

LUFKIN DISTRICT

NEWS

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To learn more about Lufkin District projects, visit: txdot.gov/inside-txdot/district/lufkin.html

We want to hear from you. Take our Newsletter Survey: surveymonkey.com/r/CH56VZW

View past newsletters at: txdot.gov/inside-txdot/district/lufkin/newsletter.html

Check out TxDOT's 10-year Unified Transportation Program (UTP) at: txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/transportation-planning/utp.html

Join the TxDOT Team and Build a Career as Big as Texas: <http://www.dot.state.tx.us/jobs/default.htm>

2018 Texas Project Award

A Lufkin District construction project has been awarded a 2018 Texas Project Award. The project was located in San Jacinto County and was designed to convert a non-freeway roadway to meet interstate standards. TxDOT constructor inspectors John “Darien” McKee and Stuart L. Hearn were recognized for their roles in the project’s success.



The construction was located on US 59, just south of the Union Pacific Railroad in Shepherd to just north of FM 2914. The project was let in February, 2014 and was completed in October, 2018. The \$8.9 million project was awarded to Texas Sterling Construction Company, Houston, TX, which served as general contractor.

US 59 is a principal arterial on the National Highway System. The project upgraded a portion of US 59 to interstate standards and included the addition of frontage roads and overpasses. Several challenges were encountered during the planning and development of the project and during construction. It was determined the project would impact two areas of wetlands, so to lessen the impact, the southbound frontage road was moved closer to the main lanes with a concrete barrier separating them.

There were also construction delays due to relocation of utilities. While TxDOT negotiated the contract prices due to the delay, the construction company moved forward with work in an effort to eliminate further delays in construction. Other challenges arose during construction, including unstable soil beneath old concrete that was constructed in 1947 that had to be removed or cement treated to strengthen the unstable soils.

This project, while small, was completed in four phases of traffic control, requiring the shift of main lanes on US 59. Even though problems were encountered in design and construction, Darien McKee and Stuart Hearn were able to meet environmental compliance and keep the project moving forward to successful completion. ■

US59/SL 224 South Interchange Groundbreaking



A groundbreaking ceremony was held in the Lufkin District Oct. 3, 2019, signaling the beginning of the US 59/SL 224 Direct Connector Bridge/Flyover that will upgrade this section of roadway to interstate standard in Nacogdoches.

A large crowd gathered to hear comments from State Sen. Robert Nichols (R-District 3), State Rep. Travis Clardy (R-District 11), Nacogdoches Mayor Shelley Brophy, TxDOT Nacogdoches Area Engineer Matt Brazil and Longview Bridge and Road Vice-President Robert Adamson.

“It is a great day for Nacogdoches,” said Sen. Nichols who spoke about the economic benefits that Interstate 69 could bring to the East Texas area.

Work has begun on the \$86.1 million dollar construction project designed to construct a four-lane direct connector from SH 7 West to 1.2 miles south of Spradley Street. The work will include grading, subgrade treatments, concrete paving, asphalt, bridge structures including bridge pilings, utilities, illumination, signage and pavement markings.

The project is designed to eliminate traffic conflicts and improve safety and mobility. The project includes the construction of new US 59 southbound and northbound main lanes that will directly connect to SL 224, just south of SH 7, extend over the SL 224/US 59 South intersection and connect back to US 59, just south of Spradley Street. Along with the direct connector bridge, the project includes the construction of overpasses at Spradley Street, US 59 and Old Lufkin Road. New frontage roads will also be constructed along SL 224 between SH 7 and BU 59 and along US 59 between Spradley Street and Old Lufkin Road. Longview Bridge and Road, Longview, TX, is the general contractor for the project that is scheduled to be completed in four years, weather permitting. ■



D.E. Corner

Cheryl P. Flood, P.E.

Cooler weather means great working conditions on our roadways. As many projects move toward completion in our district, others are just beginning. I hope you will take a moment to read about some of those exciting projects.

What a great time we had in Nacogdoches on Oct. 3 at the groundbreaking event of the US 59/SL 224 South Interchange. Work has begun and crews are beginning to drill pilings where the flyover will be constructed. This project will take several years to complete, but it will bring this part of US 59 up to interstate standards.

