



# WELCOME!

## Why Am I Here?

- Learn about the proposed project
- Ask questions and provide comments on the proposed project



# Project Need and Purpose

## What problems are we trying to address?

- Increasing traffic volumes
- Congested roadways
- Increased accident rates

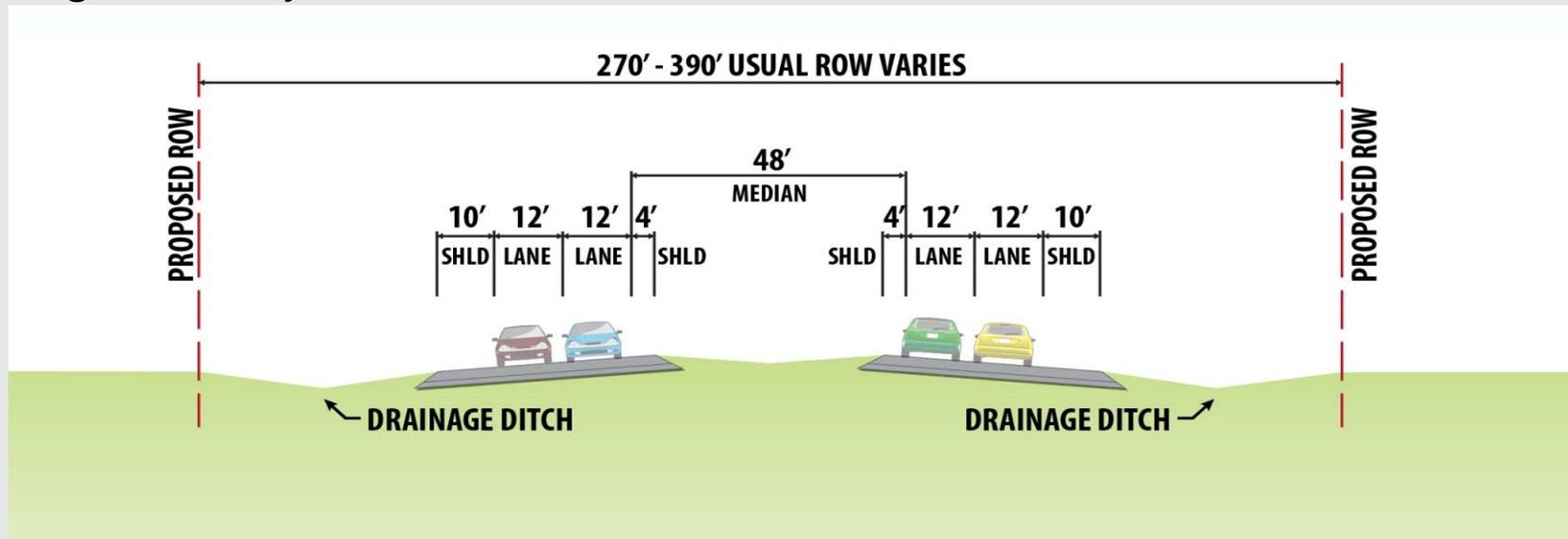
## What are we trying to do?

- Improve safety for the traveling public
- Develop statewide significant corridor (I-69 segment) along US 281



## US 281 – Proposed Main Lanes

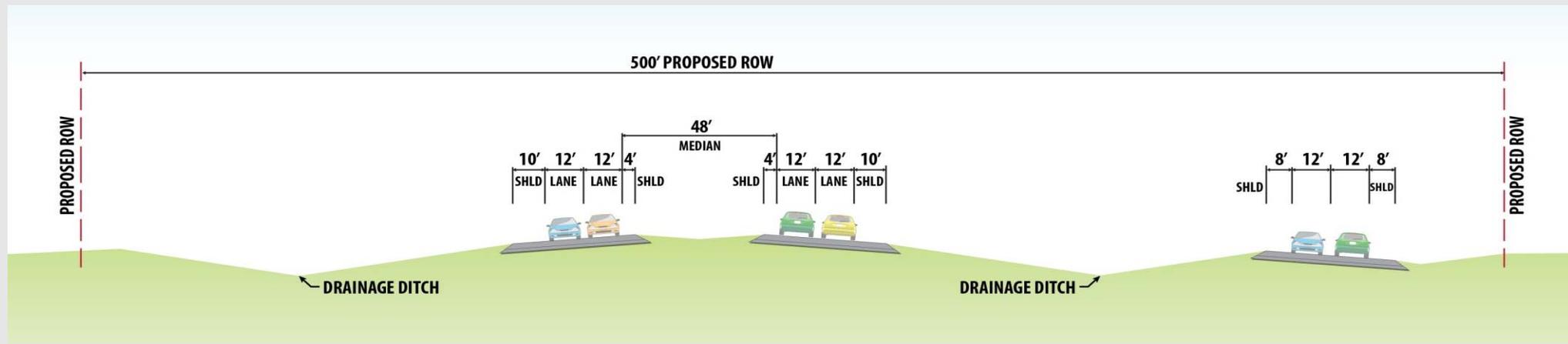
- Four 12 foot wide lanes – two lanes in each direction
- 48 foot wide grassy median
- 10 foot wide outside shoulders
- 4 foot wide inside shoulders
- Right-of-way width varies from 270' to 500'





