

Managed Lanes To Offer Initial '2-plus' Discount

The new managed lanes under construction in Tarrant and Dallas counties will initially offer peak-period discounts to cars with two or more occupants.

The Regional Transportation Council decided last month to open the new lanes with rules similar to the current HOV lanes, which have required vehicles with two-plus occupants since opening 20 years ago. Single-occupant vehicles will be able to use the lanes for a fee, but will not qualify for any discounts. To be consistent with the new managed lanes, the current HOV lanes will also allow single-occupant vehicles to use them, for a toll, if there is sufficient capacity.

The RTC worked for several months on policies for the existing high-occupancy vehicle lanes and the new managed lanes, considering a variety of options, including requiring a minimum of three occupants

in each vehicle to qualify for the lower rate.

Policymakers determined it would be better if the new managed lanes, to be called TExpress Lanes, initially required two or more occupants for the 50 percent peak-period discount. The lower rate will apply from 6:30-9 am and 3-6:30 pm.

By 2016, vehicles will be required to carry three or more people, including the driver, to receive the discount during rush hour. The transition could take place sooner, if data supports a change, according to the policy.

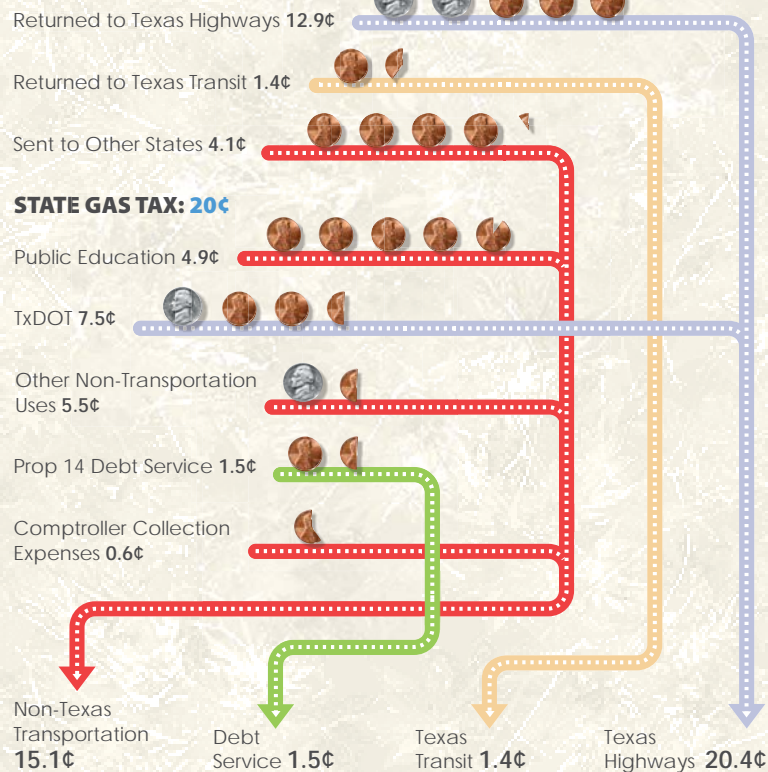
The new lanes, being built adjacent to toll-free lanes on part of LBJ Freeway and the North Tarrant Express, will open in phases, with the first segment, on LBJ, slated to welcome cars in December of 2013. ■

SOURCE: North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG).

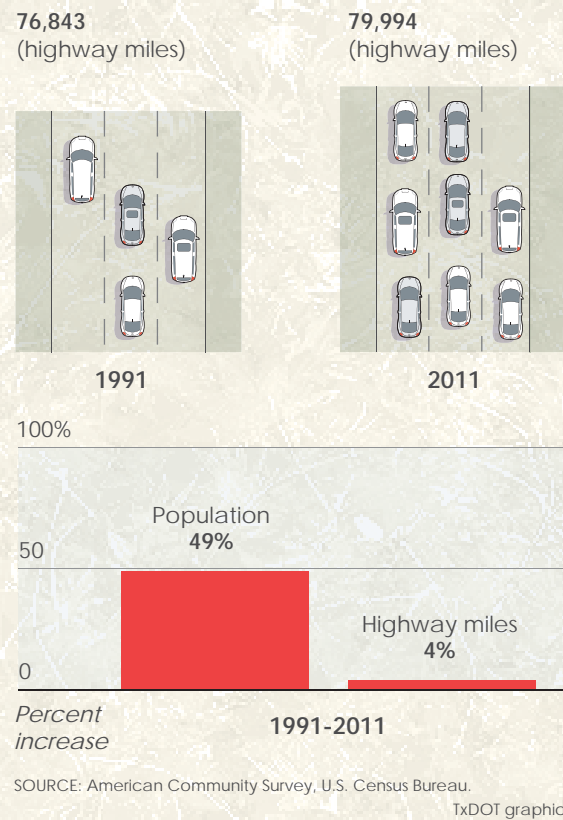
Reprint from article in the NCTCOG publication *Local Motion*

