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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 9, 2010

US 290/Hempstead Corridor Program Achieves Major Milestone in Program Development

“TxDOT is one step closer to environmental clearance for the Program.”

HOUSTON – The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is pleased to announce that the US 290/Hempstead Corridor Program has achieved a critical milestone in the program development process.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recently issued a Notice of Availability (NOA) for the US 290/Hempstead Corridor’s Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The receipt of the NOA marks the culmination of the Program’s 10-year planning and environmental process, and brings the Program one step closer to obtaining environmental clearance and the ability to start right of way acquisition and construction activities. The Notice of Availability of the 1600 page FEIS document is anticipated to be published in the April 16th edition of the Federal Register marking the activation of the 30 day waiting period.

The next major step in the environmental clearance process will be for TxDOT to request from FHWA consideration of final federal approval through a Record of Decision (ROD) anticipated to be submitted in the summer of 2010. If a ROD is granted, construction activities can begin in the summer of 2011 on the portions of the US 290/Hempstead Corridor Program funded by the previously allocated Proposition 12 bond funding.

For more information on the US 290/Hempstead Corridor Program, please contact the US 290/Hempstead Corridor Program Public Information Office at (713) 354-1532 or at (713) 354-1556. For additional information regarding the FEIS document please visit the US 290 Program website at www.my290.com.