In this issue, we are also bragging about being presented the 2018 Texas Project Award. The Polk County project that garnered the attention for the award was a challenging one. Join us in congratulating Darien and Stuart on a job well done.

We invite you to read about Texas Transportation Plan 2050. Go online to get a peek at what TxDOT is doing to meet future transportation needs and what Texas roadways could be like in 2050.

Also, take a look at our I 69 update and how these projects are progressing as well as our project pages that outline major construction and maintenance projects throughout the district.

I know as many of us prepare for holiday travel, we will encounter work zones almost anywhere we go. Please drive safely and be aware of our men and women as they work. Stay safe and I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays.

UPCOMING LOCAL LETTING MAINTENANCE PROJECTS	
Contract Description	Estimated Value
Slope Repairs at UPRR on US 59 in Polk County Letting Date: 11/5/19	\$431,000
Metal Beam Guardfence Repairs in Angelina County Letting date: 11/13/19	\$275,000
Tree & Brush Removal and Trimming in Angelina County Letting Date: 11/20/19	\$285,000
Illumination Maintenance within the Lufkin District Letting Date: 12/11/19	\$275,000
Joint Repairs in Polk County Letting Date: 12/11/19	\$60,000

Texas Transportation Plan 2050

Want to know the future of transportation 30 years from now? TxDOT is already planning for it. To maintain the state’s vibrant economy and ensure an excellent quality of life for all Texans, it is important to look ahead and proactively plan for our future.

TxDOT is directly responsible for more than 300,000 miles of state-owned roads that carry nearly three quarters of all travel statewide. The efficient movement of people and goods requires streamlined connections between Texas roads, airports, rail, ports, transit systems, pipelines and bicycle/pedestrian facilities. The 2050 plan examines existing conditions and forecasts future conditions to determine strategies for advancing long-term goals.

Objectives emphasized in the plan include designing and building an infrastructure to reduce crashes, improving crash response times, and ways to promote safe bicycling, driving and pedestrian travel. Also included in the plan is optimal movement of people and goods across the state and ways to reduce congestion, travel time and safely ensure freight mobility efficiency, as well as ways to provide continued connectivity while supporting economic growth.

We invite you to view the plan online at: <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/transportation-planning/statewide-plan.html> and tell us what you think about the future of Texas transportation. ■

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 development. 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/

