

# LUFKIN DISTRICT

N E W S

IN THIS ISSUE | FALL 2018

2017 Project Awards..... 1  
 US 59 Public Hearing..... 2  
 Holiday Safety..... 2  
 DE Corner..... 3  
 Maintenance Projects..... 3  
 I-69 Development ..... 4

PROJECT UPDATES

Livingston Area Office..... 5  
 Lufkin Area Office..... 6  
 Nacogdoches Area Office..... 7  
 District Contacts..... 8

To learn more about Lufkin District projects, [txdot.gov/inside-txdot/district/Lufkin.html](http://txdot.gov/inside-txdot/district/Lufkin.html)

We want to hear from you. Take our Newsletter Survey: [surveymonkey.com/r/CH56VZW](http://surveymonkey.com/r/CH56VZW)

View past newsletters at: [txdot.gov/inside-txdot/district/lufkin/newsletter.html](http://txdot.gov/inside-txdot/district/lufkin/newsletter.html)

Read about TxDOT’s 10-year Unified Transportation Program (UTP) at: [txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/transportation-planning/utp/html](http://txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/transportation-planning/utp/html)

## 2017 PROJECT AWARDS

Three Lufkin District inspectors and two local area contractors were recently honored with 2017 Project Awards by The Association General Contractors of Texas (AGC) for two challenging projects. The projects, US 84 in Shelby County and SH 7 in Houston County, each required some bright minds and lots of cooperation. Recipients of the awards included Wayne Shepherd (Lufkin District) and Raymond Amburn (Pinto Construction) for SH 7 and Matt Nethery (Lufkin District), James Wise (Lufkin District), David Huckabay (James Construction) and Eric Lafitte (James Construction) for US 84.



Lufkin District inspectors accepting the awards (from left to right): Wayne Shepherd, Matt Nethery and James Wise.

Plans to replace the US 84 Sabine River Bridge in Shelby County began in the 1980’s and state and local officials worked together to bring the \$20.4 million project to reality. It took more than three years to complete. The work included the demolition of a two-lane bridge built in 1936. It was replaced by two bridges; each with two lanes, one running eastbound and one westbound connecting Texas and Louisiana at Joaquin and Logansport. The project involved transportation officials from both states. The necessity to cross a sizeable river, utility issues, debris removal by barge, preservation of nearby historical buildings and conservation of aquatic resources were challenging. Throw in the discovery of two sunken steam ships, underground storage tanks and a busy nearby downtown area required good planning and coordination on everyone’s part.

The SH 7 West construction project was just as challenging. The roadway extends for 215 miles between Interstate 35 and the Louisiana border. In the center was a 7-plus mile stretch of heavily traveled two-lane roadway in the heart of the Davy Crockett National Forest. The \$10.3 million project included widening the road, adding 10-foot shoulders and alternating passing lanes. Poor drainage and subgrade would require a solid roadbed to be established through “sugar sand.” Once excavation began, the slopes continued to reveal new veins of water requiring additional work. Heavy traffic was alternately switched through narrow driving lanes. Working around wetlands and Red-cockaded woodpeckers, an endangered species, provided additional challenges. Today, you can enjoy a drive through this beautiful national forest where safety has been enhanced and accommodates heavy truck traffic and motorists traveling through East Texas. ■

# Public Hearing Coming Soon: US 59 Redland

The Lufkin District has some of the state's most historical roads that are tied to timber production in East Texas. Our team maintains the safety and quality of this infrastructure, while preparing for major changes to the landscape with construction of future projects like Interstate 69.

One of those projects, included in the 2019 Unified Transportation Program, is the US 59 Redland Upgrade (Future I-69). The project is in the development stage and will include reconstruction of the US 59 main lanes to meet interstate standards and the addition of new frontage roads from FM 2021 to 0.34 miles north of SL 287 in Lufkin.

In June 2017, the Lufkin District held an open house to gather feedback from our stakeholders on the conceptual design for the project. We received some great comments and over the last year we have used that feedback to develop the schematic and conduct our environmental studies. On December 13, 2018, the Lufkin District will host a public hearing at the Lufkin Zoo Education Center, 402 Zoo Circle in Lufkin. The purpose of the public hearing is to present the results of our work and receive public comments on the proposed project. An open house will be conducted to allow the public time to review the schematic and meet one on one with TxDOT staff, prior to the formal presentation and hearing.

For more information about the project and the public hearing, visit the project page at: [txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/lufkin/us59-redland.html](http://txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/lufkin/us59-redland.html).



