). The 30-day comment period will commence when the meeting notice is published 15 days before the meeting and close 15 days after the public meeting date. If the comment period closing date falls on a holiday or weekend, the period shall be extended to the next business day. The public comment period will be clearly noted in all meeting notifications.

### **3.2.1 Public Meeting Materials**

Project materials shall be made available at each public meeting. All printed materials shall be consistent with NET RMA branding. These materials shall consist of items such as comment forms and a full color project fact sheet. The consultant team will prepare separate public, project team, media, and elected official sign-in sheets for each public meeting.

Exhibit boards will be prepared for each public meeting and include appropriate information and current facts associated with the proposed project such as a project location map, research data/evaluations, alternatives being evaluated, next steps, and how to make comments.

Specific to the Public Scoping Meeting/Open House No. 1, a “reading station” will be available with the following documents available for review and comment: draft coordination plan and draft project purpose and need.

### **3.2.2 Public Meeting Documentation**

Upon completion of the public meetings, the documentation will be prepared by the consultant team.

The total comment period for the public meeting will be 30 days. The opening date for public meeting comments will be 15 days prior to the public meeting and the closing date for comments will be 15 days after the public meeting date. If the comment period closing date falls on a holiday or weekend, the period shall be extended to the next business day. Comments postmarked after 15 days will be not be included in the meeting documentation (event record). The consultant team shall compile a draft comment response matrix and schedule a review with TxDOT.

All comments received during the 30-day comment period will be responded to in a formal report and that document will be available to the public on the project website. The documentation will follow the TxDOT Environmental Compliance Public Involvement Toolkit and include when and where the public meetings were conducted, who was in attendance, published notice ads, press releases, sign-in lists, and photographs. The documentation will also include written and verbal comments received at the meetings, comments received during the 30-day comment period, and the consultant team responses to comments in a comment response matrix. All email addresses will be redacted from the official public meeting documentation. A summary of the documentation shall be referenced in the EIS.

### **3.3 Public Hearing**

Prior to the public hearing, the Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) will be published in the Federal Register and the Tyler Morning Telegraph. This notice will also be posted to the NET RMA and TxDOT websites. (See 3.3.1)

The public and participating/cooperating agencies will have the opportunity to review the DEIS. The review time for the DEIS will be no less than 45 days. The DEIS will be available online on the NET RMA website, at the NET RMA Office, and other locations such as local libraries.

As part of this process, a public hearing will be scheduled and advertised. The project team will identify and recommend a safe, convenient, and easily accessible location for the public hearing on or near the project limits/study area that meets Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility standards. The venue will be spacious enough to accommodate a large number of people to allow for effective flow and be adequately staffed for all exhibit stations and help with navigation or questions. The venue will also be able to accommodate a presentation from the project team, seating for participants, and the verbal public comment session. Security personnel will be present at the public hearing.

The public hearing will begin with an open house format, followed by a formal hearing to present the planned improvements (preferred alternative) and receive public comment on the proposed project. The hearing format will follow Section 6.6 of the TxDOT Public Involvement Handbook and the presentation will be convened by a TxDOT representative. A public comment session will occur at the

end of the hearing. A court reporter will be available to record verbal comments during the open house prior to the hearing, as well as transcribe the hearing and public comment period.

The room layout for the public hearing will be designed so that attendants can freely view exhibits and peruse project materials, and talk with team members at exhibit stations during the open house prior to the hearing. The consultant team shall distribute informational materials such as comment forms and project-related handouts.

To help accommodate the public, a variety of channels will be provided to collect official comments, including in person, online webform on the project website, or mailed through the USPS. The closing date for public comments will be 15 days after the public hearing date. If the comment period closing date falls on a holiday or weekend, the period shall be extended to the next business day. The public comment period will be clearly noted in all meeting notifications.

Documentation of the public hearing will adhere to the TxDOT Environmental Compliance Public Involvement Toolkit (see section 3.3.7).