## Proposed Access Road

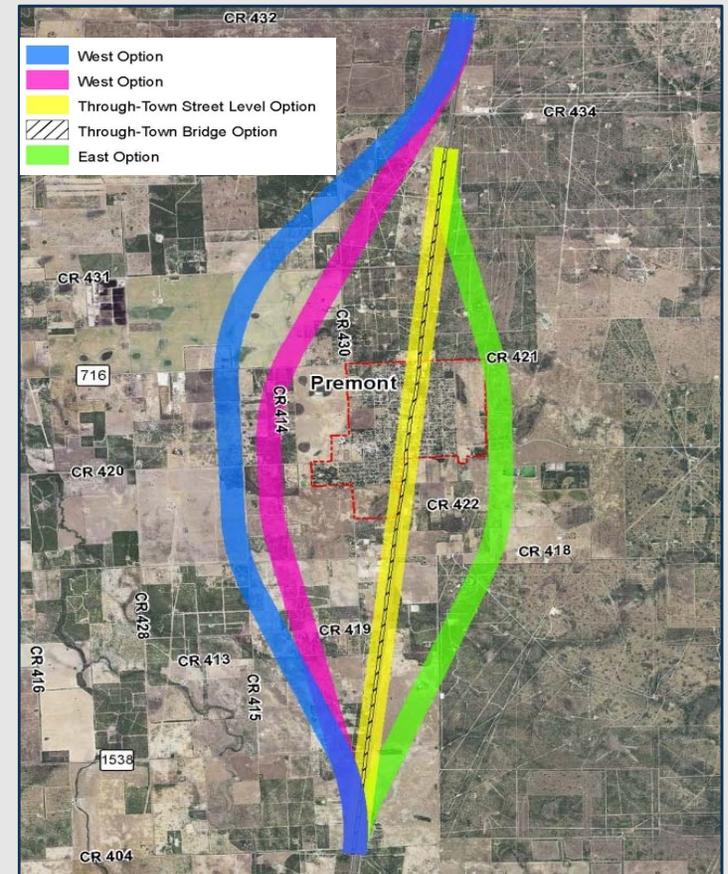
- Extends from CR 422 to NE 8<sup>th</sup> Street
- Two 12 foot wide lanes – one lane in each direction
- 8 foot wide shoulders
- 500 foot wide right-of-way width (including main lanes)





# Project History 2008-2011

- US 281 project was initiated in 2008
- 2008 study began with large corridors and led to recommending and evaluating five potential route option locations
  - East Relief Route Option
  - Through Town Street-level Option
  - Through Town Bridge Option
  - Two West Relief Route Options





# Project History 2011

- Preliminary route evaluation looked at safety, mobility, community and environment, design feasibility, and cost
  - In 2011, the Through Town Bridge and West Relief Route Options were dismissed based on higher project impacts, cost and lack of public support
  - The remaining two options were advanced for additional study in the Community Impacts Assessment
- Community Impact Assessment evaluated the East Through Town and Street-level Relief Route Options
  - Studies focused on the potential impact to safety, mobility, community and environment



# Project History 2011



**As shown at the October 2012 Public Open House**



## Project History 2011-2012

- Through Town Street-level Option was dismissed because it would:
  - Displace six key businesses within the City of Premont
  - Displace the Community Life Center and a multi-family dwelling
  - Introduce a new high-speed transportation facility through the center of the City of Premont (70 mph)
  - Limit east/west pedestrian and vehicle access within the City of Premont to three locations thereby dividing City of Premont
  - Create a visual barrier in the City of Premont with a new 300-foot wide high-speed transportation corridor
  - Disrupt the City of Premont business area for more than two years with construction activities



# Environmental Study 2012-2014

An environmental study called an Environmental Assessment, or EA was prepared for this project.

The details of the study include:

- Revised design to address project funding issues and meet project need
- Anticipated 192.8 acres of additional right of way
- No residential or commercial relocations
- No impacts to air quality, wetlands, or any federally listed species
- No impacts to cultural resources/sites
- Traffic Noise Analysis was complete and no noise barriers are proposed
- Potential hazardous materials addressed prior to construction
- Minimizes impacts to overall community cohesion



**Please submit all comments by Wednesday, January 7, 2015**

## **How Can I Make Comments?**

- Speak during the comment period tonight
- Submit a written comment form tonight
- Email, mail, or drop off comments to:  
Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

TxDOT Corpus Christi District Office  
Attn: Victor Vourcos  
1701 South Padre Island Drive  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78416



