

DALLAS DISTRICT

PROGRESS

COLLIN * DALLAS * DENTON * ELLIS * KAUFMAN * NAVARRO * ROCKWALL *** JANUARY 2014

BREAKING THE ICE

The year's first major winter storm froze much of North Texas earlier this month, glazing trees, grounding flights and testing the Texas Department of Transportation's resources. Once again, TxDOT came through.



"This near historical record-breaking ice storm cut a swath across the entire state of Texas bringing over four days of below freezing temperatures,"

said Bill Hale, chief engineer of TxDOT's Dallas District. "But our people met the challenge head-on, as they weathered some very extreme conditions to maintain a remarkably safe transportation system."

In the 16 counties that make up TxDOT's Dallas and Fort Worth districts, the department used more than 300 pieces of equipment to pre-treat roadways and scrape thick ice from the decks of bridges and overpasses during the week-long freeze.

Efforts to tackle the storm began days before it hit, as TxDOT met with other emergency responders and the National Weather Service to coordinate and mobilize. Once the storm arrived in full force, more than 500 TxDOT drivers and nearly 100 support staff battled the icy conditions around the clock for six days in 12-hour shifts. In addition, another 70 TxDOT employees were sent from nearby districts with an additional 35 pieces of equipment to assist in Dallas-Fort Worth.

"It was an all-hands-on-deck situation for several days," said Mykol Woodruff, director of operations for the Dallas District.

Winter Storm Cleon presented many chal-



TxDOT uses a wide variety of heavy equipment during severe winter weather storms – including modified motor graders like the one pictured at left – to clear ice and snow from the roadway.

lenges for TxDOT, not the least of which was the forecast of ice, not snow, which is easier to clear from roadways. In addition, the storm was originally forecast to bring a quarter to half an inch of sleet. Instead, it dumped four to six inches of sleet and ice in some locations. TxDOT's snowplows could not be used effectively against the miles of solid ice, so the department had to use innovative strategies.

"Motor graders are always used during ice storms, but instead of smooth cutting edges, like what you might see with a snowplow, we installed blades with bullet teeth onto the motor graders to help cut through the ice," Woodruff said.

Snowplows cannot bear down to break the ice

and scrape it away. On the other hand, motor graders can put more power into ice removal with their long, angled blades. TxDOT welded carbide tips to the serrated blades to many of its 26 motor graders, giving the blades teeth to help break through the ice.

Cleon was an extraordinary winter ice storm that covered an 850-mile stretch of Texas, from El Paso to Texarkana.

The unprecedented ice storm forced TxDOT to utilize every available resource to roadways safe and passable. Statewide, TxDOT mobilized 1,100 pieces of equipment and 1,700 employees.

Total costs for TxDOT statewide was more than

See **TxDOT WINTER** on Back Page

DECEMBER 2013 LET PROJECTS

CSJ number	Hwy	Limits	Type of work	Est. (M)	Bid (M)	(%)	Est. Total		Contractor	
							Proj. Costs (M) ***			
0047-06-139	US 75	Spring Creek Parkway to SH 121 (Sam Rayburn Tollway)	Widen 6 lane freeway to 8 lanes; improve frontage roads/ramp	\$57.85	\$47.53	-17.83	\$69.78		MCM	1
0442-02-148	I-35E	I-20 to Loop 12	Install high mast illumination	\$1.29	\$0.95	-26.63	\$1.62		Highway Intelligent Traffic Solutions, Inc.	2
December 2013 total				\$59.14	\$48.48	-18.02	\$71.40			
District FY Accumulative Lettings				\$150.23	\$132.28	-8.62				
Dallas District letting cap							\$1,384.34**			

**District FY 2014 Letting Volume Cap includes the following:
1) The SH 183 Managed Lanes Project for \$837 million.

NOTE: Est. Total Project Costs includes estimated PE, ROW, E&C, Indirect Costs and potential Change Costs at the time of bid.

JANUARY 2014 PROJECTED LETTING PROJECTS (Subject to change)

CSJ number	Hwy	Limits	Type of work	Est. (M)	
0048-08-048	I-35E	South of Bill Lewis Road to south of Waxahachie Lake	Install high mast illumination	\$1.89	1
0081-06-029	US 377	South of Bus 377E to Bus 377E north of Pilot Point	Construct continuous 2-way left turn lane	\$8.06	2
0092-06-100	IH 45	Freestone County Line to Ellis County Line	Install guide signs	\$0.25	3
0092-11-003	LP 561	I-45 south of Trumbull to I-45 north of Trumbull	Mill, repair and resurface	\$0.69	4
0197-02-111	US 175	At St Augustine Rd.	Repair damaged 33" storm drain RCP	\$0.20	5
2964-01-022	SH 161	South of Conflans Rd. to north of SH 114	Interim Operational Bottleneck Improvements, ITS and Illumination	\$5.09	6
0048-03-084*	US 77	Various locations in Ellis County	Profile pavement markings	\$1.19	
0918-00-234*	VA	Various locations at diamond intersections	Pavement markings, signs, signals	\$0.79	
Total				\$18.16	

*Unmapped.

COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS (From December 1 - 31, 2013)

CSJ number	Hwy	Limits	Type of work	Date completed	Cost (M)	
0008-08-072	SH 180	At Mountain Creek Relief	Replace Bridges	12/04/13	\$3.05	1
0009-02-059	SH 78	From Loop 12 to I-635	Full Depth Repair & Overlay	12/17/13	\$1.36	2
0095-02-100	US 80	At SH 352	Upgrade Interchange	12/20/13	\$24.97	3
2374-01-170	I-635	From Greenville Ave. to Forest Ln.	Full Depth Concrete Repair along FRGT RDS	12/17/13	\$0.42	4
0918-22-139	Farley Rd.	From Brown Singleton Park to East of US 287	Sidewalk & Bridge Widening	12/16/13	\$0.60	5
1017-01-014	FM 552	From SH 205 to SH 66	Addition Surface Width	12/13/13	\$3.71	6
Total					\$34.11	

*Unmapped.
SOURCE: Texas Department of Transportation.

