

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION

CC Bel Road Extension for Emergency Evacuation

AGENCY: FHWA-Office of Tribal Transportation

ACTION: Approval of Environmental Assessment

SUMMARY: The FHWA-Office of Tribal Transportation (OTT) has approved the Environmental Assessment for the CC Bel Road Extension for Emergency Evacuation project

FURTHER INFORMATION: To obtain copies of the EA, or for further information, contact: Mr. Steve Manuel, Infrastructure Manager, Coshatta Tribe of Louisiana. Address: 1940 CC Bel Road, Elton Louisiana 70532. Phone: (337) 584-1595. E-mail: SManuel@coshatta.org. The EA is also available for public review at the Administration Building for the Coshatta Tribe located at 1940 CC Bel Road, Elton Louisiana 70532 for 30 days beginning with 2/14/25.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: This project is the design and construction of a proposed linear evacuation roadway for the Sovereign Nation of the Coshatta Tribe of Louisiana. This project is funded through FHWA grants. Flooding of the area's existing low bridges and roadways during heavy rain events isolates the nearly 1,000 members of the Tribe for extended periods of time, cutting off access and egress until area floodwaters drain. The project will utilize the current unimproved roadway footprint for approximately half of the project which minimizes potential impacts and provides a smooth transition to the new improved roadway for current users. FHWA has reviewed and approved the Environmental Assessment for the proposed project.

The availability of the EA for public review was announced via notice in the Lake Charles American Press and on the Coshatta Tribes website (coshatta.org) on 2/15/25. A 30-day comment period was announced in the newspaper notice.

Based on the EA, the project would have no significant impact (or no impacts) to water quality, wetlands, floodplains, land use, aesthetics, transportation, or human health and safety.

The proposed project will have no adverse effect on resources listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Agency has also concluded that the proposed project is not likely to affect federally listed threatened and endangered species or designated critical habitat thereof. The proposed project will not disproportionately affect minority and/or low-income populations.