After the public hearing, the combined Final EIS (FEIS) and Record of Decision (ROD) will be prepared for the draft preferred alternative defined and include the comments made on the DEIS. The NOA of the combined FEIS/ROD will be published in the Federal Register. The public and participating and cooperating agencies will have the opportunity to review the combined FEIS/ROD. The review time for the combined FEIS/ROD will be no less than 45 days and no more than 60 days. The combined FEIS/ROD will be available for review online on the NET RMA website, at the NET RMA office, and other locations.

### **3.3.1 Notice Ads for Public Hearing**

The consultant team will prepare a publication schedule identifying the newspapers and proposed dates of publication for both the legal notice and display advertisement. The consultant team anticipates publishing the advertisements in the following publications: Tyler Morning Telegraph and Longview News-Journal. The ad will also be developed in Spanish for the La Opinion, which is a Spanish newspaper in the Tyler area. The consultant team will publish the ads in the newspapers, with the legal notice running at least 30 days prior to the public hearing and the display advertisement running no less than three days prior, but no more than 10 days prior to the public hearing.

Additional print and digital advertisements will be considered.

### **3.3.2 News Releases for Public Hearing**

Individual news releases that announce the public hearing shall be prepared by the NET RMA and released and processed with local media contacts.

### **3.3.3 Mailed, Emailed, and Social Media Notifications for Public Hearing**

Additional methods will be used for announcing the public hearing. The consultant team will send mailed notices to the stakeholder mailing list and the identified potentially impacted and adjacent property owners. Emailed notices will be sent out to the stakeholder mailing list. The NET RMA will send a letter of invitation for the public hearing to elected officials. NET RMA will post information on their social media channels. Notifications will include information on the project, how to comment, and the public hearing.

The project team will supply NET RMA input and information needed such that they can announce the public hearing via social media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.).

### **3.3.4 Court Reporter**

The hearing will be videotaped, and a court reporter will be available to record and later transcribe verbal comments during the open house prior to the hearing. Comment forms shall be available for attendees who would not like to speak during the hearing.

### **3.3.5 Public Hearing Materials**

Project materials shall be made available and distributed at the public hearing. All printed materials shall be consistent with NET RMA branding. These materials shall consist of items such as comment forms and a full color project fact sheet. The consultant team will prepare separate public, staff, media, and elected official sign-in sheets for the public hearing.

Exhibit boards will be prepared for the public hearing and include appropriate information and current materials associated with the proposed project such as a project location map, technical reports, design schematic sheets with typical sections, next steps, and contact information.

Scheduled coordination meetings between the project team will allow for collaborative discussions, review, and evaluation of appropriate public hearing logistics and intended public hearing handouts and exhibits. These coordination meetings will timely convene to keep the public involvement preparation process and planned timeline on schedule.

### **3.3.6 Public Hearing Presentation**

A PowerPoint presentation shall be presented at the public hearing to provide information on the environmental process to date. The project team will present this PowerPoint via a projector and screen assembly supplied and operated by a project team member. A presentation script will be prepared by the project team for presenting speakers at the public hearing.

### **3.3.7 Public Hearing Documentation**

Upon completion of the public hearing, the public hearing documentation will be prepared by the consultant team.

The total comment period for the public hearing will be 45 days. The opening date for public hearing comments will be 30 days prior to the public hearing and the closing date for comments will be 15 days after the public hearing date. If the comment period closing date falls on a holiday or weekend, the period shall be extended to the next business day. The consultant team shall compile a draft comment response matrix and schedule a review with TxDOT.

The documentation will follow the TxDOT Environmental Compliance Public Involvement Toolkit and include when and where the public hearing was conducted, who was in attendance, published notice ads, press releases, sign-in lists, and photographs. The documentation will also include written and verbal comments received at the public hearing, comments received during the 45-day comment period, a tally and tabulation of positive, negative, and neutral comments received, and the project team responses to comments in a comment response matrix. Comments postmarked after 15 days will be considered/evaluated and included in the meeting documentation (project record) to the extent practical. All email addresses will be redacted from the official public hearing documentation. The required certification signed by the TxDOT Tyler District engineer, verbatim public hearing transcript and an explanation of any modifications made to the project resulting from comments shall also be included. A summary of the documentation shall be referenced in the EIS.



