

Eisenhower Drive Extension Agricultural Operation Summary

Agricultural resources were identified through background desktop research, review of aerial photographs, field views, and information obtained from state, county, and local agencies within the project area.

The project area consists of approximately 1,608 acres of productive agricultural land and includes 30 active agricultural operations ranging in size from a couple of acres to more than 200 acres. Thirteen of the operations are enrolled as Agricultural Security Areas (ASA), three are preserved by agricultural conservation easements, 22 farms are enrolled in the Clean and Green Program, and ten farms are zoned for agricultural activities. Additionally, soils with Capability Classes I and II, and FPPA Prime Farmland Soils and/or Farmland of State Importance are present throughout the project area.

Owners and operators within the project area were interviewed in the Spring/Summer of 2019 to obtain specific information on the farm operation, history, and practices. Twelve operations are located along Alignment 5C. The twelve operations range in size from 3.5 acres to 223 acres. The majority of the crops produced include soybeans, corn, wheat, hay, sweet corn, and snapbeans.

Additional interviews will be required to update the farmland data collected and to prepare the Farmland Assessment Report which will be drafted at the end of preliminary design / beginning of final design, with an assumption that the project will require a hearing before the Agricultural Lands Condemnation Approval Board (ALCAB). Specific information pertaining to each farmland operation is confidential and therefore is not included in this summary.