86R866 AAF-D

By:  Guerra H.B. No. 417

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to economic impact reviews conducted by the Texas Transportation Commission.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Subchapter H, Chapter 201, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 201.605 to read as follows:

Sec. 201.605.  ECONOMIC IMPACT REVIEW.  (a) The commission by rule shall provide for the commission's review of the economic impact of the department's transportation projects on businesses located in the area of a project. The rules must provide for:

(1)  public comment on the commission's economic impact reviews, including the types of projects for which public hearings are required, and a procedure for requesting a public hearing on an economic impact review for which a public hearing is not required;

(2)  the commission's evaluation of direct and indirect effects of the department's projects;

(3)  analysis of project alternatives; and

(4)  a written report that briefly explains the commission's decision on a project and that specifies any mitigation measures on economic harm on which the project is conditioned.

(b)  An economic impact review of a project must be conducted in the time required for an environmental review of the project.

(c)  The commission shall consider the results of its reviews in executing its duties.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.