HOW TO GET STARTED

TxDOT is "Open for Business" and we're ready to help you improve traffic flow and safety in your community.

The first call you make is to Doug Woodall, our Director of Turnpike Planning and Development. You'll work in concert with him and with the TxDOT professionals in your area who know about these mobility tools and will be your partners in this process.

We want to thank you for your interest and commitment to improving the transportation network in your community and the entire Lone Star State.

Doug Woodall, P.E.
Director of Turnpike Planning and Development
Texas Turnpike Authority Division
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Texas has some big transportation challenges, but we have big plans that are producing big results. The Texas Department of Transportation has three key publications that will not only keep you up to speed, they’ll put you in the driver’s seat.

**TxDOT Has a Plan** is our strategic vision,

**TxDOT: Open for Business** shows you how to build projects faster, and

**Keep Texas Moving** is our free bimonthly e-newsletter that lets you know what’s going on as it happens.

You can find all these publications and Keep Texas Moving subscription information at:

www.TxDOT.gov – keyword: Strategic Plan
www.TxDOT.gov – keyword: Open for Business
www.TxDOT.gov – keyword: Keep Texas Moving

Our Goals

We have developed five well defined goals to help us achieve our mission and make it easy for the public to evaluate our effectiveness:

1. **Reduce congestion**
2. **Enhance safety**
3. **Expand economic opportunity**
4. **Improve air quality**
5. **Increase the value of transportation assets**

Comprehensive Development Agreements (CDAs) are one of the ways in which the Texas Department of Transportation is proclaiming its status as “Open for Business,” and opening the door to private sector investments in our transportation system.

Our initiative, “TxDOT: Open for Business,” focuses on innovative financing as well as partnerships between the agency, local officials, and the private sector. It is a way to broaden the options available for solving the traffic congestion, safety and mobility issues that impact the quality of life for communities throughout the state.

As always, TxDOT will be there as a guide through the process of developing a CDA and acting as an advocate for communities interested in implementing transportation solutions.
WHAT IS A COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT?
A Comprehensive Development Agreement (CDA) is a project delivery tool the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) can use to design, construct, rehabilitate, expand and improve a transportation facility. A CDA may also include finance, right of way acquisition, maintenance and/or operation of a transportation facility. A transportation facility eligible for a CDA is defined as:

- A toll road project
- A road or rail project, or combination of projects, on the Trans-Texas Corridor
- A state highway improvement project that includes both tolled and non-tolled lanes and may included non-tolled facilities
- A state highway improvement project in which a private entity has an interest
- A state highway improvement project financed wholly or partly with the proceeds of private activity bonds
- A rail facility or system
- A toll project combined with a rail project

The Interstate 635 managed lane concept is a $1.2 billion project, but because of the CDA process and the new funding options provided by the state, it will be delivered to the public at a cost of $700 million. That is a savings of $500 million to the taxpayers of this state.

Cynthia White
Denton County Commissioner, Pct. 1
TYPES OF COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENTS
Generally, TxDOT uses three types of CDAs to develop projects: design/build, pre-development agreements and a concession agreement.

**Design/Build CDA**
Design/Build CDAs (which can include operations and maintenance) are used for well-defined projects in which:
- Environmental activities are typically complete
- Major regulatory approvals are in place
- Right of way requirements are finalized and acquisition is underway
- Project financial plan is final
- Funding is usually provided through public funds or a combination of sources, including toll revenue bonds

This type of CDA combines design and construction under a single contract, which shifts the risks from taxpayers to a private sector firm. The result is a greater price certainty with a lump sum price and a guaranteed delivery date. A design/build CDA also allows for many design and construction activities to occur concurrently; therefore, projects can be completed faster than with traditional and separate design and construction contracts.

**Pre-Development Agreements**
With pre-development agreements, a consortium (a team of private sector firms) is responsible for the project’s overall master development plan, master financial plan and facility implementation plan. In return, the consortium has the ability to negotiate with TxDOT to develop a certain amount of individual projects that are identified in the master development plan. A design/build or concession agreement may be utilized to deliver the individual projects with the consortium. Additionally, if requested by TxDOT, the consortium may assist with public information and environmental support services.

