# STATE HIGHWAY 161 UPDATE: 

## THE SH 161 WIDENING WILL SHOULDER MORE TRAFFIC IN IRVING



IRVING — In a regional effort to relieve congestion, and improve safety and air quality on State Highway 161, a construction project is underway between Conflans Road and SH 114 that will convert the shoulders into interim "peak hour" travel lanes in each direction and ultimately increase capacity and travel times.

The 6.3-mile project will restripe the existing inside shoulders and mainlanes to form the peak-hour travel lanes, which will be used during morning and evening rush hours, Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. A system of signs using green arrows and red "X"'s will alert drivers to the status of the lane as either an open travel lane or a shoulder. (See graphic at right)

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) have worked together on this interim solution.

On this section of SH 161 , beginning just after 7 a.m., traffic speeds decrease to an average of 10 and 25 mph . Travel times slow down again just after 4 p.m. especially just south of SH 114 and at various sections south of N . Belt Line Road.

The project will consist of several elements of operation, which will include Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) technologies, active traffic management strategies and enhanced management strategies such as CCTV cameras, dynamic message signs, additional
illumination and two emergency parking areas in each direction.

The NCTCOG is also conducting a pilot program for towing services. Tow trucks will be stationed in the area during operation of the
regional and community traffic operations by improving traffic flow through the area until the future/ultimate improvements (a toll managed lane in each direction) are implemented by 2017 . peak hour travel lanes to assist disabled vehicles faster.

While this is the first project of its kind in Texas, it has been done successfully in other states and countries. "Dynamic Shoulder Lanes" have been added on I-75 in Lee County, Florida and I-66 in Virginia. Other states are testing the technology as previous projects have been proved successful.
Construction has just begun on the SH 161 project and is expected to last for approximately a year with estimated substantial completion in July 2015. Any needed lane closures for construction will occur during off-peak travel times.

The contract for $\$ 3.7$ million was awarded to Austin Bridge and Road LP.

The project will have beneficial interim effects on

## SH 161 PROJECT



REGULATORY SIGNS
1.

| LEFT LANE |
| :---: |
| OPEN TO TRAFFIC |
| MON-FRI |
| 6AM-10AM |
| 2PM-7PM |
| NEXT 5 MILES |

2. 



Dynamic message bar

## PEAK HOUR



OFF-PEAK HOUR


NOTE: Illustrations are not drawn to scale.
TxDOT graphic

| CSJ NUMBER | HWY | LIMITS | TYPE OF WORK | EST. (M) | BID (M) | (\%) | ES. TOTAL $(\mathrm{M})^{* * *}$ | CONTRACTOR |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0047-05-053 | SH 5 | FM 546 to US 380 | Base repair and overlay | \$0.97 | \$1.04 | 7.21 | \$1.24 | Peachtree Constr, Ltd. | 1 |
| 0095-03-088 | US 80 | 0.4 miles W of FM 460 to SP 557 | Rehabilitate FRs and ramps | \$10.17 | \$9.63 | -5.24 | \$3.90 | Apac-Texas, Inc. | 2 |
| 0196-06-028 | SL 354 | Manana Dr.to North of Royal Lane | Pedestrian structures and sidewalks | \$5.11 | \$4.85 | -4.99 | \$0.81 | The Fain Group, Inc. | 3 |
| 0451-04-020 | SH 205 | S ofW Heath St. to John King Blvd. | Rehabilitation of existing roadway | \$1.64 | \$1.74 | 6.28 | \$21.50 | Apac-Texas, Inc. | 4 |
| 0918-45-731 | CS | Pleasant Run Rd. at Bee Branch to in City of Desoto | Replace bridge and approaches | \$2.19 | \$3.18 | 45.56 | \$3.20 | lowa Bridge \& Culvert, LC | 5 |
| 0918-45-864 | CS | Whitlock Rd, ,-35Eto Old Denton Rd. | Reconstr. 4 -lane undiv. to 4-lane div. | \$3.45 | \$3.44 | -0.34 | \$4.26 | Tiseo Paving Co. | 6 |
| 1013-01-028 | FM 546 | W of the Crossing Road to FM 982 | Provide added paved surface width | \$5.24 | \$6.00 | 14.47 | \$3.60 | Jagoe-Public Co. | 7 |
| 1068-04-154 | 1H30 | Cockrell Hill Rd. to Westmoreland Rd. | Construct 2-lane FRs; Phase 2 | \$10.46 | \$9.81 | -6.19 | \$10.39 | Austin Bridge \& Road, LP | 8 |
| 1392-01-035 | FM 1378 | 585 South of White Rock Creek to South of Vinecrest Ln./Jessica Ln. | Replace bridge and approaches | \$1.75 | \$1.79 | 2.19 | \$3.89 | Accelerated Critical Path, Inc. | 9 |
| 1451-01-024 | FM 55 | SH 34 to S of Nash Howard Rd. | Rehabilitate existing pavement | \$5.15 | \$5.54 | 7.52 | \$11.05 | Ed Bell Const. Co. | 10 |
| 2681-01-012 | FM 2499 | FM2181 Ntol-35Ein Corinth/Denton | Constr. new 6-lane div. urban facility | \$33.05 | \$34.86 | 5.45 | \$3.03 | Ed Bell Const. Co. | 11 |
| 3148-01-006 | FM 3097 | FM 740 to E of Tubbs Rd. | Widen 2-lane undiv. to 4-lane div. | \$8.37 | \$9.35 | 11.70 | \$4.67 | A. L. Helmcamp, Inc. | 12 |
| *Unmapped. **District FY 2014 Letting Vol. Cap includes the following: 1) The SH 183 Managed Lanes Proj. for $\$ 837$ M. |  |  | AUGUST 2014 Total | \$87.54 | \$91.23 | 4.21 | \$74.34 |  |  |
|  |  |  | DISTRICT FY accumulative letting | \$464.22 | \$459.89 | -0.93 |  |  |  |
| ***Est. Total Proj. Costs includes estimated PE, ROW, E\&C, Indirect Costs and potential Change Costs at the time of bid. |  |  | DALLAS DISTRICT LETting Cap | \$1,384.34** |  |  |  |  |  |

