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WELCOME TO MY 35 CENTRAL TEXAS NEWS

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *My 35 Central Texas News*.

The goal of this newsletter is to share TxDOT's progress on the I-35 Expansion Project from Hillsboro to Salado. We'll keep you up to date on what's been done, what's planned, and how some of the enhancements to I-35 will benefit you, our fellow Texans. The newsletter will undoubtedly evolve over time as we receive feedback from you. In the meantime, the planned departments include:

- **Feature Articles** — reporting stories of interest (from work-zone safety to how TxDOT is helping homeowners and businesses adjust during the expansion effort).
- **Milestones** — catching you up on construction activities to date.
- **Down the Road** — informing you of upcoming construction activities.
- **Calendar** — alerting you to project-related events in the near future.
- **Links** — connecting you with web-based resources.

This issue includes a story on current lane closures, and this feature will become a department beginning with the next issue.

If you'd like to comment about what you read here, have a question you'd like answered, or have an I-35-related subject you'd like to learn about, please don't hesitate to contact:

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You are welcome to forward this newsletter to anyone who might be interested in the progress of the I-35 Expansion Project. Thank you for your interest and welcome aboard *My 35 Central Texas News*.

CALENDAR

May 11

I-35 Presentation
Salado Lions Club
Salado Civic Center
601 N. Main St.
Salado, Texas

LINKS

My35.org
TxDOT

CONTACT

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EXPANDING MAIN STREET TEXAS FOR TEXANS

To many, seeing construction on I-35 is nothing new. But the short-term investment of development will yield long-term dividends of improved safety and economic opportunity for the future of Texas.

The I-35 Expansion Project represents TxDOT's billion-dollar promise to our fellow Texans along the highway corridor from Hillsboro to Salado to expand I-35, improving it to a single standard from San Antonio to Hillsboro: a minimum of three lanes in each direction, with continuous one-way frontage roads. The My 35 effort is specifically designed to involve the public in how TxDOT will continue to improve Main Street Texas, both now and in the future. After all, I-35 exists for the benefit of Texas — its people and businesses. We think it's right that they have a say in how it's developed. Check out www.My35.org to see how citizen input has been gathered for the future.

Once completed, I-35's enhanced capacity will move more commuters and freight faster, safer and more efficiently than ever. TxDOT is expanding Main Street Texas for all Texans. Keep an eye on this newsletter to see how the project is going.

I-35 LANE CLOSURES IN CENTRAL TEXAS

As the I-35 Expansion Project proceeds, sometimes it will be necessary for TxDOT to close lanes to do the work safely and efficiently. Here's a list of current lane closures so you can plan your trips accordingly.

SECTION 1C: SALADO TO BELTON (FM 2484 TO US 190 IN BELTON)

- The Connell Street exit ramp from US 190 W (first exit after entering US 190 from southbound I-35) has been permanently closed to allow construction of the new flyover connecting I-35 northbound to US 190 W.
- The inside lane of the US 190 W access road from I-35 to Connell Street is closed to allow construction of flyover support columns.

SECTION 5A: WACO TO WEST (N. LOOP 340 TO FM 1858)

- I-35 northbound exit 342B will be closed for 12 to 18 months as work progresses at the US 77/I-35 interchange. Exit 342A (Crest Drive/FM 2417) will be open.
- The I-35 E frontage road will be closed from Meyers to Craven until late May.

SECTION 5C: ABBOTT TO SOUTH OF HILLSBORO (FM 1304 TO FM 310)

- FM 1304 is completely closed, and FM 310 is partially closed under the I-35 overpasses while the cross streets are being rebuilt and widened and turnarounds added.
- The I-35 east frontage road is closed from FM 1242 to FM 1304, will be closed until late May.

OTHER

- Nightly mainlane closures through Waco (Sunday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.) will continue through August as aging concrete pavement is repaired and resurfaced. Lane and ramp closures vary from night to night, weather and temperature permitting.

MILESTONES

SECTION 1A: WILLIAMSON/BELL COUNTY LINE TO SALADO

This section was completed in 2008.

BELL COUNTY REST AREAS

These sites were completed in fall 2008.

SECTION 1B: SALADO (FM 2268 TO FM 2484)

We are scheduled to take bids for this section in July 2011. Construction is anticipated to start in early 2012 and end in late 2015.

[View this section's schematic.](#)

SECTION 1C: SALADO TO BELTON (FM 2484 TO US 190/FM 436)

Construction began in July 2010 and is expected to be complete by late 2014.

Rose Lane's new layout and connection to Amity Road is almost complete. The new Lampasas River Bridge for the northbound mainlanes is almost complete. Work has begun on the new overpasses at Amity Road, Tahuaya Road and Shanklin Road, and on the new flyover that will directly connect I-35 North to US 190 West.

[View this section's schematic.](#)

SECTION 2B: TEMPLE (S. LOOP 363 TO N. LOOP 363)

This section is currently unfunded. Planning and design are being completed, with a final public hearing planned for summer 2011.

SECTION 3A-1: TEMPLE TO TROY (N. LOOP 363 TO N. TROY CITY LIMIT)

We are scheduled to take bids for this section in June 2011. Construction is anticipated to start in early 2012 and end in 2016.