**Concession Agreements**
For a concession agreement, the project scope is usually well-defined; however:
- A record of decision may or may not exist
- Engineering/technical investigations may only be at the conceptual stage
- Right of way acquisition may or may not be in process
- The consortium provides financing (TxDOT may provide available public funds)
- The consortium designs and builds the facility
- The consortium operates and maintains the facility for a fixed number of years (the developer is given authorization to collect tolls)

The contractual terms of a concession agreement may include:
- Significant financial compensation for granting the concession
- A maximum 50-year concession period for Trans-Texas Corridor projects (up to 70 years for non-Trans-Texas Corridor projects), subject to possible early termination
- Earn-out of maximum return on investment for maternal default or public convenience
- Revenue sharing

**Selection/Procurement**
The selection process for a CDA is a two-step competitive process that is initiated by an unsolicited proposal or solicited proposals submitted at TxDOT’s request. In both cases, the selection process first begins with conceptual proposals. These proposals are evaluated based on their compatibility with regional and state transportation plans as well as a proposal’s ability to support the department’s goals. If the Texas Transportation Commission concludes the conceptual proposals are viable, it will make an official request for detailed proposals, which is the second step in the competitive selection process. In step two, the detailed proposals go through a thorough evaluation process to identify the proposal that offers the state the best value.

CDA procurement follows Chapters 91, 223 and 227 of the Texas Transportation Code; Title 27 - Sections 27.1-27.5 of the Texas Administrative Code; Texas House Bill 2782; US Code Title 25 and Federal Highway Administration/SEP-15 Rules.

**Project Oversight**
TxDOT may provide project oversight or retain a consultant (or several consultants) to oversee a project as an extension of TxDOT staff. Project oversight facilitates effective coordination with TxDOT and local transportation agencies. The oversight team facilitates procurement, construction and operation of a new toll road and may also provide independent quality verification for design and construction.

**Transfer to TxDOT**
At the end of the Comprehensive Development Agreement, the facility is transferred back to TxDOT. Under a design/build contract, this transfer occurs after construction is complete. For a concession agreement, the project is transferred at the end of the concession period (or earlier as described before) in accordance with TxDOT handbook standards. At handover, TxDOT delineates how to operate and maintain the facility (either by TxDOT staff or outsourcing the operation and maintenance of the facility).

**Glossary**

**Close Out & Warranty**
(Handback Standards)
Required conditions for transportation facility handover from a developer/concessionaire to TxDOT at the end of a Comprehensive Development Agreement.

**Comprehensive Development Agreement (CDA)**
Legal contracting tool TxDOT can use to develop, design, construct, operate, maintain and finance a transportation facility.

**Concession Agreement**
A CDA contract awarded to a concessionaire to design, build, operate, maintain and finance a transportation facility for a set number of years.

**Concessionaire**
Organization (company or group of companies) contracting with TxDOT through a concession CDA to design, build, operate, maintain and finance a transportation facility.

**Design/Build CDA**
A CDA through which design and construction (can include operations and maintenance) of a project are performed under one contract.

**Maximum Return**
Maximum net profit a developer/concessionaire can make through a CDA.

**Private Activity Bond**
Tax-exempt bonds issued by or on behalf of local or state governments to provide special financing benefits for qualified projects. These bonds are used to attract private investment for projects having some public benefit; the government generally does not pledge its credit. This type of bond results in reduced financing costs because of the federal tax exemption (per Section 141, Internal Revenue Code).

**Risks & Rewards**
Terms used to describe who (TxDOT, developer/concessionaire or other agencies) accepts the responsibilities (risk) and the benefits they gain (rewards) in return for assuming those risks within the terms of procurement contacts.

**Special Experimental Project-15 (SEP-15)**
An experimental process used by the FHWA to identify, for trial evaluation, new public-private partnership approaches to delivering transportation projects.

**Toll Operations**
Processes and procedures for collecting tolls on a transportation facility.

**Unsolicited Proposal**
A proposal submitted to TxDOT by a potential developer/concessionaire for a transportation facility for which TxDOT has not requested proposals/bids.