WHERE DOES THE 38.4¢ GAS TAX GO?

FEDERAL GAS TAX: 18.4¢



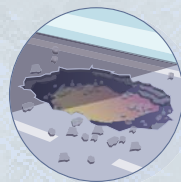
ROAD CAPACITY HASN'T KEPT PACE WITH POPULATION GROWTH



KUDOS! From Mrs. Tammy E. of Slidell: "I had send in a request to have a road fixed in Krum (West FM1173). Just wanted to say Thank You for correcting it so quickly. The road is smooth and safe to drive on."

Texas Department of Transportation
4777 E. Highway 80
Mesquite, TX
75150-6643

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
214-320-4480
dalinfo@txdot.gov
www.txdot.gov



REPORT A POTHOLE:
Visit www.txdot.gov/contact_us/potholes or call 888-885-8248. Progress report can be downloaded at www.txdot.gov/local_infrastructure/dallas_district

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DALLAS DISTRICT

PROGRESS

COLLIN * DALLAS * DENTON * ELLIS * KAUFMAN * NAVARRO * ROCKWALL *** MAY 2013

CAMPAIGN LAUNCH:

TALK TEXT! CRASH

It happens every day. You get a text or a phone call and you feel the need to respond immediately, even when you're driving. But what you may not know is a simple text or call can cost you your life or someone else's.

"Distracted driving is unacceptable, and it's something that is preventable," said John Barton, TxDOT's deputy executive director. "If you reply to or send a text while driving, you are putting your life or someone else's life at risk."

It's a fact – distracted drivers are making Texas roads more dangerous. According to crash data collected by the Texas Department of Transportation, to date, there were 90,378 crashes in Texas in 2012 that involved distracted driving (distraction, driver inattention or cellphone use). That's an 8-percent increase from 2011. Of these crashes, 18,468 resulted in serious injuries and 453 resulted in deaths. From 2011 to 2012, there was a 9-percent increase in traffic fatalities caused by distracted driving on Texas roadways.

(See info graphic at right)

According to the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, almost half of all Texas drivers in 2012 admit to regularly or sometimes talking on the cell phone while driving. However, 84.9 percent of Texas drivers think driving while talking on a cell phone is a very serious or somewhat serious threat to their personal safety.

In another just-completed study, TTI re-

searchers found that 10 percent of Texas drivers are using their cell phone at any point in time during the day. The finding represents the first time that actual cell phone use by Texas drivers has been measured (rather than self-reported use), and was based on observations of drivers at 190 intersections in 22 counties across the state.

Texans behind the wheel: Driving distracted



Distracted Driving Awareness Month in April. Throughout April, TxDOT reached out to Texans through community events, TV public service announcements and online and outdoor advertising. TxDOT also partnered with AT&T on this year's distracted driving effort.

"In today's tech-connected age, people are relying on text messages and smartphones to stay in touch, but texting while driving is

something that carries profound, very real risks. In the United States, someone is killed or injured once every five minutes on average in a crash that happens while a driver is texting and driving. It's time we worked together to change behaviors, attitudes, hearts and minds," said Dave Nichols, President, AT&T Texas. "We can each commit not to text and drive. We can lead by example. That's why we're pleased to join the Texas Department of Transportation in its *Talk. Text. Crash.* effort and why we continue to raise awareness through our AT&T's own It Can Wait campaign."