[View this section's schematic.](#)

SECTION 3A-2: TROY TO BRUCEVILLE-EDDY (N. TROY CITY LIMIT TO WOODLAWN ROAD)

We are scheduled to take bids for this section in June 2011. Construction is anticipated to start by early 2012 and end in 2016.

[View this section's schematic.](#)

SECTION 3B: LORENA TO HEWITT (WOODLAWN ROAD TO SUN VALLEY BOULEVARD/FM 2063)

We are scheduled to take bids for this section in August 2011. Construction is anticipated to start by early 2012 and end in 2016.

[View this section's schematic.](#)

SECTION 3C: HEWITT TO WACO (FM 2063/SUN VALLEY BOULEVARD TO S. LOOP 340)

Construction began in May 2008 and is expected to be complete by the end of 2011.

Construction of the southbound frontage road and mainlanes is complete. Construction of the northbound frontage road is nearly complete. Construction of northbound mainlanes has begun.

Construction of the FM 2063/Sun Valley Boulevard interchange is complete. Construction is more than halfway complete on the flyover connecting northbound I-35 to westbound Loop 340/SH 6.

SECTION 4: WACO (S. LOOP 340 TO N. LOOP 340)

This section is currently unfunded, except for the planned frontage-road bridges across the Brazos River. Bridge construction is expected to begin in 2012. Planning and design for the rest of the project are being completed, with a final public hearing planned for late summer or fall 2011.

SECTION 5A: WACO TO WEST (N. LOOP 340 TO FM 1858/TOKIO ROAD)

Construction began in October 2010 and is expected to be complete in late 2014.

Relocation of utilities and clearing of right-of-way for construction are underway. Construction of overpasses and retaining walls at BUS 77 and Hilltop Road/Old Dallas Highway has begun. Both frontage roads between Loop 340 and BUS 77 are under construction.

SECTION 5B: WEST TO ABBOTT (FM 1858/TOKIO ROAD TO FM 1304)

W.W. Webber, LLP, was awarded the contract for this section in February

2011. Construction is expected to start in summer 2011 and end in late 2014.

[View this section's schematic.](#)

SECTION 5C: ABBOTT TO HILLSBORO (FM 1304 TO FM 310)

Construction began in July 2010 and is expected to be complete in late 2012.

Storm-water culverts under the new frontage roads are complete. New bridges for the north- and southbound frontage roads at Cobb Creek are under construction. FM 1304 underneath the I-35 overpass is being rebuilt and widened. FM 310 underneath the I-35 overpass is also being rebuilt and widened.

HILL COUNTY REST AREAS

We are scheduled to take bids for these in May 2011. Construction is expected to start in early 2012 and end in fall 2013.

SECTION 6A: HILLSBORO (FM 310 TO SH 22)

This section was completed in 2010.

SECTION 6B: HILLSBORO TO I-35 SPLIT (SH 22 TO EAST-WEST SPLIT)

This section was completed in 2009.

DOWN THE ROAD

(All construction plans and dates shown are subject to possible weather delays and other unforeseen difficulties.)

SECTION 1C: SALADO TO BELTON (FM 2484 TO US 190/FM 436)

Construction will continue on the overpasses at Amity Road, Tahuaya Road, Shanklin Road and Loop 121. The Rose Lane connection to Amity Road will be completed. Construction will continue on the northbound frontage road between FM 2484 and Tahuaya Road and between Central Avenue and FM 436. Construction will continue on the northbound frontage-road culverts from Shanklin Road to FM 2484.

SECTION 3C: HEWITT TO WACO (FM 2063/SUN VALLEY BOULEVARD TO S. LOOP 340)

Construction will continue on the flyover. Construction will continue on the northbound mainlanes and the overpass at the new crossover near Waco Memorial Park.

SECTION 5A: WACO TO WEST (N. LOOP 340 TO FM 1858/TOKIO ROAD)

Construction will continue on overpasses at BUS 77, Hilltop Road/Old Dallas Highway and FM 1858/Tokio Road. Paving of the northbound frontage road from BUS 77 to Loop 340 will begin. Paving of the southbound frontage road from BUS 77 to Loop 340 will begin after the northbound frontage road is completed. (Both efforts will require nighttime road/ramp closures.) Construction is planned to begin on the overpasses over the Union Pacific railroad tracks and Pecan Lane.

SECTION 5C: ABBOTT TO HILLSBORO (FM 1304 TO FM 310)

The east-side frontage road from the FM 1242 on-ramp near Abbott to the FM 1304 off-ramp will remain closed as work continues in that area. The laying of hot-mix asphalt on the new northbound frontage road will be completed. Access-road traffic will move onto the new northbound frontage road, and work will begin to remove the old access road. The Cobb Creek bridge decks will be completed for the new north- and southbound access roads. Workers will begin seal-coating and placing hot-mix asphalt on the new southbound access road. Construction will begin on the new shoulder on the northbound mainlanes. Construction of new roadway and turnarounds under FM 1304 and FM 310 overpasses will continue.

For more information or to have your email address added to the I-35 information distribution list, please send your request to Jodi.Wheatley@txdot.gov.