

TxDOT – Laredo District

I-35 Corridor Upgrades in North Laredo & Webb County



Newsletter #2 – June 2018

One of our highest priorities in the Laredo community is the efficient movement of international trade through the ports-of-entry (POEs) with Mexico. Our special focus is on projects connecting this traffic to Texas, national and international markets.

We look closely at which potential projects demonstrate the greatest benefits to moving international freight as well as personal vehicles. As part of this priority, the TxDOT – Laredo District is developing a series of projects to upgrade approximately 24-miles of I-35 in and north of Laredo. These upgrades would extend from the Shiloh Road interchange at Mile Marker (MM) 6 to MM 30 which is approximately 1-mile north of the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) check-station.

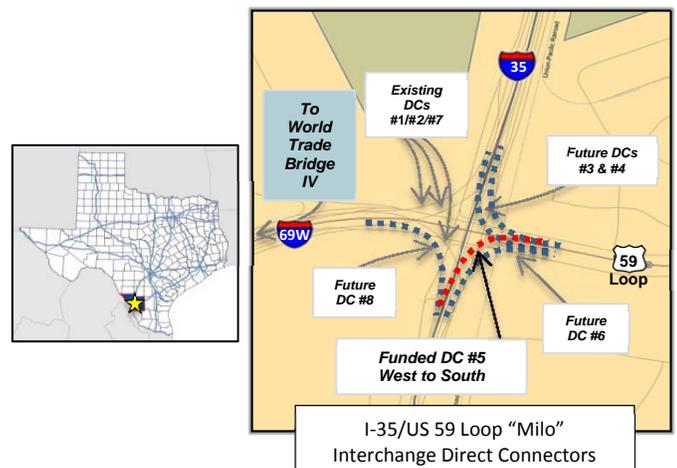
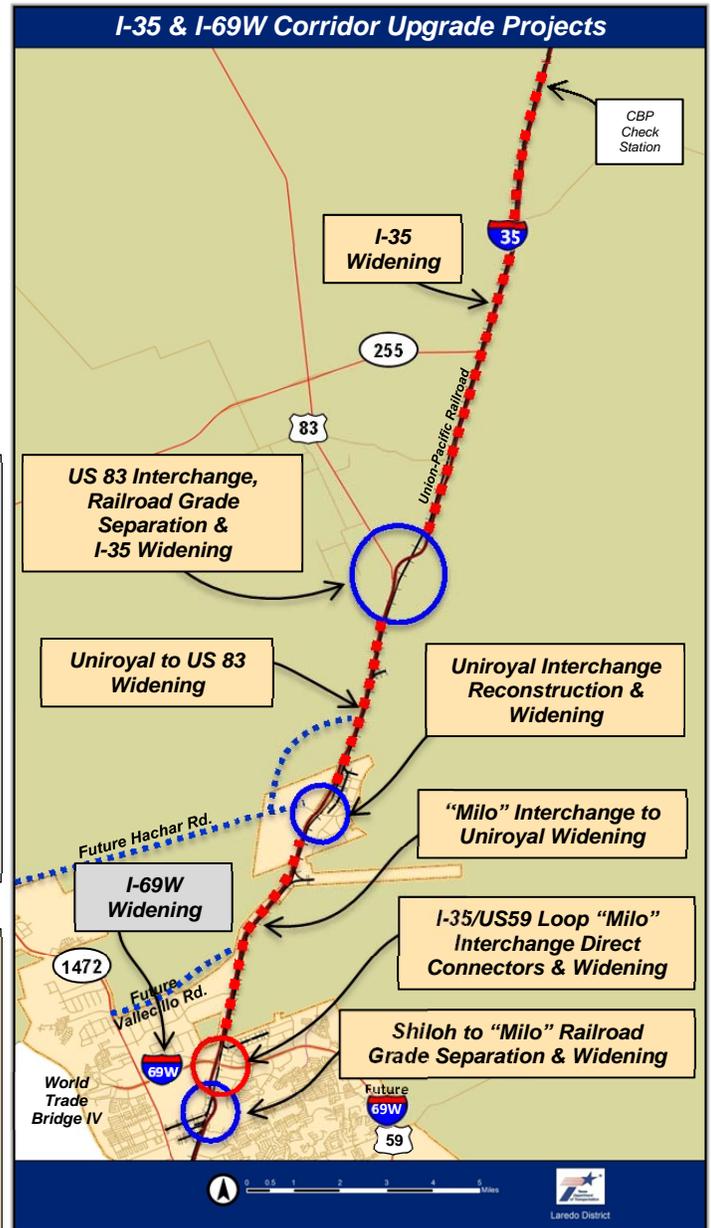
★ WHY IS THIS WORK NEEDED?

- ◆ Laredo is the nexus of three major freight corridors that handle international trade with Mexico (I-35; US 59/I-69W; and US 83/US 277). Laredo handles the highest volume and value of trade of all inland (POEs) in the United States and is ranked as the 3rd busiest POE (land/sea/air) in the United States. Nuevo Laredo is Mexico's busiest POE.
- ◆ International trade, and the resultant commercial traffic that carries this trade, is increasing approximately six percent each year.
- ◆ The I-35 corridor and its associated connecting intersections are experiencing ever-increasing congestion and safety issues.

★ PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

The proposed improvements along this 24-mile corridor are intended to decrease traffic congestion by increasing the roadway capacity and improving the safety and efficiency of the major street and highway connections.

- ◆ I-35 Mainlane Capacity:
 - * This work would increase the number of mainlanes to three in each direction throughout the corridor.
 - * This added capacity would require the reconfiguration of the railroad crossings at MM 7 north of Shiloh Road in north Laredo and at MM 19 just north of the US 83 intersection.
 - * The reconstruction and widening of the overpass at Uniroyal Drive would also be required in order to increase the number of mainlanes.
- ◆ Ramps, Direct Connectors and Overpasses:
 - * Completing the remaining five direct connectors (DCs) at the I-35/US 59 Loop "Milo" interchange.
 - * Reconfiguring the on/off ramps at the Uniroyal and the Carriers Drive interchange.
 - * Improving the intersection connections at US 83 at MM 18.



★ I-35 CONSTRUCTION PHASES:

The overall construction estimate for the proposed work along this 24-mile corridor is well over \$460 Million, all of which is not funded; however, there is currently \$234 Million of funding identified for several phases of work on this corridor. Below is a summary of the project phases from south to north as well as the funding status.

- Shiloh Road to the US 59 Loop (Milo Interchange):
 - Raise the I-35 mainlanes from underneath to over the U-P Railroad line and widen the mainlanes to three lanes in each direction (\$54M/August 2021).
- Construct the Remaining I-35/US 59 Loop (Milo) Interchange Direct Connectors (DCs):
 - Three DCs (#1 / #2 / #7) are currently open to traffic.
 - DC #5 – US 59 Loop westbound to I-35 southbound (\$30M/August 2019).
 - DCs #3 / #4 / #6 / #8 (\$85M/Unfunded).
- US 59 Loop to Uniroyal Drive Interchange:
 - Schematic layout development for upgrading the existing United Drive Overpass, at the Killam Industrial Boulevard intersection and at the future overpasses at the future Vallecillo Road and an un-named arterial road south of Carriers Drive (\$TBD/Unfunded).
- Uniroyal Drive Overpass:
 - Reconstruct & Widen the Overpass at Uniroyal Drive & Reconfigure the Ramps at Uniroyal Drive and Carriers Drive (\$65M/August 2021).
- Uniroyal Drive to South of US 83 (at MM 16):
 - Construct the third mainlane in each direction (\$TBD/Unfunded).
- South of US 83 (at MM 16) to MM 30:
 - Re-construct the interchange at US 83 and bridge the I-35 mainlanes from under to over the U-P Railroad (\$75M/August 2021).
 - Bridge the I-35 frontage roads over the U-P Railroad, construct DCs between US 83 and I-35, and construct third mainlane in each direction north of the U-P Railroad crossing (\$TBD/Unfunded).

★ I-69W MAINLANE WIDENING:

- World Trade International Bridge IV Exit to 0.33-mi. west of I-35.
- Add an additional mainlane in each direction (\$15M/Unfunded).

★ FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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- Mike Graham – Laredo District Environmental Coordinator
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- Visit TxDOT.gov keyword search “I-35 Corridor Upgrades – Laredo”

The 1st I-35 Corridor & I-69W Upgrade Projects

Public Meeting

July 17, 2018

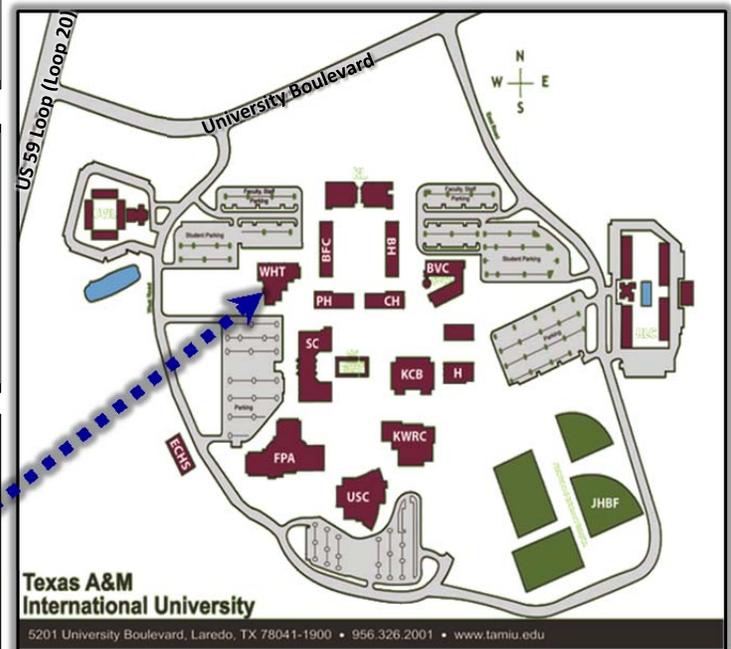
Open House: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

(No Presentation)

Texas A&M International University

Western Hemispheric Trade Center (WHT) – Room 111

Spanish-speaking team members will be available at the meeting to assist with translation needs. If you require other communication needs or special accommodations, please contact Raul Leal, the TxDOT Laredo Public Information Officer at least five days before the public meeting. All reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your request.



Visit TxDOT's Project Tracker database to view up-to-date information on funded transportation projects: