



# Loop 20 / Spur 400 Intersection & KCS Railroad Bridge Improvement Project

## Project Fact Sheet

### Why Improvements Are Needed to Loop 20 at Spur 400 and the Bridge Over the Kansas City Southern Railroad:

Loop 20 is a major road and designated truck route in the City of Laredo providing north/south connectivity along the eastern side of the city. Spur 400/Clark Blvd. is an important east/west road that passes through central Laredo and connects the Loop to I-35. At typical peak travel times the Loop 20/Spur 400 intersection is highly congested, often requiring motorists to wait in line at the traffic signal over repeated signal light cycles. The congestion at this intersection also creates travel impediments and delays for emergency vehicles.

The Loop 20 frontage roads currently end at the Kansas City Southern (KCS) railroad tracks so vehicles and pedestrians have to get onto the Loop 20 mainlanes' bridge to cross the railroad tracks. This is problematic in high volume traffic periods such as rush hour and after athletic events end at the nearby school district sports complex.

### Purpose of the Project:

The purpose of the Loop 20 improvements is to reduce congestion and delays at Spur 400 by constructing an overpass to separate Loop 20 mainlane traffic from the Spur 400 intersection traffic. Widening the existing bridge and adding frontage road bridges over the KCS railroad tracks will allow the most efficient routes for vehicles to get onto the Loop 20 mainlanes or to stay on the frontage roads to access SH 359 or Spur 400. This facility will also be the best improvement possible for accommodating pedestrians and bicyclists.

### Project Details:

The project will not result in any residential or commercial relocations or displacements. The project will be constructed to an "Urban Interstate" design standard in the event that this road should be reclassified as part of the I-69W system in the future. This project will be implemented in two phases:

- **Phase 1 (\$33.9M Contract).** Constructing continuous frontage roads from the KCS Railroad to Saunders (US 59) intersection and constructing an overpass elevating the Loop 20 mainlanes over Spur 400. This phase is now under construction.
- **Phase 2 (\$26.3M Estimate).** Bridging the Loop 20 frontage roads over the railroad tracks; widening and elevating the existing bridge over the KCS railroad tracks; and bridging a multi-use pedestrian/bicycle pathway over the railroad tracks outside of the west-side frontage road. The Phase 2 work at the KCS Railroad crossing will go out for bids in August 2015; actual construction work typically starts three to five months after the close of bidding.

**Funding.** The overall project funding includes state and federal funding sources with a total construction cost that is estimated to total **\$60.2 million** for both phases.

### Project Timeline:

Public outreach began on this project with a public meeting in 2012 and continued with a recent informational meeting on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The project received environmental approval to proceed to right-of-way acquisitions and final construction plan design and estimates in May 2013. Currently, the acquisition of approximately 16 acres of right of way is being finalized along with utility relocations. Construction of the Spur 400 Interchange project began in July 2015 and will last about two years. Once underway later this year, the work at the KCS Railroad bridges will take approximately two years to complete but will be concurrent with much of the Spur 400 work.

**Contact Information:** Raul Leal / TxDOT Laredo District Public Information Officer / 956-712-7416 / [Raul.Leal@txdot.gov](mailto:Raul.Leal@txdot.gov)

