



I-35 FROM RUNDBERG LANE TO US 290 EAST PROJECT

Project Overview:

The I-35 from Rundberg Lane to US 290 East project addresses mobility on two of the most congested highways in Texas. I-35 serves as the backbone of the local, regional, and national transportation network. Lack of mobility on I-35 threatens the economic livelihood of our city and state.

Congestion on this heavily-traveled interstate and its parallel frontage road system gets worse every day. It would be irresponsible if TxDOT does not address this problem as soon as possible. When finished, the I-35 from Rundberg Lane to US 290 East Project will improve mobility at the I-35 and US 183 intersection, including the frontage road system, as well as reconstruct the St. Johns Avenue bridge over I-35.

1) What are we building?

- Three new flyovers at I-35 and US 183
 - I-35 southbound to US 183 southbound
 - US 183 northbound to I-35 northbound
 - I-35 southbound to US 183 northbound
- Improvements to the existing I-35 northbound to US 183 northbound flyover
- Major work at and near the St. Johns Avenue bridge over I-35 including
 - Rebuilding the entire bridge
 - Adding new frontage road U-turns in each direction at St. Johns Avenue
 - Adding new intersection bypass lanes in each direction at St. Johns Avenue
- Extended entrance/exit lanes
- Improvements to other ramps and shoulders
- Improvements to bicycle and pedestrian sidewalks and paths

2) What is the timeline?

Construction started in January 2018 and is expected to be complete mid-2021, weather permitting. The contractor is incentivized to finish early.

Major milestones (subject to change)

- Mid-2020
 - Open I-35 southbound to US 183 southbound flyover
 - Open US 183 northbound to I-35 northbound flyover
 - Open I-35 southbound to US 183 northbound flyover
 - Close I-35 northbound to US 183 northbound flyover
- Early-2021
 - Reopen I-35 northbound to US 183 northbound flyover

Reconstruction of the St. Johns Avenue bridge will take approximately eight months to be completed; schedule still to be confirmed.

3) How much does it cost?

\$124.2 million partially funded by Texas Clear Lanes Congestion Relief Initiative.

In November of 2014 and 2015, Texas voters approved extra funding for transportation projects in the form of two constitutional amendments, Proposition 1 and Proposition 7. Much of the funding for this project comes from these new funding streams.

4) Who is building it?

J.D. Abrams, L.P.

5) Will there be major closures and detours?

Yes. Constructing a job of this size on a heavily traveled interstate highway is never easy. We anticipate having some challenging detours as part of this project. Please be advised that in mid-2020, we anticipate closing the

existing I-35 northbound to US 183 northbound flyover for approximately six months so that crews can ultimately rebuild the connection for enhanced safety and mobility. Check www.My35Construction.org for the latest information on lane closures.

6) Why can't you rebuild the I-35 northbound to US 183 northbound flyover to include two lanes instead of one lane?

There is limited space available to widen the main lanes of US 183 without a major, cost prohibitive reconstruction. Our project is already adding a lane to US 183 from one of the new flyovers that connects I-35 southbound to US 183 northbound. If the upgraded flyover in question had two lanes, there would be a total of three lanes (two of them new) feeding into US 183 and there's not enough room on the existing US 183 to accommodate that. In sum, we have to balance the needs of travelers from all directions in order to get Central Texas moving.

7) When open to traffic, how will the Improved I-35 northbound to US 183 northbound flyover impact traffic operations?

The project team conducted traffic modeling to see how the proposed improvements would impact traffic operations. The results of the study indicated that rebuilding the approach section of the existing I-35 northbound to US 183 northbound flyover would improve safety and traffic operations. Allowing the existing entrance ramp to I-35 to pass under the flyover will effectively eliminate the current weaving maneuvers common in this area. Modeling has shown that the new configuration will not make traffic congestion worse than it is today.

8) How will construction impact the frontage road system?

While under construction, the frontage road system will potentially have more congestion during nightly lane closures, and especially during some of the major planned detours. We will make every effort to minimize the impact, and we do regret the inconvenience during construction. We will be informing the public about major lane closures, detours, and other traffic impacts so you will know in advance of these activities and can plan ahead.

9) Will my business remain accessible?

During construction, access to businesses will remain.

10) Will there be construction noise at night?

A significant amount of work will be performed overnight, and some level of construction noise will be unavoidable. TxDOT will make every effort to be a good neighbor and keep you informed of disruptive work.

11) Construction can be disruptive. What should we expect?

Neighbors and businesses should expect: Nightly lane closures; Construction noise and lighting during night work; Simple and complex detours; Potential increase of traffic on the frontage roads and neighborhood streets; Adjustments in business access; and Temporary water/power shut offs.

12) Will there be any sound walls constructed as part of this project?

A traffic noise analysis study was performed and sound walls were not deemed reasonable or feasible in most areas along the project corridor. In the few areas where sound walls were supported by the study, the adjacent property owners elected not to have the walls built.

13) How will this impact the homeless population?

As part of TxDOT's *Be Safe Be Seen* pedestrian safety campaign, we are working with community partners to ensure outreach to our homeless population within the project area.

14) Who can I contact if I have a question or concern?

For additional information visit www.My35Construction.org, or call (512) 366-3229.

We appreciate your patience while these much-needed improvements are constructed. We know that construction projects can be disruptive, and we are committed to be a good neighbor by minimizing impacts and keeping you informed.

We want you on our email distribution list! Contact us to start receiving lane closures and project updates. Visit www.My35Construction.org/contact-us or call (512) 366-3229.