As part of the campaign, TxDOT is asking Texans to do their part by making a simple commitment to focus on driving when they get behind the wheel.

Although all the age groups are represented in the total number of traffic crashes caused by distracted driving, of the 90,378 traffic crashes in 2012 in Texas, the top two age groups are:

- 28,443 ages 16-24
- 23,784 over the age of 45

This year's campaign PSAs will demonstrate to Texans how hard it is to complete any simple task – like walking when distracted. The goal is to show that if people cannot text and walk without having an accident, they surely should not text and drive. Texans can watch campaign videos on YouTube.

Learn more about the *Talk. Text. Crash.* campaign by liking the TxDOT Facebook page: www.facebook.com/txdot. ■

SH: State Highway FM: Farm to Market CR: County Road CS: City Street LP: Loop SP: Spur BUS: Business VA: Various locations

(Colored numbers located on map at right)

APRIL 2013 LET PROJECTS

CSJ number	Hwy	Limits	Type of work	Est. (M)	Bid (M)	(%)	Contractor	
0048-03-080	US 77	Overhill Dr. to north of US 287 in Waxahachie	Install raised median and rehab traffic signals	\$1.47	\$1.76	19.60	O. Trevino Construction, LLC	1
0081-13-052	I-35W	Various highways in Denton Co.	Install pavement markings	\$0.71	\$0.77	-18.77	TRP Constr. Group, LLC	2
0092-05-049	I-45	FM 1182 to FM 1181	Truck lane restriction and guide signs	\$2.41	\$2.22	-5.34	Siemens Industry, Inc.	3
0094-07-041	SH 183	E abutment of Trinity River Bridge to I-35E	Mill, Inlay, Fdrcp, Pavement markings	\$0.62	\$0.60	-0.84	Austin Bridge & Road, LP	4
0166-01-047	I-45	Freestone county line to CR 507	Overlay frontage roads	\$0.75	\$0.74	-7.77	Big Creek Construction, Ltd.	5
0281-02-069	SH 78	SH 78, US 75 Frgt Rd., US 380, SH 289, and FM 544 in Collin Co.	Full depth repair	\$1.40	\$1.33	-4.43	Texas Highway Maintenance, LLC	6
0281-03-045	SH 78	North of PGBT to Sachse city limits	Concrete full depth repair and pavement markings	\$1.38	\$1.60	-0.81	Silver Creek Construction, Inc.	7
0442-02-152	I-35E	I-20 to US 67	Full depth repair of mainlanes	\$0.29	\$0.28	-5.02	Texas Highway Maintenance, LLC	8
1091-01-019	FM 740	Ranch Road in Forney to Rockwall CL	Provide additional paved surface width	\$7.44	\$5.60	-24.75	Billy Cummings Construction Inc.	9
1394-02-023	FM 1387	W of Kensington Dr. to E of Walnut Grove Rd.	Realign highway in Midlothian	\$4.18	\$4.09	-2.23	Tiseo Paving Co.	10
2374-01-170	I-635	Greenville Ave. to Forest Ln.	Full depth concrete pavement repair	\$0.52	\$0.42	-19.89	Silver Creek Constr., Inc.	11
0918-00-186*	VA	Various locations in Dallas district	Non-site specific traffic signal project	\$1.38	\$1.60	16.13	Durable Specialties, Inc.	
0918-00-200*	VA	Various locations in Dallas district	Upgrade video DET for high speed approaches	\$0.29	\$0.28	-4.36	Siemens Industry, Inc.	
April 2013 total				\$24.70	\$22.53	-8.81		
District FY Accumulative Lettings				\$949.16	\$946.28	-0.30		
**Dallas District letting cap				\$1,240.81				

* Unmapped. ** District FY 2013 Letting Volume Cap includes the following: 1) the Horse shoe Design Build Project for \$700 million - actual bid of \$715 million and 2) the IH 35E at FM 407 Interchange Project for \$30 million which has been incorporated into the IH 35E Design Build - tentatively scheduled for May letting.

