

Hwy 87 elevation project



County Commissioner Darrell Apffel hosted a community meeting on Wednesday to update Bolivar residents regarding the project to elevate Highway 87 between Rollover Pass and the High Island curve, a critical evacuation route in the event of a storm. Commissioner Apffel invited representatives from TxDOT to present the project plan and answer any questions. Present were Jamal Elahi, Galveston Area Engineer; Joe Clark, Assistant Area Engineer; and Danny Perez, TxDOT Public Information Officer.

Mr. Elahi started by explaining TxDOT's on-going work providing emergency repairs whenever water and debris impact the roadway, especially at the High Island curve. And now, crews are installing a filter fabric to help prevent sand erosion in hopes of providing a more durable repair. However, all of this is just short term.

Outlining the long term solution, Mr. Elahi said TxDOT hired an Ocean Engineering Consultant to perform a study, which included charting water levels recorded in the area from storms dating back to Alicia in 1983. The consultant divided the area into four reaches based on the amount of existing protection. The following recommendations were made:

REACH ONE (From Rollover Pass 2.7 miles east)

- Raise pavement grade to +6.2 ft
- Elevate existing beach access crossings
- Enhance dunes

REACH TWO (2.4 miles east from Reach 1)

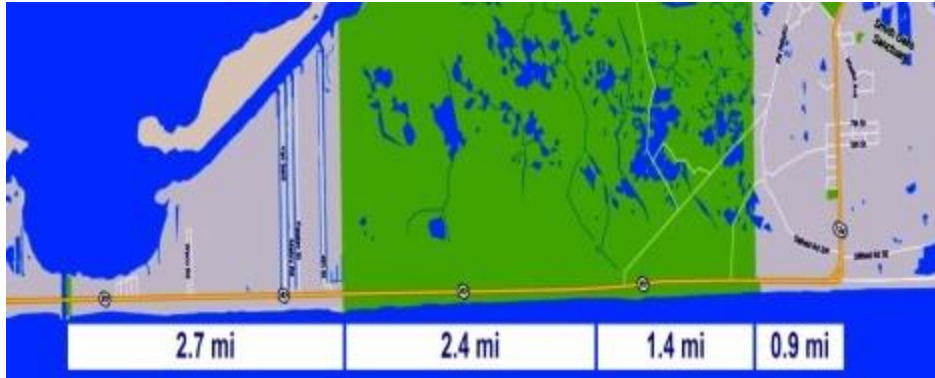
- Reconstruct pavement to +7.1 ft
- Elevate existing beach access crossings

REACH THREE (1.4 miles east from Reach 2)

- Reconstruct pavement to +7.1 ft.
- Elevate existing beach access crossings

REACH FOUR (0.9 miles east from Reach 3)

- Realign east bound lane
- Eliminate southern curve at SH 124
- Reconfigure northern curve at SH 124 for two-way traffic
- Raise pavement grade to +7.5 ft (currently at +5.0 ft)
- Construct rock revetment



Anticipated Timeline:

Spring 2018 for environmental clearance and permitting

May 2018 for letting of construction contract

Construction to start within 60 days

Estimated construction cost – \$20 Million

For additional information, please contact Danny Perez,

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