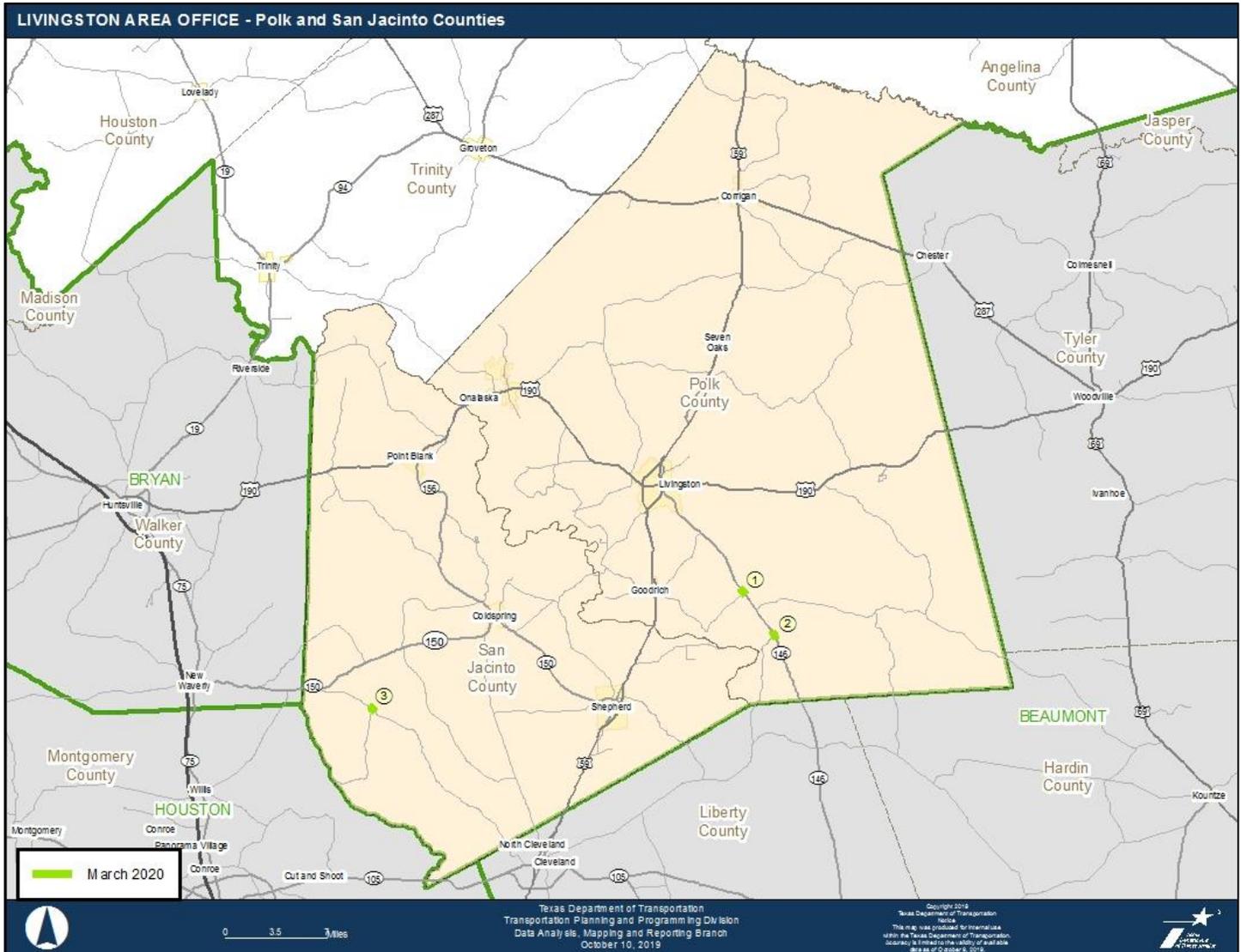


Driven by Texans

- **US 59/SL 224 South Interchange** – project involves upgrading existing US 59 by constructing new US 59 direct connectors at SL 224(S) and frontage roads along SL 224 between SH 7 and US 59. TxDOT completed the engineering plans and purchasing right-of-way (ROW). Utility relocations are currently underway. Construction began in September 2019 and is anticipated to be complete Summer 2023.
- **US 59 Diboll Relief Route** – project involves constructing a new location controlled access roadway east of Diboll. TxDOT acquired the necessary environmental permits and ROW for the project. TxDOT is currently finalizing the engineering plans, demolishing structures and relocating utilities. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in early 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. Preparation of engineering plans, ROW acquisition and demolition are underway. Once the ROW is clear, utility relocations will begin. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in late 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 received environmental clearance and completed ROW mapping. ROW acquisitions are underway and TxDOT has started preparation of engineering plans. 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 acquisitions have begun. TxDOT has started preparation of engineering plans. 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 received approval of schematic and environmental studies in August 2019. ROW acquisitions have begun and TxDOT will soon prepare engineering plans. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2023. ■



