



TxDOT I-10 Elevation Project
Air Alliance Houston Comments

Dear TxDOT Staff,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on CSJ 0271-07-326, the proposed Interstate 10 elevation project from Heights Boulevard to Interstate 45. Our organization, Air Alliance Houston, has a strong interest in transportation infrastructure along this corridor and how it will impact the health and well-being of residents.

Overall, we express the following concerns:

- Building or rebuilding highways within a mile of downtown perpetuates automobile dependency and ease of access for single occupant vehicles. This undermines local and regional goals to improve multimodal mobility, transit ridership, and air quality.
- TxDOT has shown little data or metrics justifying the need for this 1.8-mile, \$347 million project. Other than demonstrating the bad optics of a flooded highway, staff were unable to answer any questions regarding the loss of life or property that can be attributed to the highway closures due to flooding.
- We are concerned this will set a precedent for elevated lanes projects with little other justification, such as further expansions within 610 to accommodate elevated and expanded lanes.
- Like the North Houston Highway Improvement Project, the I-10 Elevation project continues to disproportionately push negative externalities such as noise pollution, air pollution, and loss of wildlife habitat on central Houston neighborhoods to benefit single occupant vehicles outside of Houston's city limits.
- It is unclear how the I-10 Elevation project furthers City of Houston and Harris County goals, as no discussion of citywide plans were included in the public meeting.

If this project is to continue, we echo the following concerns we heard expressed by community members at the July 28 Public Meeting:

- Preserve and replant as many existing trees as possible within the future detention basin, as has been done on recent TxDOT and Harris County Flood Control projects.
- Ensure the I-10 Elevation project aligns with all relevant city and county plans, including but not limited to Resilient Houston (specifically Living with Water recommendations), Houston Bike Plan, Vision Zero Action Plan, and Houston Climate Action Plan.
- Identify TxDOT's frequency of maintenance for the proposed shared use paths, especially removing sediment after major rain events.
- Study Houston Ave. and Taylor Ave. heights needed to ensure the thoroughfares do not flood during major storm events.

Regards,
Air Alliance Houston Staff

[Everyone has a right to breathe clean air.](#)

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