The proposed US 59 Redland Upgrade will include controlled access and frontage roads, upgrading the roadway to interstate standards.



## US 59 Redland Public Hearing Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018:

**Where:** Lufkin Zoo Education Center, Jaguar Room  
402 Zoo Circle in Lufkin, TX

**Time:** Open House: 4 – 5:45 p.m.  
Public Hearing: 6 – 7:00 p.m.

### DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER

Beginning December 18, 2018, law enforcement is partnering with the Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) for the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* enforcement mobilization in hopes of getting drunk drivers off the street and to spread the word about the dangers of impaired driving. Oftentimes, during holiday celebrations, there are higher numbers of drunk drivers on the roads that endanger everyone.

In 2016, 37,461 people died in motor vehicle crashes, and 28 percent (10,497) died in crashes where the driver had a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of more than the legal limit of .08. Drunk driving puts you at risk of serving jail time, losing your driver's license, many expenses ranging from attorney fees, court costs and lost wages. But the ultimate cost of drunk driving is causing a traffic crash that injures or kills another person.

The Lufkin District will be promoting this safety campaign throughout and beyond the holidays, because we want everyone to remember that it is never okay to drink and drive. Always designate a sober driver and make a plan to get home safely before you have that first drink.



## DE Corner

Welcome to the Fall 2018 edition of the Lufkin District newsletter. Even though the heat of summer has subsided and cooler weather is upon us, our nine-county district is just as busy with construction and maintenance projects.

We are proud of the recent recognition our contractors and inspectors received for their work on two district projects. Take a moment to read how they were recently awarded a 2017 Project Award from the Associated General Contractors of Texas (AGC). I appreciate the AGC recognizing their great work on both projects, which will improve mobility and safety in Shelby and Houston counties.

On page 2, you will read about the upcoming Public Hearing on the US 59 Redland Upgrade (Future I-69) project. The plans continue to move forward on this proposed construction that will upgrade the roadway to interstate standards. Also, visit the online project page for more information at: [txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/lufkin/us59-redland.html](http://txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/studies/lufkin/us59-redland.html).

With the holidays upon us, we want everyone to be safe. Choose a designated driver before you go to a holiday party and take a moment to read about the Drive Sober Or Get Pulled Over safety campaign and why it is so important this holiday season.

I wish all of you safe travels and warm holiday memories.

### UPCOMING LOCAL LETTING MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Contract Description	Estimated Value
<u>RMC 6333-93-001: Mill and inlay in Angelina, trinity and Shelby counties</u> <u>Letting Date: 10/2/2018</u>	\$1,471,446.00
<u>RMC 6333-94-001: Mill and inlay in Houston, Polk and San Jacinto counties</u> <u>Letting Date: 10/3/2018</u>	\$1,391,800.00
<u>RMC 6337-83-001: Specialty pavement markings districtwide</u> <u>Letting Date: 10/17/2018</u>	\$249,431.00
<u>RMC 6327-78-001: FHWA disaster relief in Polk County</u> <u>Letting Date: 11/12/2018</u>	\$205,914.00
<u>RMC 6337-96-001: Bridge preventative maintenance districtwide</u> <u>Letting Date: 12/5/2018</u>	\$650,000.00
<u>RMC 6339-31-001: Metal beam guard fence upgrade in Nacogdoches County</u> <u>Letting Date: 12/19/2018</u>	\$350,000.00
<u>RMC 6336-81-001: State Supported Living Center entrance rehabilitation in Angelina County</u> <u>Letting Date: 12/19/2018</u>	\$198,940.00



TxDOT urges drivers to always use caution as you drive through a work zone. Respect all signage, flaggers and other traffic control devices. Always be prepared to stop. Reduce speed and drive to the road conditions. Remember, we all want to get home safely.