## **4.0 Environmental Justice (EJ), Limited English Proficiency (LEP) & ADA**

One of the fundamental principles of EJ is to ensure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making process, especially minority and low-income populations.

Based on Census Bureau 2010 Decennial Census data, a high percentage of Spanish speaking individuals are present within the Project Area (**see Appendix A**). The team will actively work to accommodate Spanish speaking individuals who have a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English. The team will provide translators and/or have public information documents and meeting notices available in Spanish to provide them an opportunity to fully participate in the study process.

Efforts to include these EJ and LEP persons in public involvement activities shall include:

- All major notifications will include a statement in Spanish that a stakeholder can call and speak with a Spanish-speaking project team member for information sharing and to be sent Spanish materials
- Leadership within the Spanish speaking community will be identified (such as church pastors) and coordinated with to encourage the dissemination of information
- Public hearing legal notices and display advertisements will be published in Spanish in the La Opinion, a Spanish newspaper and the Noticias Este De Texas, an online Spanish publication.
- Three Spanish radio stations have been identified and will be evaluated as a means of sharing information.
- English and Spanish public meeting and hearing comment forms and fact sheets
- Spanish-speaking personnel will be present at the public meetings and hearing
  - The project team will accommodate requests for language assistance such as translation of meeting and/or hearing materials in another language other than English and Spanish, if made in a timely manner prior to each public meeting and the hearing
- Translation of any non-English comments made at the public meetings and at the hearing shall be accounted for and translated to English and presented as part of the public meeting and hearing documentation
- Ensure all meeting venue locations will be handicap assessable, spacious enough to accommodate a large number of people to allow for effective flow and be adequately staffed for all exhibit stations and help with navigation or questions

## **5.0 Media Protocols**

All media requests for project information from the project team will be directed to the NET RMA Communications Director, Colleen Colby at 903-630-7443. The NET RMA has designated the following project spokespersons: Chris Miller, Colleen Colby, Elizabeth Story, and Andy Atlas.

A TxDOT media relations liaison will be briefed on the project and updated throughout the process in case calls are received regarding this project.

## **6.0 Approval Process**

All communication, including notices, website announcements, print or digital ads, exhibits, fact sheets, presentations, and other technical materials provided for distribution prior to and during the public meetings and hearing will go through an internal QA/QC process and approval by the appropriate agency, as listed below. All communication materials will be consistent with project brand, as noted in Section 2.2.

Approval process for public involvement materials:

- All materials developed by the Environmental and Engineering Services Consultant will be reviewed and approved by the General Engineering Consultant and NET RMA
- The following will also be reviewed and approved by the assigned TxDOT staff to this project as noted in Section 1.5.
  - Any TxDOT branded materials
  - Public involvement documentation for the EIS
  - Public hearing presentation, script, handouts, and exhibits

## **7.0 Evaluation**

To ensure a high level of public engagement is achieved in the most effective and efficient manner, the team will monitor and measure the effectiveness of the public involvement effort and how activities have met the plan's objectives.

As input is collected, the team will encourage participants to provide feedback on the quality of public involvement activities and the community outreach strategies employed, as well as request demographic information on comment forms and surveys.

The team will also internally monitor performance in meeting PIP goals. Performance measures for the PIP goals follow:

- Feedback from the Working Group and agencies
- Number of outreach activity attendees/participants
- Number of stakeholder meetings and presentations
- Number of stakeholders in the database
- Number of members of traditionally underrepresented populations who participate in outreach activities (to be measured by data collected from comment forms)
- Number of days before public inquires receive project team responses (not including the official comment periods)
- Number of website visits
- Media coverage being balanced

In addition to these performance measures, the comments received during an official comment period will be compiled into a comment/response matrix. The comments will be responded to by members of the project team and used to help guide milestone decisions.