MAY 2013 PROJECTED LETTING PROJECTS (Subject to change)

CSJ number	Hwy	Limits	Type of work	Est. (M)	
0009-02-060	SH 78	Garland Avenue to First Street	Concrete full depth repair	\$0.96	1
0047-05-052	SH 5	US 380 to CR 275	Base repair and overlay	\$1.36	2
0048-01-060	SH 342	West 8th St. to Wintergreen Rd.	Full depth concrete pavement repair	\$0.79	3
0091-06-049	SH 289	On SH 289 (Preston) at Royal Lane	Intersection improvement	\$0.59	4
0095-05-056	US 80	At Ninth St and SP 87 (Dellis St.) in Terrell	Rehabilitation of traffic signals	\$0.22	5
0173-05-032	SH 34	US 80 to North Frances Street in Terrell	Rehabilitation of existing road	\$2.09	6
1567-01-035	FM 720	FM 423 and FM 720 junction in Little Elm	Landscape development to include tree/shrub planting	\$0.59	7
2054-02-016	FM 2181	W of FM 2499 (Barrel Strap Rd.) to W of frontage road of I-35E in Corinth	Widen 2-lane rural roadway to 6-lane divided urban	\$24.18	8
Total				\$30.78	

COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS (From April 1 - 30, 2013)

CSJ number	Hwy	Limits	Type of work	Date completed	Cost (M)	
0047-14-070	US 75	Melissa Rd. to Grayson County Line	Full Depth Repair & Overlay	04/25/13	\$7.11	1
0281-02-067	SH 78	Spring Creek Parkway to Maxwell Creek	Landscape Development in City of Wylie	04/11/13	\$0.20	2
1013-01-025	FM 546	SH 5 to Airport Road	Reconstruct to 4 Lane Divided Urban	04/01/13	\$3.28	3
1013-01-030	FM 546	SH 5 to Airport Road	Landscape Development	04/03/13	\$0.14	4
0581-01-129	LP 12	US 175 to I-30	Mill, Full Depth Repair & ACP Overlay	04/10/13	\$2.84	5
0581-01-130	LP 12	Cockrell Hill Road to Bonnie View Rd in Dallas	Planning, Full Depth Repair & Overlay	04/22/13	\$3.25	6
1047-03-064	FM 1382	South of SP 303 to Skyline Dr.	Full Depth Repair & Pav Marking	04/08/13	\$0.41	7
0195-03-075	I-35E	@ University on North Texas Campus	Construct Pedestrian Bridge Over I-35E	04/04/13	\$2.57	8
0048-08-046	I-35E	Hill County Line to US 77 in Waxahachie	Install Guide Signs	04/04/13	\$0.74	9
0172-04-042	US 287	Johnson C/L to Bu 287Q (old Ft. Worth HWY)	Overlay and Pavement Markings	04/12/13	\$4.42	10
0009-12-073	I-30	@ John King Blvd	Construction Interchange & Including FRTG RD	04/25/13	\$19.59	11
0918-00-184*	VA	Various Roadways in Dallas & Denton County	Upgrade video detection for high speed approaches	04/17/13	\$0.18	
Total					\$44.73	

* Unmapped.

SOURCE: Texas Department of Transportation.

TxDOT graphic

DISTRICT PROJECTS

Colored and numbered boxes correspond with the charts at left and show projects that have let in April are projected to let in May and those that were recently completed.