# I-69 DEVELOPMENT IN THE LUFKIN DISTRICT

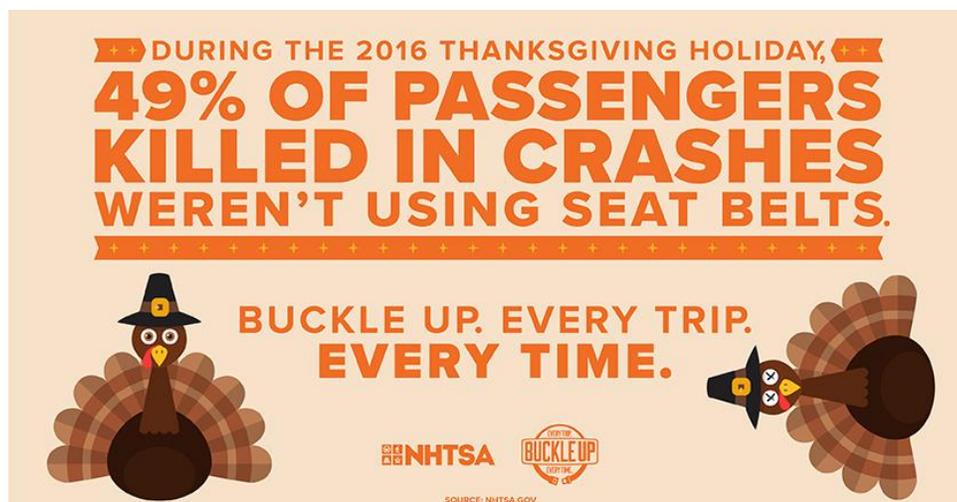
Jennifer Adams, I-69 Project Manager (936) 633-4469

At this time, there are six projects that the Lufkin District is actively developing. These projects are in varying stages of approval. Below is a brief update on the status of these projects. For more information on these I-69 projects and others under development across the state, please visit our webpage at: [dot.state.tx.us/drivenbytexans/projects.htm](http://dot.state.tx.us/drivenbytexans/projects.htm).