## 8.0 Project Milestone and Timeframe

Major milestones and general timeframes are identified in **Table 2**. It is the intent of the project sponsor to develop a schedule reflective of these milestones.

**Table 2: Project Milestone and Timeframe\***

Milestone	Timeframe
Initiation of EIS process, Pre-NOI Activities	Early 2020
Draft Purpose and Need Preliminary Traffic Analysis	Early 2020
Publish NOI	March 2020
Develop preliminary alternatives for Draft EIS (DEIS)	Early 2020
Agency Scoping Meeting	Summer 2020
Public Scoping Meeting/Open House No. 1	Summer 2020
Stakeholder Meetings	Late 2019-2023
Refine Alternatives and Screening Criteria	Summer 2020-Early 2021
Open House No. 2	Early 2021
Preparation of Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)	2021-2022
Federal Register Notice of DEIS Availability and Circulation	Early 2023
Public Hearing	Early 2023
Identification of the Preferred Alternative	Early 2023
Notice of Availability of Combined FEIS/ROD	Fall 2023

\*Timeframes are preliminary and subject to change.

## 9.0 Public Involvement Tasks and Responsibilities

**Table 3** provides a general summary of anticipated public involvement tasks and identifies who will be responsible for leading and providing support on each task.

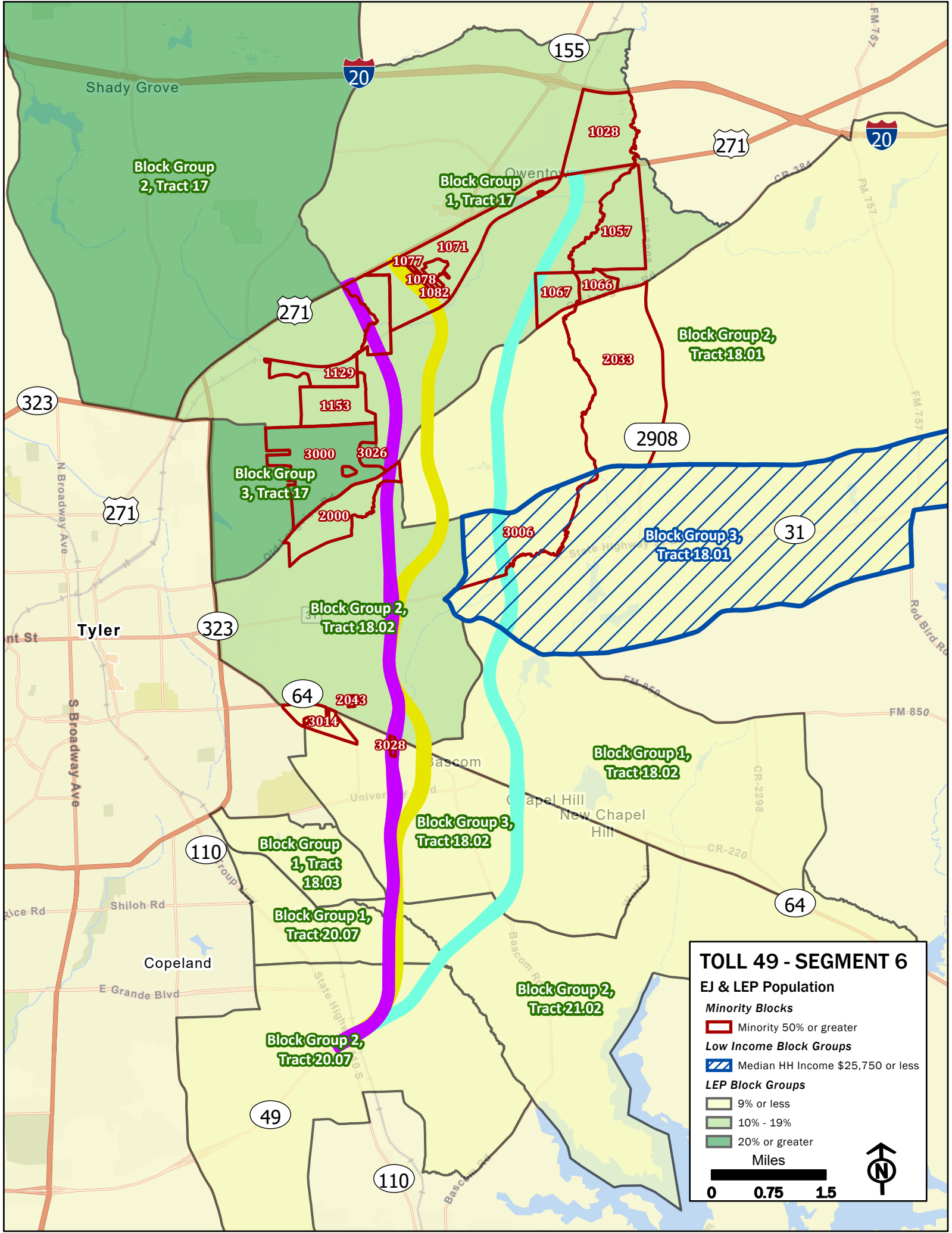
**Table 3: Public Involvement Tasks and Responsibilities**

