

Harbor Bridge Project

Improvements to US 181 from Beach Avenue to Morgan Avenue on SH 286



Why are Improvements to Harbor Bridge Needed?

- Existing safety issues and roadway deficiencies
 - Steep vertical grades
 - Lack of shoulders
 - Sharp horizontal curves
- Inefficient connectivity to the local street and road system
- The existing Harbor Bridge has a vertical clearance that is insufficient for modern cargo and cruise ships.
- The current Harbor Bridge has continuing high maintenance costs because it is a steel structure over salt water.
- US 181 is an alternative hurricane evacuation route for the Corpus Christi area.

What Is The Purpose Of This Project?

- Improving safety, thereby reducing accident rates
- Improving roadway and bridge deficiencies, meeting current design standards, and reducing the amount of needed maintenance
- Providing greater economic development opportunities for the Port by increasing the vertical clearance up to 205 feet for larger vessels
- Improving the connectivity to the local roadway system by improving the entrance and exit ramp connections to existing streets
- Providing for improvement of intermodal transportation by enhancing highways, Port access, and pedestrian and bicycle modes that would facilitate the movement of people and goods
- Providing adequate capacity to meet future traffic demands and volumes
- Maintaining and improving access to US 181 north as an alternative hurricane evacuation route for the Corpus Christi area

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Environmental and Engineering Considerations

Environmental

Description

Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Habitat

Vegetation (by Type)

Waters of the U.S. (Including Wetlands)

Environmental Justice

Floodplain

Prime Farmland

Parks

Known Historic Properties

Known Archeological Sites

Noise

Hazardous Material Sites

Oil/Gas Wells

Gas/Oil Pipelines

Commercial Displacements

Residential Displacements

Community Facilities
(Churches, Schools, Fire/Police Stations, Hospitals)

Engineering

Construction Cost

Right-of-way Cost

Utility Cost

Proposed Right-of-way

Length

System Interconnectivity

Safety

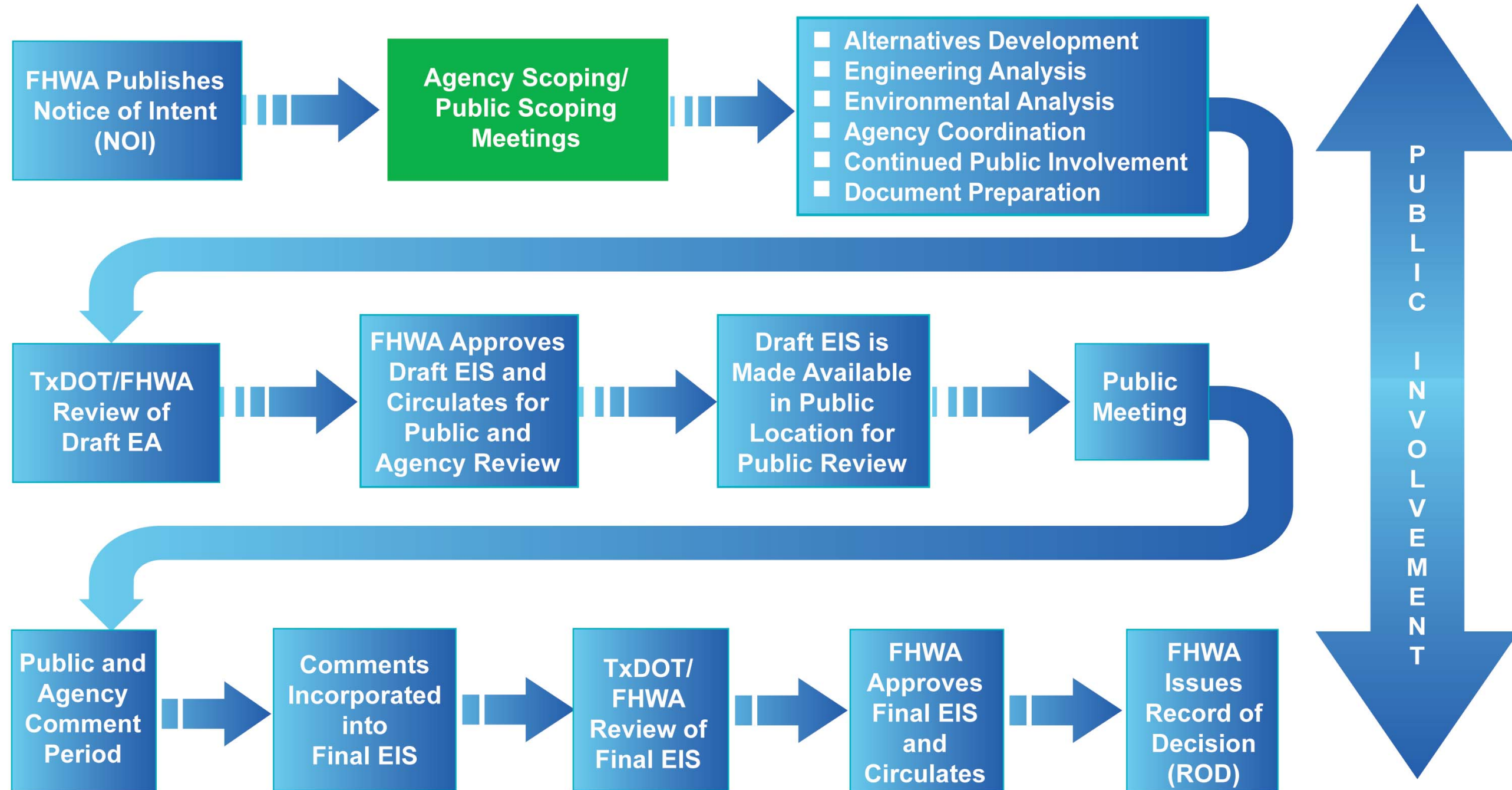
Mobility

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Environmental Documentation Process



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Harbor Bridge Project History

- 2001 - Harbor Bridge Project initiated
- 2003 - Feasibility Study completed
- 2004 - Environmental and schematic development initiated
- 2005 - First scoping meetings were held
- 2007 - Project limits extended and managed/tolled lanes proposed, and a second round of scoping meetings were held
- 2007 - The project was put on hold due to lack of funding
- 2009 - Project was reinitiated with new shorter limits and no managed/tolled lanes
- 2010 - FHWA determines project should be developed under new procedures
- 2011 - New Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement published
- Tonight is initiation of a new scoping process