



# US 83 IN ZAPATA COUNTY

**PUBLIC MEETING  
OCTOBER 10, 2019  
5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.**

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Zapata County Community Center  
605 US Highway 83  
Zapata, TX 78076



**ELECTED & PUBLIC OFFICIALS**

**DISTRICT & AGENCY STAFF**

**CONSULTANTS**



Safety: Mission

**ZERO** 

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***Safety Never Stops!***

**#EndTheStreakTX**

**#EndTheStreakTX**



**3,538**  
**DEATHS**

# Public Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions

*Octavio Saenz – TxDOT*

- Project Overview & Description

*Craig Stong – Consultant Project Manager (TEDSI)*

- Next Steps in Project Development

*Octavio Saenz – TxDOT*

- Public Comments Period

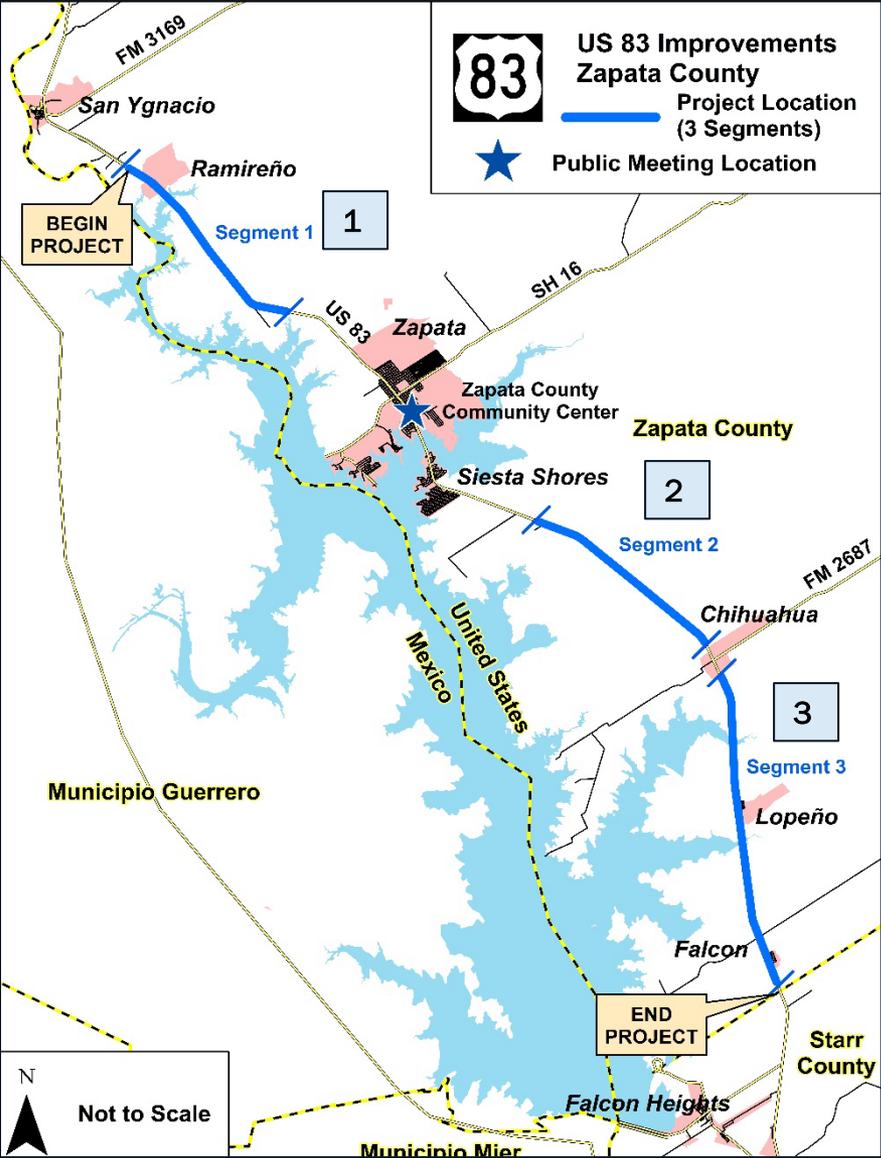
- Adjournment

# Public Meeting Purpose

- Encourage and maintain effective communication with the public
- Provide project information
- Follow an important step in environmental process
- Receive and record public input and comments



# Project Location Map



# Public Comment Opportunities

- Sign up to speak and verbally give your comments tonight.
- Fill out a comment card at the comment table.
- Mail or drop off comments:

**US 83 Project c/o Robin Gelston  
TxDOT Pharr District  
600 West Interstate 2  
Pharr, Texas 78577**

- Fax comments to 956-702-6110
- Email comments to: **[Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov](mailto:Robin.Gelston@txdot.gov)**

**Deadline For Comments: Friday, October 25, 2019**

For more information, visit [txdot.gov](http://txdot.gov) and search “US 83 from FM 3169”

# Project Need and Purpose

## ■ Project Need:

- Lacks capacity needed for future growth
- Lacks controlled access
- Does not meet Texas Trunk System requirements

## ■ Project Purpose:

- Add capacity
- Improve mobility
- Upgrade to Texas Trunk System requirements

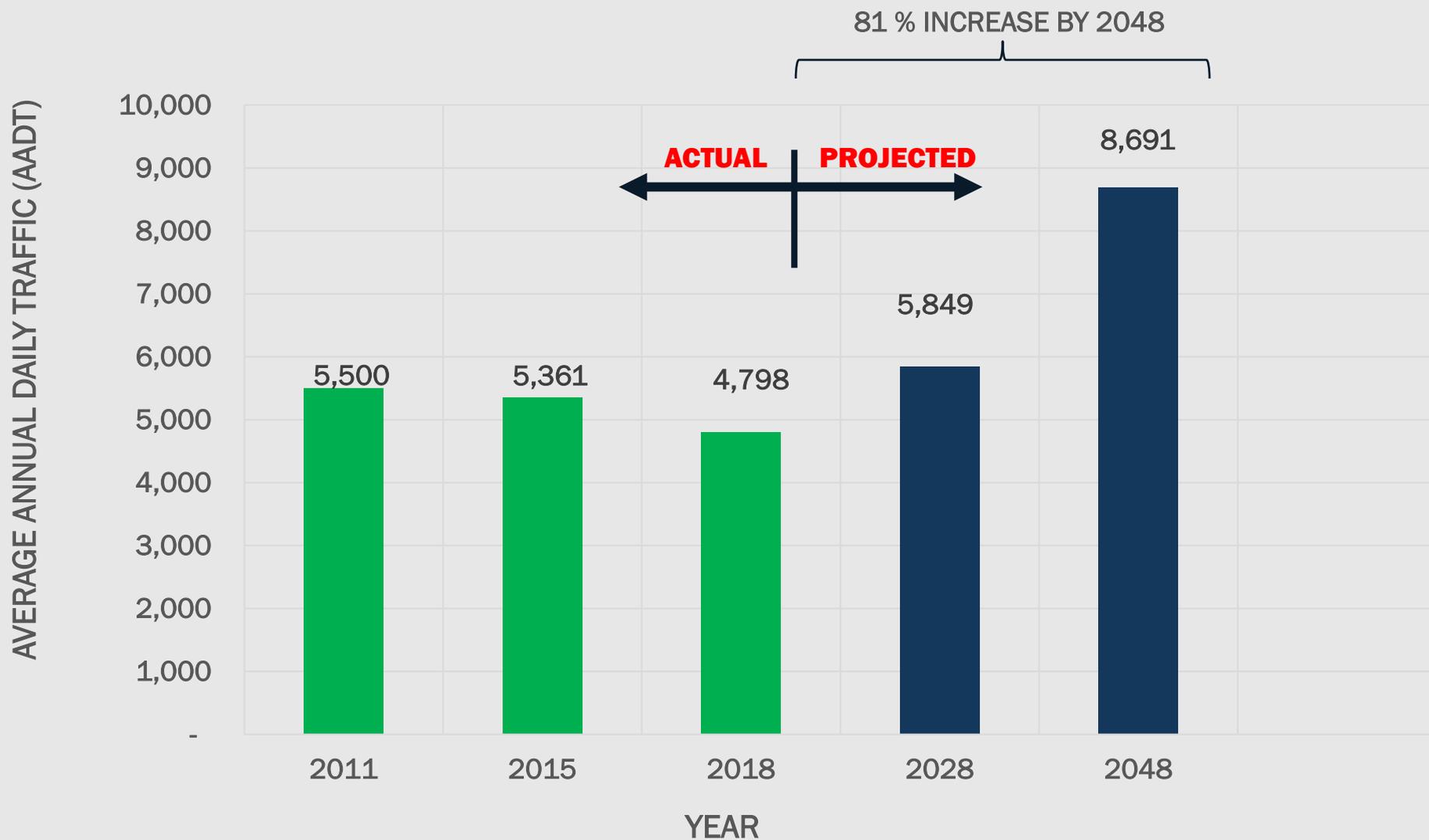
# Project History – Previous Activities

- Previous Public Involvement Activities:
  - Public Meetings (in Zapata)
    - March 30, 1999
    - April 9, 2000
  - Open House and Public Workshops (in Zapata)
    - May 24, 2004
    - June 8, 2004
- 2007 Environmental Assessment and FONSI
- 2010-2013 Construction of three “Super 2” improvement projects

# Project Scope and Description

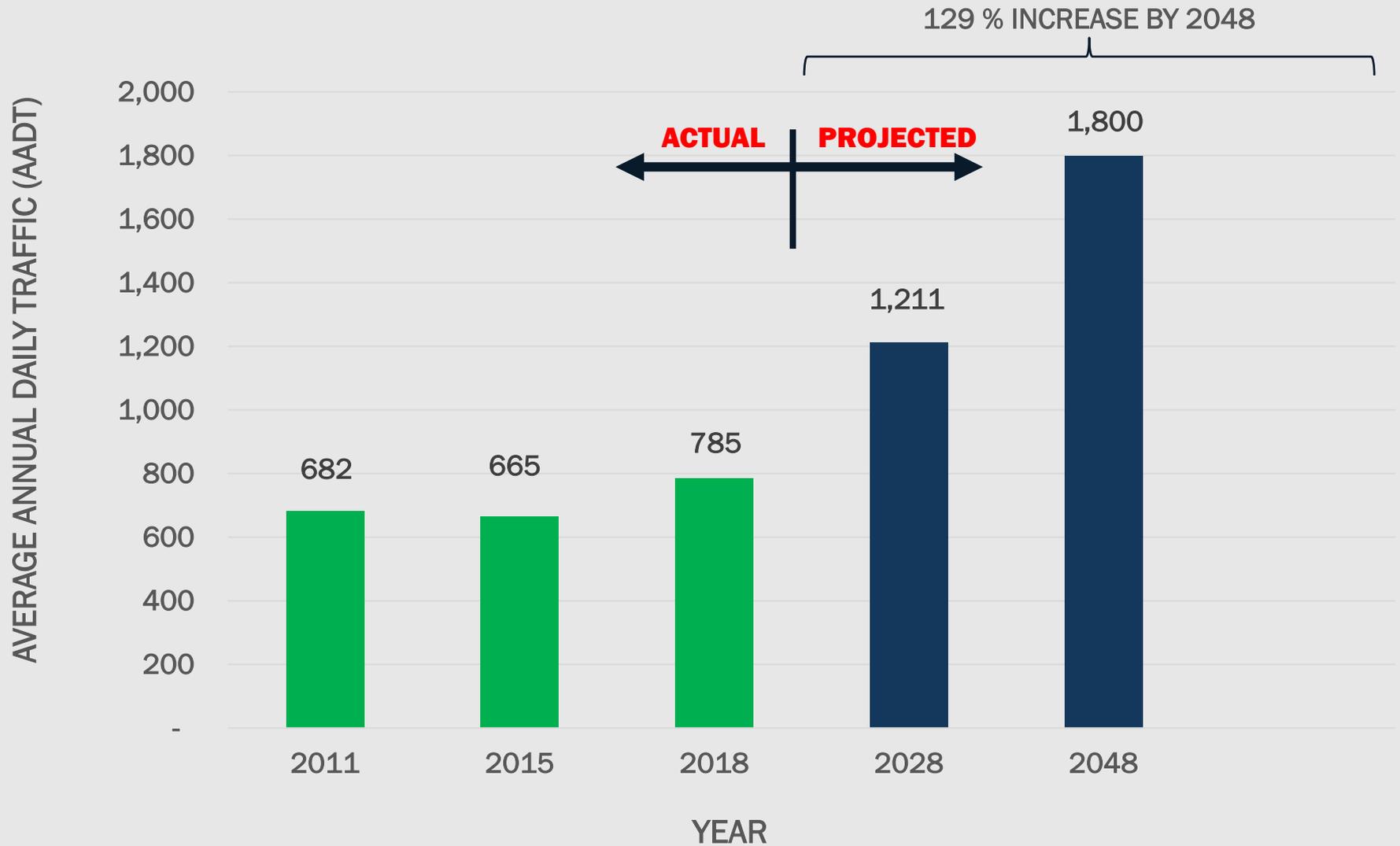
- The US 83 project limits are from 3.67 miles south of FM 3169 to 0.255 miles north of Zapata/Starr County line, a distance of 22 miles
- Expand US 83 from 2 lanes to 4 lanes.
- Additional improvements include:
  - 10' outside shoulders, 4' inside shoulders
  - 12' shoulders for hurricane evacuation on northbound roadway
  - Crossover roadways throughout project area
  - Undivided sections with 16' center turn lane, 10' shoulders