Task	Responsible Party	Assisting Party
<b>GENERAL</b>		
Develop Public Involvement Plan	Consultant Team	TxDOT
Maintain and update project mailing list	K Strategies/CP&Y	Atkins
Create and update project website	Atkins	CP&Y
<b>ELECTED OFFICIALS BRIEFING</b>		
Schedule, coordinate and attend elected official briefings	NET RMA / Atkins	CP&Y/ K Strategies
Supply project information materials	CP&Y	Atkins
<b>NOTIFICATION METHODS FOR AGENCY AND PUBLIC MEETINGS/HEARING</b>		
Prepare public meeting/hearing advertisements in English and Spanish	Project Team	N/A
Publish public meeting/hearing advertisements in local newspapers in English and Spanish	Consultant Team	N/A
Disseminate media releases	NET RMA	Atkins/CP&Y
Prepare and mail agency scoping letters	TxDOT	Consultant Team
Prepare and mail meeting/hearing notice to elected officials	NET RMA	Consultant Team
Prepare and mail meeting/hearing notice to adjacent property owners and stakeholders	CPY/Atkins	K Strategies

Task	Responsible Party	Assisting Party
TxDOT Hearings and Meetings Page	TxDOT	N/A
Prepare and distribute social media posts, flyers, door hangers and other notifications	Consultant Team	N/A
<b>PRINTED MATERIALS FOR PUBLIC MEETING/HEARING</b>		
Maintain/Update Roles & Responsibilities document	K Strategies/CP&Y	Atkins
Room layout	K Strategies/CP&Y	Atkins
Internal FAQ sheet	CP&Y/Atkins	TxDOT
Prepare forms/handouts (sign-in sheets, comment forms, copy of presentation, fact sheet)	K Strategies/CP&Y/Atkins	TxDOT
Translation of materials (as needed)	K Strategies/CP&Y	N/A
Prepare, print, and mount maps or other exhibit boards/schematics	CP&Y/Atkins	N/A
<b>PRE AND POST PUBLIC MEETING/HEARING RESPONSIBILITIES</b>		
Attend project team coordination meetings	Consultant Team	N/A
Coordinate scheduling and logistics, set up, attend, and tear down meetings	Consultant Team	N/A
Conduct public hearing opening	TxDOT	N/A
Provide public hearing certification	TxDOT Tyler Division Engineer	N/A
Manage, respond, and log mailed/e-mailed comments and questions	Consultant Team	N/A
Prepare public meeting/public hearing documentation	Project Team	N/A

# **Appendix A**

## Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and Environmental Justice (EJ) Data