Ongoing Public Involvement

Preliminary Design

Fall 2014\*

Environmental Review and Approval

Spring 2015\*

Finalize Design

2015-2016\*

Acquire Right of Way

2015-2016\*

Construction

2016-2018\*

**\*This project schedule and dates are preliminary and subject to change.**



## Next Steps

- Compile and consider community input from tonight's public hearing
- Finalize project design details
- Obtain environmental clearance



# How Can I Stay Informed?

Contact:

Victor Vourcos  
Project Manager  
361-808-2378 or  
Victor.Vourcos@txdot.gov

or

Rickey Dailey  
Public Involvement Officer  
361-808-2544  
Rickey.Dailey@txdot.gov



# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



View looking north at US 281/Business 281 Split south of Premont



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View of US 281/Business 281 split south of Premont



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View looking south at US 281/Business 281 split north of Premont

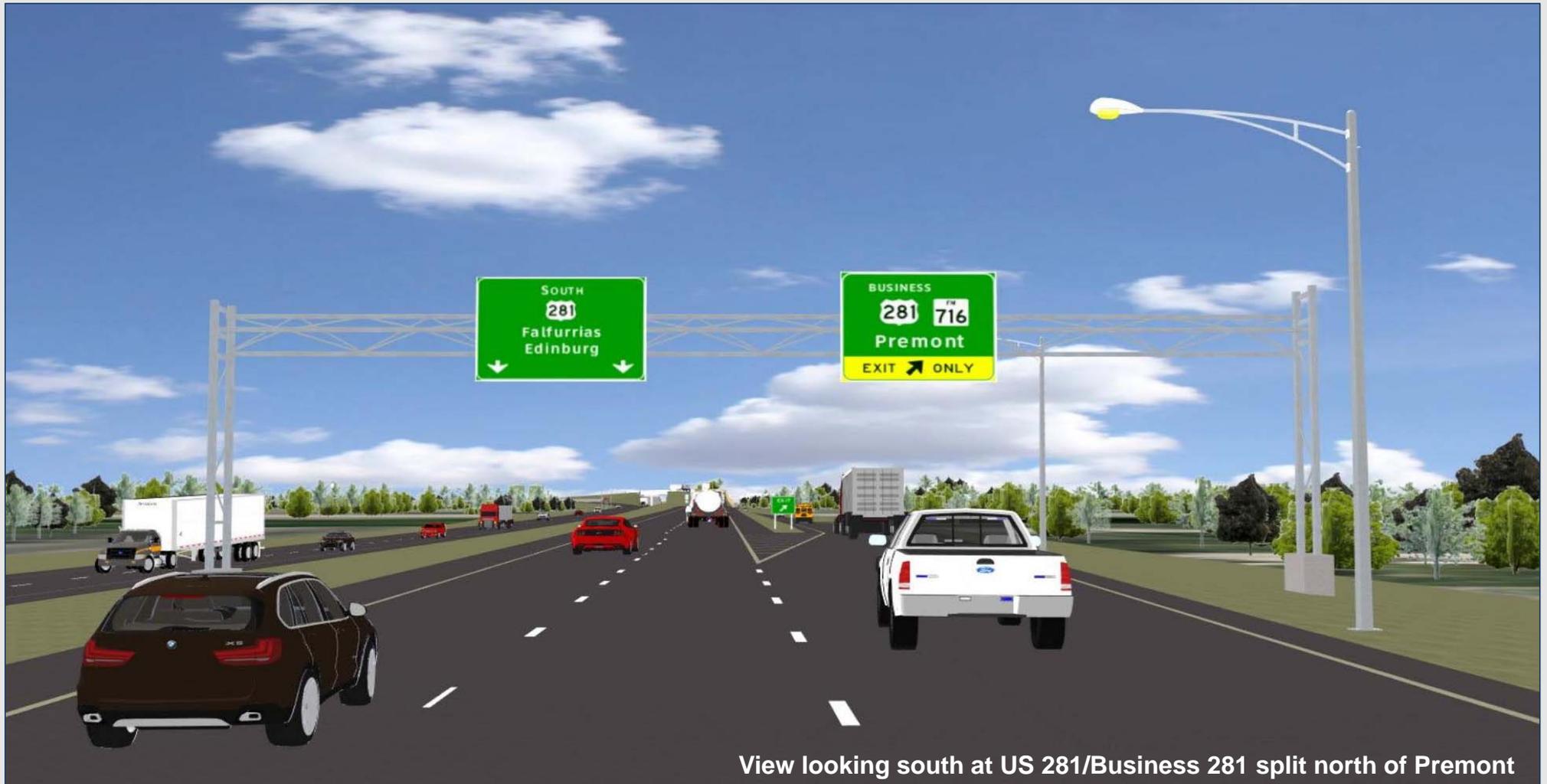


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View looking south at US 281/Business 281 split north of Premont



# Right of Way Questions?



# Environmental Document Review Area