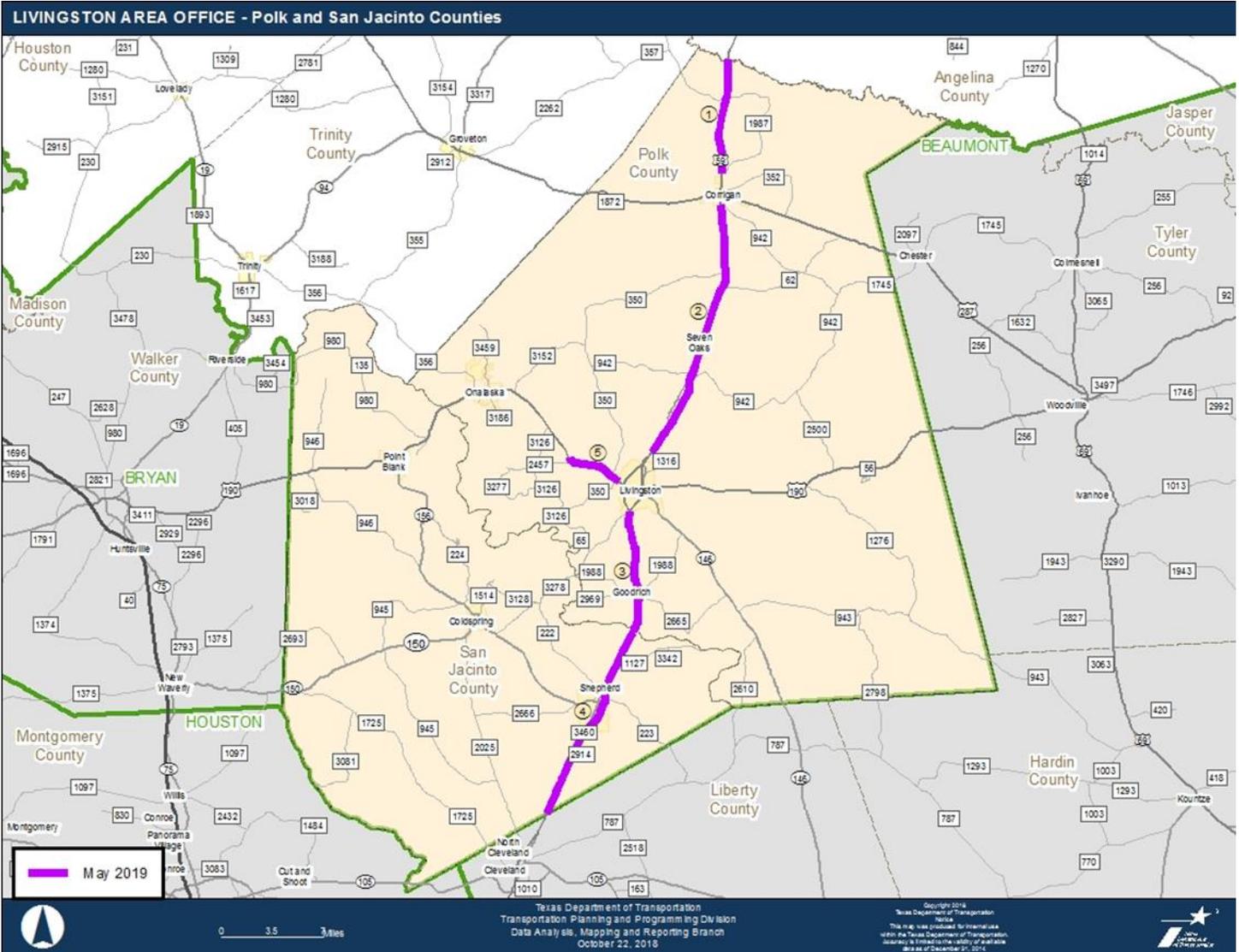


Driven by Texans

- **US 59/SL 224 South Interchange** – project involves upgrading existing US 59 by constructing new US 59 direct connectors at SL 224 and frontage roads along SL 224 between SH 7 and US 59. TxDOT is currently working on engineering plans, purchasing right of way (ROW), and relocating utilities. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2019.
- **US 59 Diboll Relief Route** – project involves the construction of a new location controlled access roadway east of Diboll. TxDOT is currently working on engineering plans, acquiring necessary permits and purchasing ROW. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2020.
- **US 59 Upgrade in Lufkin between Moffett Rd and SH 103** – project involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled access roadway by adding frontage roads. TxDOT has begun preparation of engineering plans, and ROW appraisals began Fall 2018. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2020.
- **US 59 Upgrade in Redland between SL 287 and FM 2021** – project involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled access roadway by adding frontage roads. TxDOT has begun schematic and environmental studies and anticipates approvals in Winter 2018. After approval of the environmental document, TxDOT can begin the ROW acquisition and utility relocation processes (Spring 2019). Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2022.
- **US 59 Corrigan Relief Route** – project involves the construction of a new location controlled access roadway west of Corrigan. TxDOT received approval of the schematic and environmental studies in March 2018. ROW appraisals began in Fall 2018 to be followed by ROW acquisitions in Winter 2018. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2022.
- **US 59 Upgrade in San Jacinto and Liberty Counties between FM 2914 and North Cleveland** – project involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled access roadway by adding frontage roads. TxDOT has begun schematic and environmental studies and anticipates approvals in early 2019. After approval of the environmental document, TxDOT can begin the ROW acquisition and utility relocation processes (Summer 2019). Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2023. ■