Block Group 2, Tract 17

Block Group 1, Tract 17

Block Group 2, Tract 18.01

Block Group 3, Tract 17

Block Group 3, Tract 18.01

Block Group 2, Tract 18.02

Block Group 1, Tract 18.02

Block Group 3, Tract 18.02

Block Group 1, Tract 18.03

Block Group 1, Tract 20.07

Block Group 2, Tract 20.07

Block Group 2, Tract 21.02

Shady Grove

Owenton

Tyler

Bascom

Chapel Hill

Copeland

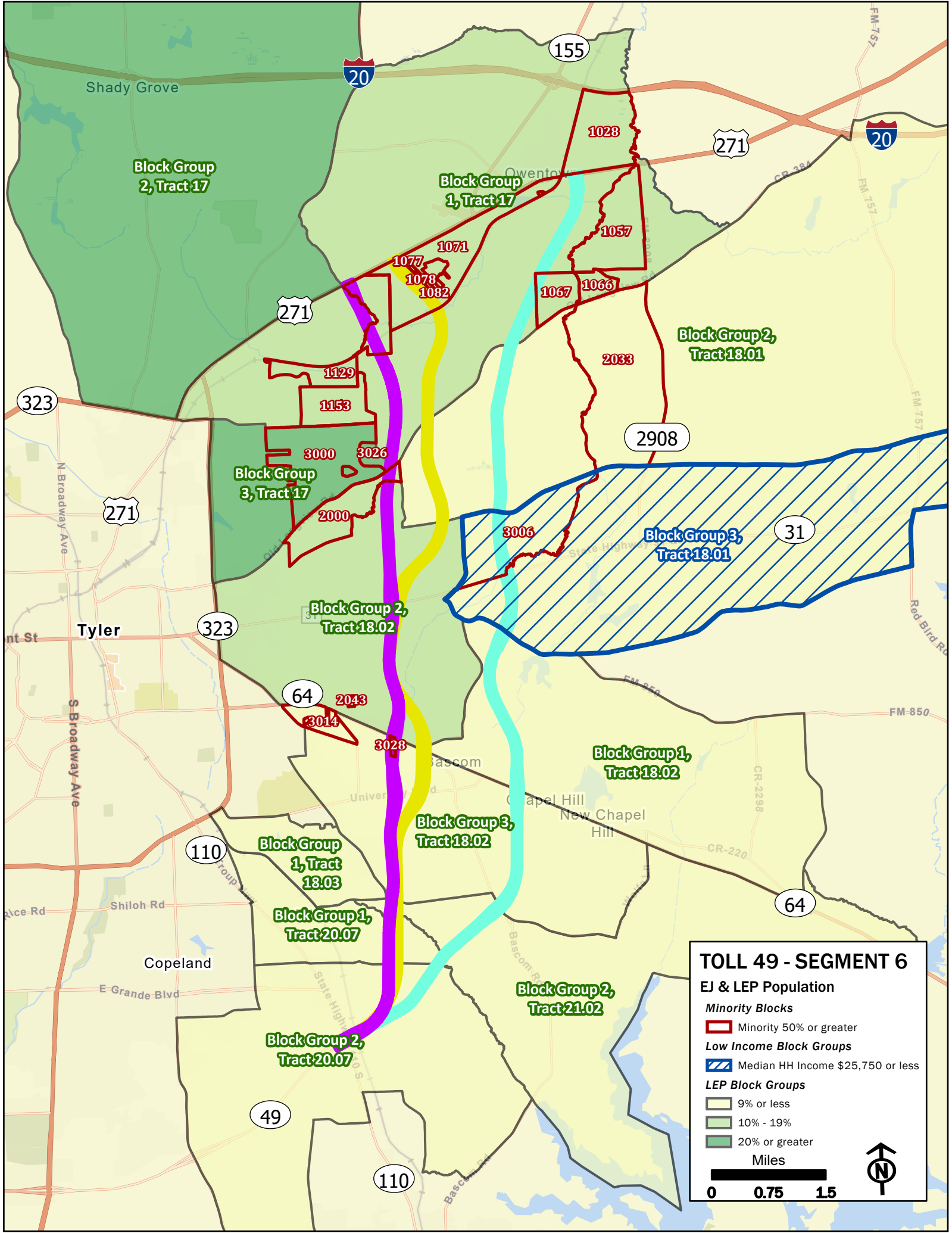


Table 1: Race and Ethnicity by Census Block, 2010

Census Tract	Block Group	Census Block	Total	White alone	Black or African American alone	American Indian and Alaska Native alone	Asian alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	Some Other Race alone	Two or More Races	Hispanic or Latino	Percentage minority
17	1	1028	11	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	100.0%
		1047	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	20.0%
		1051	28	22	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	21.4%
		1057	25	11	3	0	0	0	0	2	9	56.0%
		1066	54	4	35	0	0	0	0	0	15	92.6%
		1067	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	100.0%
		1068	25	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8.0%
		1071	294	144	97	3	0	0	0	6	44	51.0%
		1073	98	56	16	0	0	0	0	0	26	42.9%
		1075	37	28	7	0	2	0	0	0	0	24.3%
		1076	95	79	13	0	0	0	0	0	3	16.8%
		1077	42	15	18	0	0	0	0	2	7	64.3%
		1078	33	11	14	0	0	0	0	0	8	66.7%
		1080	8	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	12.5%
		1082	61	6	52	0	3	0	0	0	0	90.2%
		1083	16	11	2	0	1	0	0	2	0	31.3%
		1099	211	137	53	0	0	0	0	0	21	35.1%
		1102	83	58	24	1	0	0	0	0	0	30.1%
		1104	57	48	0	1	0	0	0	0	8	15.8%
		1108	14	10	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	28.6%
		1120	133	85	10	3	0	0	2	4	29	36.1%
		1127	57	47	3	2	0	0	0	0	5	17.5%
		1129	93	16	2	1	0	0	0	2	72	82.8%
		1130	55	38	0	0	0	0	0	7	10	30.9%
		1153	53	2	1	0	1	0	0	3	46	96.2%