Livingston Area Office



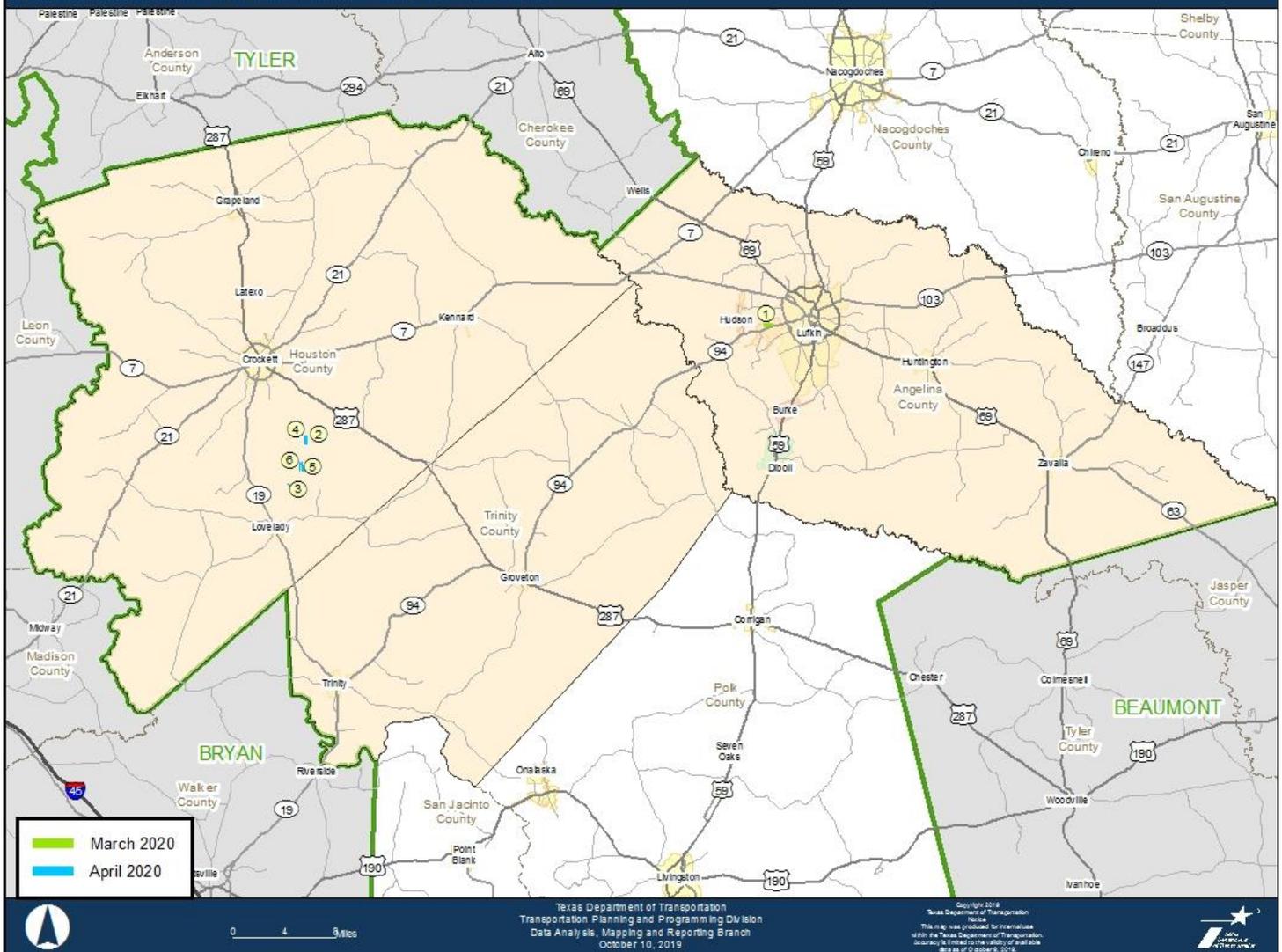
UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Project Number	County	Highway	Description Of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
0388-01-060	Polk	SH 146	Install Flashing Beacon	\$99,953.00	1
0388-01-061	Polk	SH 146	Install Flashing Beacon	\$99,953.00	2
1582-01-028	San Jacinto	FM 1725	Install Flashing Beacon	\$53,821.00	3

For more information, please visit the Project Tracker page at:
txdot.gov/inside-tdot/projects/project-tracker.html