TxDOT graphics



DISTRICT PROJECTS

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

DENTON COUNTY

Vehicle registration: **559,501**

*Population estimate: **683,010**

Lane miles: **1,597.47**

DALLAS COUNTY

Vehicle registration: **1,952,662**

*Population estimate: **2,385,990**

Lane miles: **3,440.13**

ELLIS COUNTY

Vehicle registration: **165,360**

*Population estimate: **152,580**

Lane miles: **1,516.77**

NAVARRO COUNTY

Vehicle registration: **50,268**

*Population estimate: **48,250**

Lane miles: **1,190.98**

COLLIN COUNTY

Vehicle registration: **680,383**

*Population estimate: **804,390**

Lane miles: **1,563.69**

ROCKWALL COUNTY

Vehicle registration: **79,075**

*Population estimate: **80,270**

Lane miles: **346.35**

KAUFMAN COUNTY

Vehicle registration: **103,929**

*Population estimate: **104,600**

Lane miles: **1,191.95**



KEY

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



DALLAS DISTRICT TOTALS

Vehicle registration: **3,591,178**
 *Population estimate: **4,259,090**
 Lane miles: **10,847.34**

TxDOT Winter Weather Initiatives Keep The Roads Safe

Continued from **Cover Page**

\$2 million, with the Fort Worth and Dallas area accounting for about a third of the overall price tag.

All of TxDOT's 25 districts were involved with the response, either working directly to improve highway conditions or providing support in logistics, safety and communications. Travel information was continuously posted on 126 dynamic



message signs and 22 portable message boards throughout North Texas.

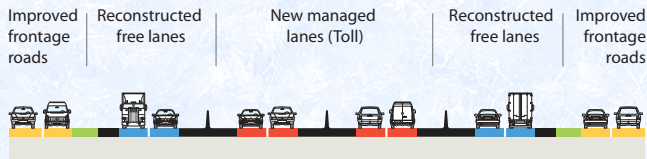
In addition, numerous media advisories, updates and interviews were given to help inform the public of the constantly changing conditions.

"This was a very unique storm," Woodruff said. "And so TxDOT's response also had to be unique. We adapted very well, shifting resources quickly to areas of need and getting the most out of our equipment. Overall, we are tremendously proud of the effort and the outcome." ■

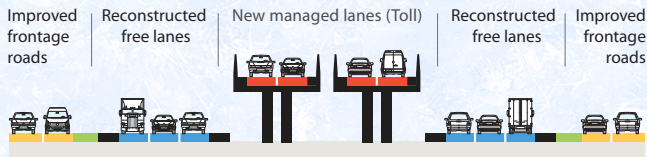
BASICS OF HOW MANAGED LANES ARE CONFIGURED



GROUND LEVEL LAYOUT



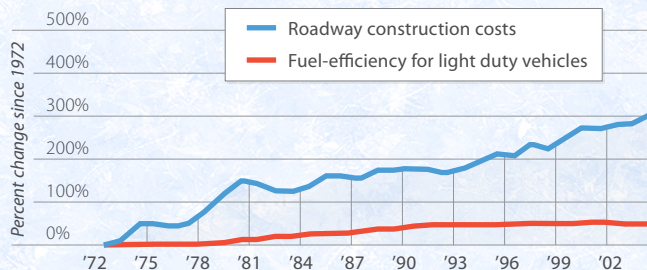
ELEVATED LAYOUT



NOTE: Illustration depicts example managed lane design only.

TxDOT graphic

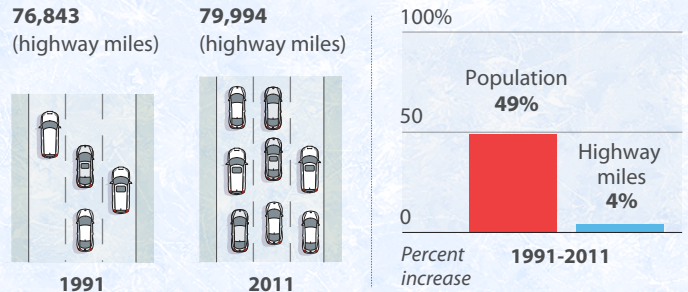
CONSTRUCTION COST GROWTH EXCEEDS FUEL-EFFICIENCY GROWTH



SOURCE: ITEP Reports.

TxDOT graphic

ROAD CAPACITY HASN'T KEPT PACE WITH POPULATION GROWTH



SOURCE: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau.

TxDOT graphic

LBJ EXPRESS CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS



SOURCE: www.lbjexpress.com

Check out the pictorial construction progress on LBJ Express' website:

<http://lbjexpress.com/photos.asp>



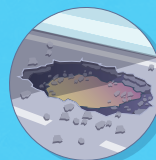
KUDOS! — From Ms. G. Simmons of Dallas, Texas: "I would like to commend you on the work done to reopen the roads in the Dallas area. People on the news are complaining about the roads not being cleared fast enough. If people would stay off the roads as advised, road crews could do their jobs."



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REPORT A POTHOLE:

Visit www.txdot.gov/contact-us/form.html?form=Report_a_Pothole or call 800.452.9292. Progress report can be downloaded at <http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/district/dallas/progress.html>