		1154	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	2	2054	34	31	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	8.8%
	3	3000	920	272	86	2	0	1	2	12	545	70.4%

Census Tract	Block Group	Census Block	Total	White alone	Black or African American alone	American Indian and Alaska Native alone	Asian alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	Some Other Race alone	Two or More Races	Hispanic or Latino	Percentage minority
		3009	19	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	42.1%
		3025	92	55	5	0	0	0	0	0	32	40.2%
		3026	12	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	50.0%
18.01	2	2033	114	29	71	0	0	0	0	0	14	74.6%
		2034	156	87	22	0	0	0	0	0	47	44.2%
	3	3006	70	22	6	0	0	0	0	2	40	68.6%
		3008	19	10	4	0	0	0	0	0	5	47.4%
		3016	9	6	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	33.3%
18.02	1	1000	170	130	9	1	1	0	0	3	26	23.5%
		1007	876	754	35	3	5	0	0	10	69	13.9%
		1008	50	32	4	0	0	0	0	1	13	36.0%
		1014	58	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	8.6%
		1015	39	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
		1016	139	120	4	1	1	0	0	0	13	13.7%
		1020	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
		1021	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	20.0%
		1022	303	262	7	0	0	0	0	1	33	13.5%
		1023	95	92	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	3.2%
		1033	27	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	2	2000	346	54	71	0	0	0	0	0	221	84.4%
		2004	74	50	7	0	0	0	0	2	15	32.4%
		2007	121	76	1	0	0	0	0	1	43	37.2%
		2016	79	43	9	1	0	0	0	0	26	45.6%
		2017	20	19	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5.0%
		2018	38	37	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2.6%
		2042	536	310	88	0	17	0	3	14	104	42.2%
		2043	16	6	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	62.5%
	3	3002	267	216	4	3	0	0	0	6	38	19.1%
		3004	20	14	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	30.0%