# Livingston Area Office



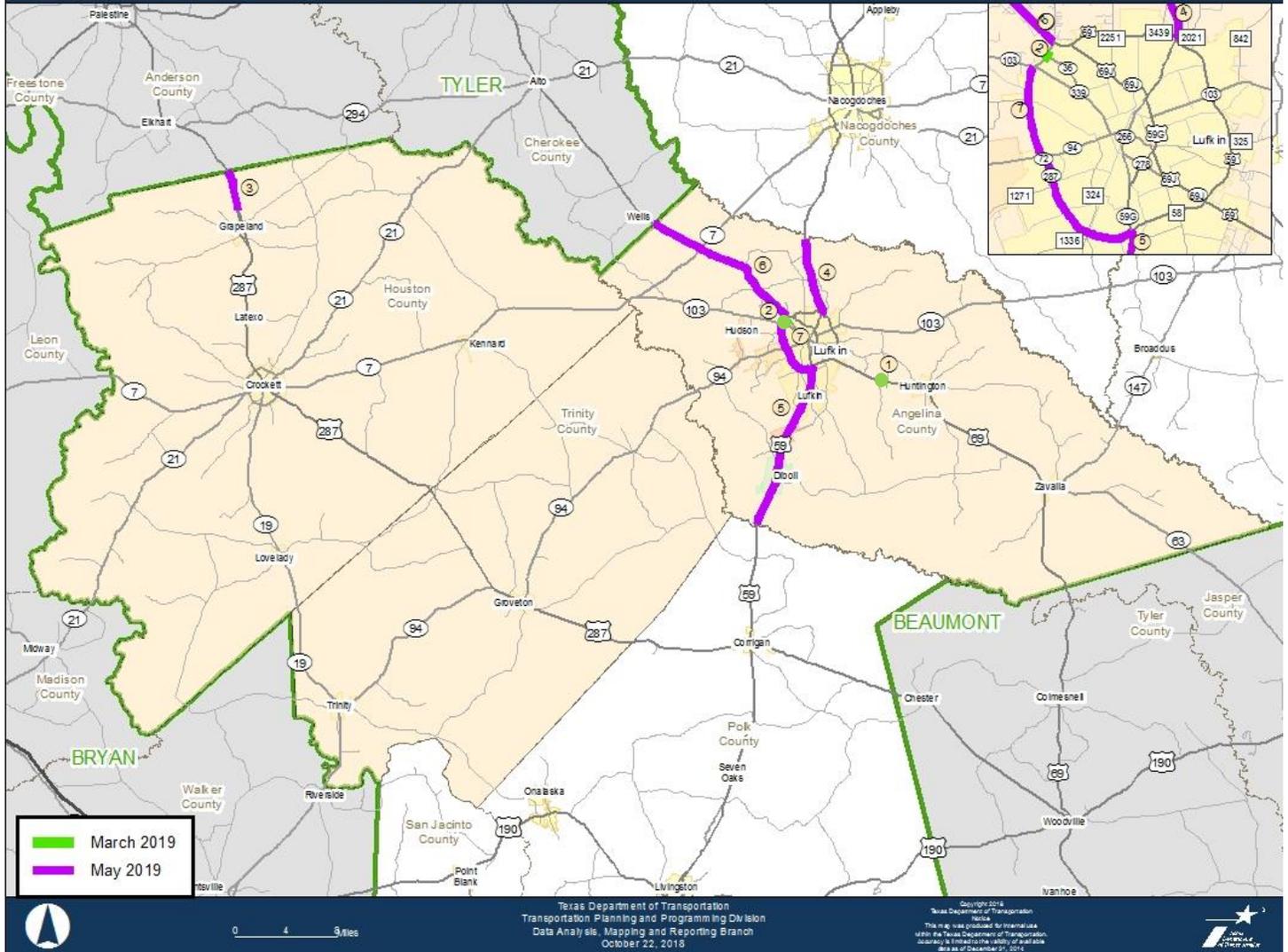
## UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Project Number	County	Highway	Description Of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
0176-04-085	Polk	US 59	Install warning signs/stop signs and install pavement markings	\$73,430.00	1
0176-05-188	Polk	US 59	Install warning signs/stop signs and install pavement markings	\$196,922.00	2
0177-01-107	Polk	US 59	Install warning signs/stop signs and install pavement markings	\$83,470.00	3
0177-02-101	San Jacinto	US 59	Install warning signs/stop signs and install pavement markings	\$91,502.00	4
0213-03-103	Polk	US 190	Install warning signs/stop signs and install pavement markings	\$57,868.00	5
0911-04-055	Polk	VA*	Rehabilitate roads, parking lots, and campsite pullouts in Pin Oak and Hercules camping areas within Lake Livingston State Park	\$1,750,000.00	6

\*Not mapped.