Lufkin Area Office

LUFKIN AREA OFFICE - Angelina, Houston and Trinity Counties

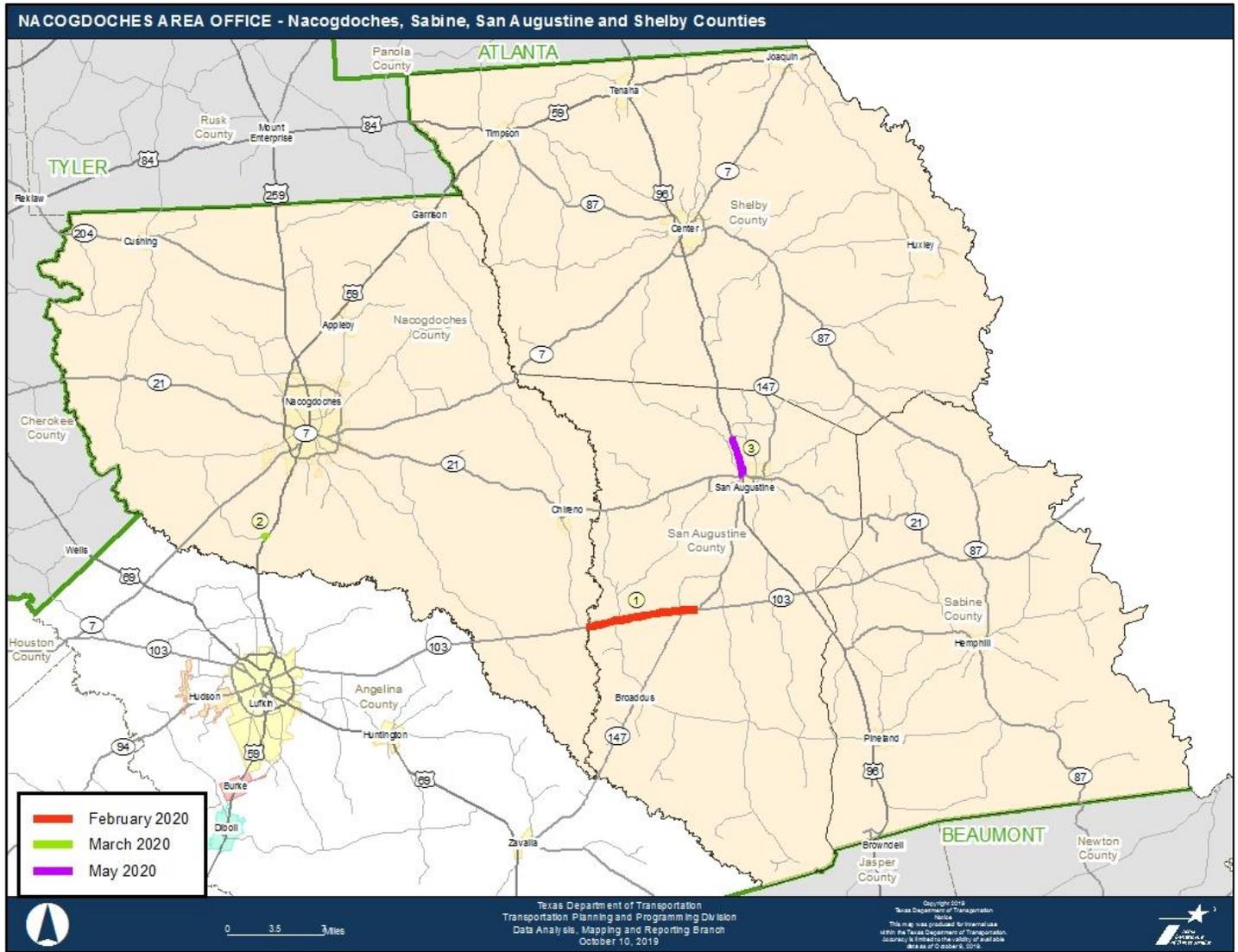


UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Project Number	County	Highway	Description Of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
2960-01-013	Angelina	FM 1194	Install Flashing Beacon	\$47,484.00	1
0911-28-047	Houston	CR	Bridge Replacement	\$660,000.00	2
0911-28-050	Houston	CR	Bridge Replacement	\$670,000.00	3
0911-28-057	Houston	CR	Bridge Replacement	\$600,000.00	4
0911-28-058	Houston	CR	Bridge Replacement	\$650,000.00	5
0911-28-059	Houston	CR	Bridge Replacement	\$600,000.00	6
0911-40-029	Trinity	VA	Construct Pedestrian Infrastructure in Groveton	\$808,538.00	7

For more information, please visit the Project Tracker page at:
txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/project-tracker.html

Nacogdoches Area Office



UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS					
Project Number	County	Highway	Description Of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
0336-07-071	San Augustine	SH 103	Rehabilitate Existing Roadway	\$8,700,000.00	1
2808-02-009	Nacogdoches	FM 2782	Install Flashing Beacon	\$63,063.00	2
0809-03-040	San Augustine	US 96	Construct New Roadway Lanes	\$6,000,000.00	3

For more information, please visit the Project Tracker page at:
txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/project-tracker.html

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