Census Tract	Block Group	Census Block	Total	White alone	Black or African American alone	American Indian and Alaska Native alone	Asian alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	Some Other Race alone	Two or More Races	Hispanic or Latino	Percentage minority
		3006	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
		3009	15	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	13.3%
		3010	19	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
		3011	29	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	41.4%
		3012	116	76	24	0	0	0	0	0	16	34.5%
		3013	41	39	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4.9%
		3014	394	164	20	0	0	0	0	8	202	58.4%
		3017	35	25	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	28.6%
		3018	562	386	121	2	10	0	0	5	38	31.3%
		3026	7	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	28.6%
		3027	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
		3028	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	50.0%
		3029	37	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	24.3%
		3030	198	193	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	2.5%
		3032	204	144	38	2	3	0	0	1	16	29.4%
		3035	13	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
		3036	9	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	11.1%
		3037	34	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.9%
		3038	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
		3039	257	252	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	1.9%
18.03	1	1001	888	795	26	0	16	0	3	6	42	10.5%
		1011	18	17	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5.6%
		1018	40	36	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.0%
20.07	1	1001	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
		1003	107	92	0	5	0	0	0	0	10	14.0%
		1005	49	43	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	12.2%
	2	2001	74	53	2	1	0	0	0	7	11	28.4%
		2002	35	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	25.7%
		2003	78	65	2	0	0	0	0	0	11	16.7%

Census Tract	Block Group	Census Block	Total	White alone	Black or African American alone	American Indian and Alaska Native alone	Asian alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	Some Other Race alone	Two or More Races	Hispanic or Latino	Percentage minority
		2004	42	41	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.4%
		2007	11	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	9.1%
		2009	431	353	23	2	2	0	0	11	40	18.1%
		2020	121	105	0	1	2	0	0	2	11	13.2%
		2022	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
		2023	106	68	20	2	7	0	0	0	9	35.8%
21.02	2	2016	136	124	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	8.8%
		2019	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
		2020	129	114	3	0	0	0	0	7	5	11.6%
		2021	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
		2022	58	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	8.6%
		2023	35	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
		2028	170	168	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.2%
EIS Study Area			10888	7413	1111	46	73	1	11	133	2100	31.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2010 Decennial Census. Table P9, "Hispanic or Latino, and Not Hispanic or Latino by Race"

Note: Highlighted rows indicate that the minority population of Census geography is 50% or greater. The data in this table represents only the Census Blocks in the study area that are populated.

Table 2: Median Household Income by Block Group, 2017

Census Tract	Block Group	Median Household Income
17	1	\$32,835
	2	\$37,385
	3	\$41,106
18.01	2	\$39,534
	3	\$23,468
18.02	1	\$70,169
	2	\$55,029
	2	\$43,944



Census Tract	Block Group	Median Household Income
18.03	1	\$94,028
20.07	1	\$58,056
	2	\$47,273
21.02	2	\$66,714

Source: American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimate, Table 19013, "Median Household Income"

Note: Highlighted row indicate that the median household income of Census geography is below the Health and Human Services poverty guidelines for 2019 which is \$25,750 for a family of four.

*Table 3: Limited English Proficiency by Block Group, 2017*

Census Tract	Block Group	Total	Total LEP	Total LEP %	Spanish LEP	Spanish LEP %	Indo-European LEP	Indo-European LEP %	Asian and Pacific Islander LEP	Asian and Pacific Islander LEP %	Other LEP	Other LEP %
17	1	1875	203	10.8%	183	9.8%	1	0.1%	6	0.3%	13	0.7%
	2	4612	1016	22.0%	1016	22.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	3	1906	396	20.8%	396	20.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
18.01	2	1826	7	0.4%	7	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	3	1091	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
18.02	1	1972	16	0.8%	16	0.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	2	2930	429	14.6%	429	14.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	3	3154	134	4.2%	134	4.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
18.03	1	1932	12	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	12	0.6%	0	0.0%
20.07	1	1520	47	3.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	47	3.1%	0	0.0%
	2	2112	124	5.9%	124	5.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
21.02	2	1456	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Source: American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimate, Table B16004, "Age by Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English"