# Lufkin Area Office

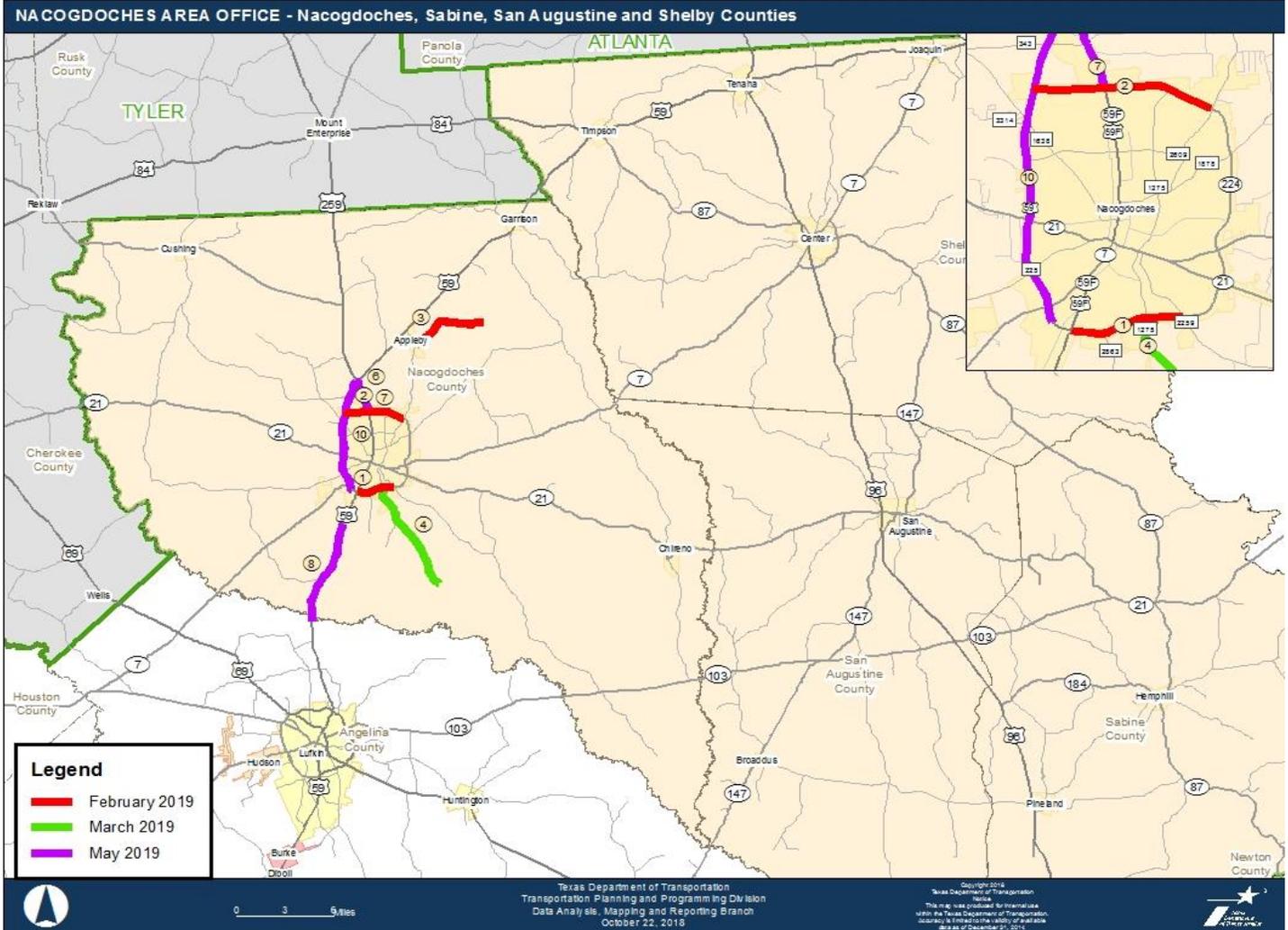
LUFKIN AREA OFFICE - Angelina, Houston and Trinity Counties



## UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Project Number	County	Highway	Description Of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
0200-01-091	Angelina	US 69	Install traffic signal at FM 326 North	\$130,000.00	1
0336-03-071	Angelina	SH 103	Widening existing paving for additional turning lanes	\$1,133,897.00	2
0109-03-037	Houston	US 287	Install warning signs, stop signs and pavement markings	\$74,434.00	3
0176-02-122	Angelina	US 59	Install warning signs/stop signs and install pavement markings	\$30,258.00	4
0176-03-137	Angelina	US 59	Install warning signs/stop signs and install pavement markings	\$159,272.00	5
0199-04-074	Angelina	US 69	Install warning signs/stop signs and install pavement markings	\$36,784.00	6
2553-01-119	Angelina	SL 287	Install warning signs/stop signs and install pavement markings	\$77,948.00	7

# Nacogdoches Area Office



## UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Project Number	County	Highway	Description of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
2560-01-083	Nacogdoches	SL 224	Resurface with thin overlay mixture	\$742,329.00	1
2560-02-030	Nacogdoches	SL 224	Resurface with thin overlay mixture	\$1,300,000.00	2
2590-02-010	Nacogdoches	FM 2609	Reconstruct and widen pavement	\$4,000,000.00	3
1407-01-028	Nacogdoches	FM 1275	Safety treat fixed objects	\$807,436.00	4
0064-06-055	Sabine	US 96 *	Scour repairs consisting of adding tie-beam and rock riprap	\$160,000.00	5
0175-07-058	Nacogdoches	BU 59-F	Install warning signs, install stop signs and install pavement markings	\$14,125.00	6
0175-08-045	Nacogdoches	BU 59-F	Install warning signs, install stop signs and install pavement markings	\$14,125.00	7
0176-01-111	Nacogdoches	US 59	Install warning signs, install stop signs and install pavement markings	\$75,438.00	8
0742-01-056	Shelby	FM 139 *	Scour repairs consisting of adding tie-beam and rock riprap	\$160,000.00	9
2560-01-082	Nacogdoches	US 59	Install warning signs/stop signs and install pavement	\$65,900.00	10

\*Not mapped.

# DISTRICT CONTACTS

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# COUNTY MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR CONTACTS

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