SUMMARY: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is issuing this notice to advise the public that a limited scope supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) will be prepared to determine construction phasing impacts for the Interstate 55 (I–55) interchange at E.H. Crump Boulevard and South Boulevard project in the City of Memphis, Shelby County, Tennessee.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Theresa Claxton, Planning and Program Management Team Leader, Tennessee Division, Federal Highway Administration, 404 BNA Drive, Suite 508, Nashville, TN 37217, telephone: 615–781–5770. Written and verbal comments on the Draft SEIS may be filed a verified notice of exemption [Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 744X)] in the Federal Register and a public involvement process.

The FEIS and ROD are available for review on the project Web site at http://www.tn.gov/tdot/article/i-55-crump. Since the issuance of the ROD, TDOT has taken several major steps to advance the project towards construction. Based on a constructability review, TDOT became aware that a total closure of the I–55 bridge over the Mississippi River (Memphis-Arkansas Bridge) may be necessary. During this possible closure, traffic would be detoured to the I–40 Hernando DeSoto Bridge. A second constructability review determined that this closure could be up to 9 months. The impacts of a total closure of the I–55 bridge for up to nine months had not been evaluated in the ROD and therefore TDOT agreed to further explore the proposed construction phasing of the project via a reevaluation of the EIS.

The reevaluation process involved additional studies on traffic, emergency services, and socioeconomic impacts and a public involvement process. TDOT held public meetings in both West Memphis, Arkansas and in Memphis, Tennessee to gather comments and concerns voiced by regional stakeholders and solicited written input through an on-line survey.

The construction phasing of the project via a reevaluation of the EIS. The SEIS process will include an invitation letter sent to potential cooperating agencies, participating agencies, and Section 106 consulting parties inviting the agencies to officially take part in the SEIS process. One or more public hearings will be held to solicit public input. In addition, a formal comment period for the public and agencies will be provided following the publication of the Draft SEIS. Written and verbal comments on the Draft SEIS will be taken by mail and at the public hearings. Public notice will be given on the time and place of the future public hearings. The comments received will be responded to in the Final SEIS.

Questions concerning this proposed closure and the SEIS should be directed to Steve Chipman, Project Manager, Tennessee Department of Transportation, 300 Benchmark Place, Jackson, TN 38301, telephone 731–935–0157.