The Oklahoma Department of Transportation will host an open house to present the proposed improvements to SH-82; the project limits extend from approximately 500 feet north of the Sequoyah County Line north 6.7 miles to the community of Cookson in Cherokee County, Oklahoma.

**PURPOSE**
The purpose of the open house is to present information and gather input about the proposed widen and resurface project on SH-82 near Cookson in Cherokee County. An overview of environmental studies conducted to date and the project schedule will also be provided.

**JOIN US**

**Location:**
Cookson Baptist Church
32171 OK-82
Cookson, OK 74427

**Date:**
Tuesday, June 21, 2022

**Time:**
4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

For more information about the project:
(405) 325-3269 | environment@odot.org

http://www.odot.org/PublicMeetings
June 7, 2022

RE: Open House for SH-82 From Approximately 500’ North of the Sequoyah C/L, North 6.7 Miles; State Job Piece Number JP 32825(04), Cherokee County, Oklahoma

Dear Stakeholders, Property Owners, and Utility Owners:

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is proposing improvements to SH-82 in Cherokee County, Oklahoma. The southern terminus for the project begins approximately 500 feet north of the Sequoyah County line and extends north 6.7 miles to the community of Cookson, Oklahoma. The existing section of roadway consists of two 12-foot-wide travel lanes with outside shoulders of varying widths and no inside shoulder. The proposed improvements would add a 14-foot-wide third lane to serve as a center dual turn lane and inside and outside shoulders of varying widths. The purpose of the project is to improve access and safety.

ODOT will host a public open house on Tuesday June 21, 2022 from 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. at the Cookson Baptist Church. The meeting will be a come-and-go format with no formal presentation. The included pamphlet contains additional information about the project and the open house. After the open house, project information may be viewed at www.odot.org/PublicMeetings.

If you are leasing this property, please notify your lessee of this public hearing. Should you have any questions regarding this project, please email environment@odot.org, or call 405-325-3269 and leave a detailed message.

Respectfully,

Chris Wallace, P.E.
ODOT District 1 Engineer

Corridor Significance
This section of SH-82 is part of both the Cherokee Hills State Scenic Byway and the Trail of Tears Auto Route as mapped by the National Park Service. ODOT completed a Corridor Management Plan (CMP) for this scenic byway in 2008. That plan calls for stewardship of natural and cultural resources that are found along the roadway. Environmental reviews have been performed to assess the potential for impacts to natural and cultural resources. Further, sidewalk and safety improvements are included in the design of the proposed improvements.

Project Overview
The project is needed because there are distance issues and sharp curves on this section of SH-82. A number of accidents have occurred over the last 10 years. The purpose of this project is to improve safety and access on the SH-82 roadway. This segment is one project being progressed as part of an overall larger plan for improvements along SH-82. Adjacent projects include JPs 27116(04) and 30574(04) to the south and JP 32097(04) to the north. The proposed improvements would add 6- to 8-foot safety shoulders and a 2-inch mill and a 2-inch overlay to the existing 24-foot roadway on the south end of the project. The improvements along the approximate 4,500-foot segment in the central portion of the project is limited to mill and overlay of the existing pavement with no widening. The northern portion of the project is in the community of Cookson and the two-lane open ditch section will be reconstructed to add a 14-foot center left turn lane, curb and gutter, and sidewalk. A visual of this section is included above for reference. Additional right-of-way will be needed to accommodate the proposed improvements. Traffic will be accommodated on-site during construction. Temporary widening will be necessary to construct the proposed pavement.

Project Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Environmental Documentation (NEPA) Completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>Right of Way Acquisition and Utility Relocation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2027</td>
<td>Construction Scheduled to Begin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Schedule is contingent on funding and subject to change