# Traffic Trend (All vehicles) – US 83



DATA SOURCE: TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING

# Traffic Trend (Trucks) – US 83



DATA SOURCE: TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING

# US 83 Existing Typical Section (Two-Lane segment)

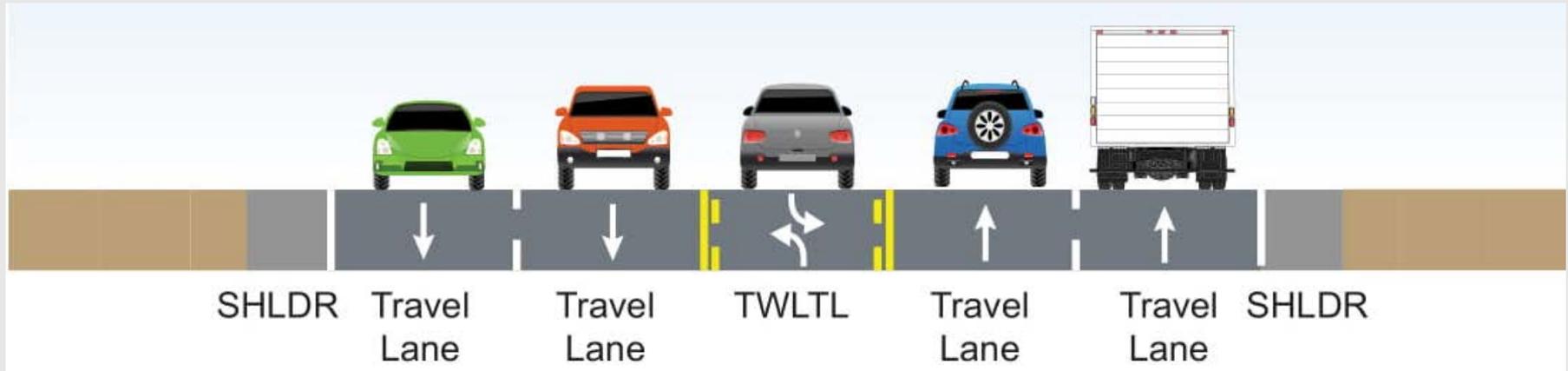
## ■ 100'-130' Existing ROW



- 50' overall width of existing roadway typical sections
  - two-11' outside shoulder
  - two-12' vehicle travel lane
  - 4' buffer

# US 83 Existing Typical Section (Five - Lane segment)

## ■ 100'-160' Existing ROW



- 80' overall width of existing roadway typical sections
  - two-8' outside shoulder
  - four-12' vehicle travel lane
  - 16' continuous left turn lane

# US 83 Proposed Typical Section (Urban 4-Lane with Turn Lane)



**TIGRE GRANDE**



# US 83 Proposed Typical Section (Rural 4-Lane Divided)





## Preliminary Environmental Findings:

- ROW impacts to 163 parcels of land
- 393 +/- acres of new ROW needed from both sides of US 83
- Anticipate 6 residential and 6 commercial displacements
- 3 existing wildlife corridors at major bridges
- 3 active oil and gas wells within proposed ROW

## Preliminary Environmental Findings (continued):

- USACE permits are required for work crossing waterways:
  - Arroyo Tigre Grande
  - Arroyo Tigre Chiquito
  - Arroyo Burro
- Potential impacts to rare and endangered plants
- Traffic noise study being conducted to evaluate project impacts
- Coordination pending with
  - Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
  - US Fish and Wildlife Service
  - Texas Historical Commission

# Project Development Schedule



**SCHEDULE IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE**



- **Step up to the microphone stand**
- **State your full name**
- **Give your comments on the project. Limit statement to 3 minutes.**

**End of 3 Minutes**



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***Thank you for your attendance!***



# NEXT STEPS

- Compile and consider community input from tonight's public meeting and comment period
- Finalize project design details
- Prepare and finalize environmental documentation

Dora Robles, P.E.

TxDOT Project Manager

Office: 956-702-6348

Email: [Dora.Robles@txdot.gov](mailto:Dora.Robles@txdot.gov)

*Thank You for Your Participation!*