DENTON COUNTY

Vehicle registration: 539,776

*Population estimate: 683,010

Lane miles: 1,581.79

DALLAS COUNTY

Vehicle registration: 1,897,363

*Population estimate: 2,385,990

Lane miles: 3,345.69

ELLIS COUNTY

Vehicle registration: 159,399

*Population estimate: 152,580

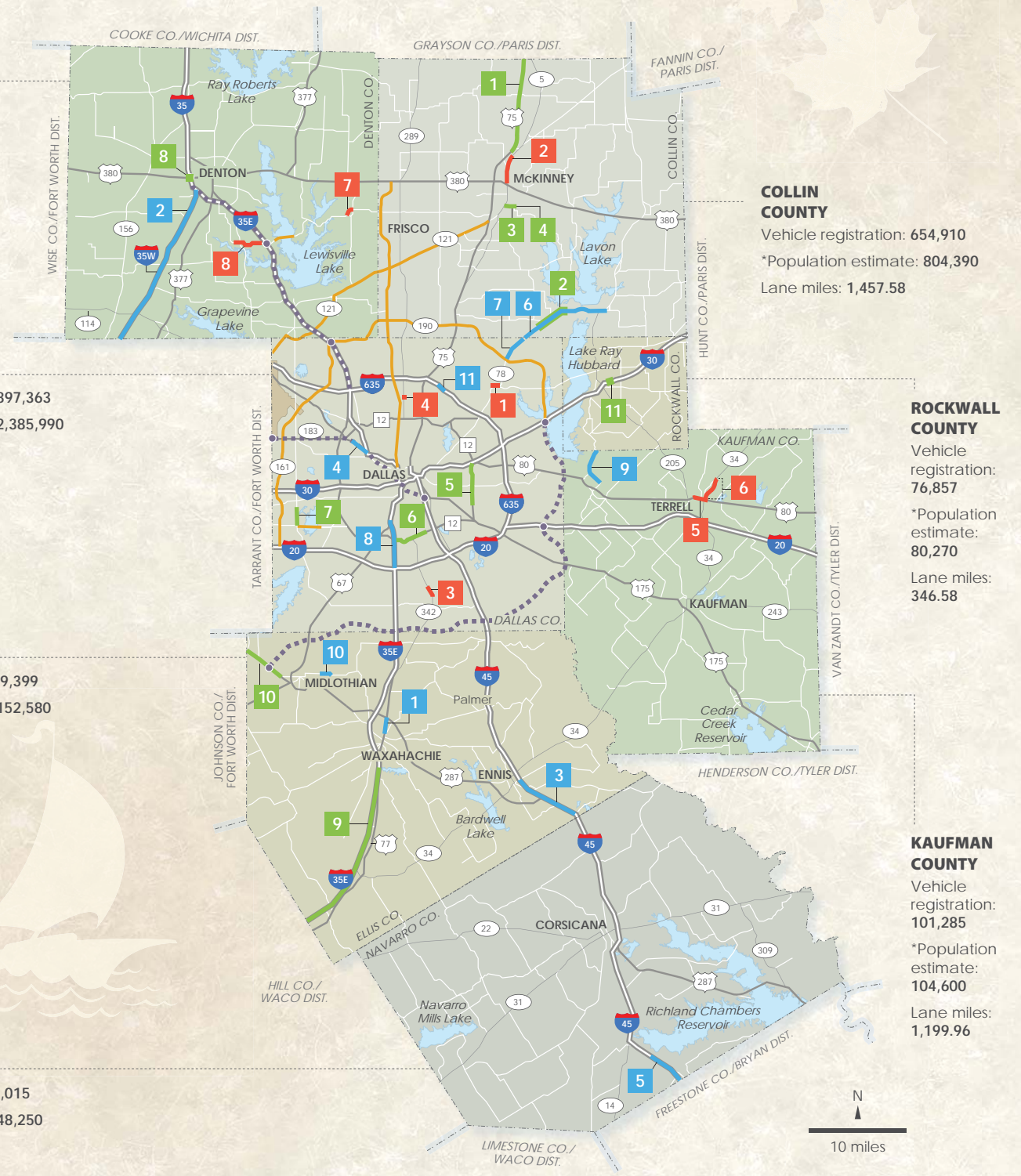
Lane miles: 1,514.05

NAVARRO COUNTY

Vehicle registration: 49,015

*Population estimate: 48,250

Lane miles: 1,193.96



COLLIN COUNTY

Vehicle registration: 654,910

*Population estimate: 804,390

Lane miles: 1,457.58

ROCKWALL COUNTY

Vehicle registration: 76,857

*Population estimate: 80,270

Lane miles: 346.58

KAUFMAN COUNTY

Vehicle registration: 101,285

*Population estimate: 104,600

Lane miles: 1,199.96

KEY

	Let		Planned		Interstate hwy
	Projected		Toll road		U.S. hwy
	Completed		Toll road under construction		State hwy

DALLAS DISTRICT TOTALS

Vehicle registration: 3,478,605

*Population estimate: 4,259,090

Lane miles: 10,639.61

SOURCE: TxDOT research. *POPULATION ESTIMATE: NCTCOG.

TxDOT graphics