## AUGUST 2014 PROJECTED LETTING PROJECTS (subiecto change)

| CSJ NUMBER | HWY | LIMITS | TYPE OF WORK | EST. (M) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0009-11-227 | I-30 | I-30 from I-635 To Chaha Rd.; and SL 12 from SH 183 to I-35E | Installation of ITS system | \$3.32 |
| 0092-14-083 | 1-345 | Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. to US 75 | Repair bent caps and girders | \$0.79 |
| 0261-03-066 | US 67 | $1-20$ to 0.2 miles North of Camp Wisdom Rd. | Landscape development | \$0.14 |
| 0353-05-088 | SL 12 | West of Midway to US 75 | Intersection improvements | \$5.79 |
| 0581-01-140 | SL 12 | 1-30 to Ferguson Rd. | Landscape development | \$0.29 |
| 1012-03-017 | FM 981 | At Indian Creek and Relief \#2 | Replace bridge and approches | \$1.72 |
| 2374-02-136 | 1-635 | I-635 from I-20 to I-30; and I-20 from I-45 to I-635 | Installation of full ITS system | \$7.37 |
| 0009-11-234* | 1-30 | Various freeways in Dallas, Collin, and Rockwall Counties | Install signing of truck lane restrictions | \$0.62 |
| 0095-02-113* | US 80 | Various locations in Dallas County | Installation of wireless ITS system | \$2.74 |
| 0918-00-185* | VA | Various locations in Dallas District | Non-site specific signal contract | \$1.43 |
| *Unmapped. |  |  |  | \$24.21 |

## COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS (FRom July 1-31,2014)

| CSJ NUMBER | HWY | LIMITS | TYPE OF WORK | DATE COMPLETED | $\operatorname{cost}(\mathrm{M})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0549-03-023 | SH 121 | FM 455 to Fannin County Line | Mill, base repair \& overlay | 07/11/14 | \$3.04 |
| 0048-01-060 | SH 342 | W 8th St. to Wintergreen Rd. | Full depth report \& overlay | 07/01/14 | \$0.55 |
| 0281-03-045 | SH 78 | $N$ of PGBT to Sachse City Limits | Full depth report | 07/01/14 | \$0.74 |
| 0195-02-066 | 1-35 | At FM 455 in Sanger | Traffic signals | 07/02/14 | \$0.25 |
| 0918-45-881* | VA | Various Locations | Refurbish bridge protection assembly signs | 07/28/14 | \$0.61 |
| *Unmapped. SOURCE: Texas Department of Transportation. |  |  |  | TOTAL | \$5.19 |

## DALLAS DISTRICT PROJECTS MAP

Colored and numbered boxes correspond with the charts on page 2 and show projects that have let in July, are projected to let in August or have recently been completed.



DALLAS DISTRICI TOTALS VEHICLE REGISTRATION |3,591,178 *POPULATION ESTIMATE |4,259,090 LANE MILES | 10,847.34
A. DFNTON COUNTY VEHICLE REGISTRATION: 559,501 *POPULATION ESTIMATE: 683,010 LANE MILES: 1,597.47
B. | COLLIN COUNTY VEHICLE REGISTRATION: 680,383 *POPULATION ESTIMATE: 804,390 LANE MILES: 1,563.69
C. DALLAS COUNTY VEHICLE REGISTRATION: 1,952,662 *POPULATION ESTIMATE: 2,385,990 LANE MILES: 3,440.13
D. ROCKWALL COUNTY VEHICLE REGISTRATION: 79,075 *POPULATION ESTIMATE: 80,270 LANE MILES: 346.35

## E. | GLLIS COUNTY

VEHICLE REGITTRATION: 165,360 *POPULATION ESTIMATE: 152,580 LANE MILES: 1,516.77
F. | KAUFMAN COUNTY VEHICLE REGISTRATION: 103,929 *POPULATION ESTIMATE: 104,600 LANE MILES: 1,191.95
G. | NAVARRO COUNTY VEHILLE REGITRATION: 50,268 *POPULATION ESTMATE: 48,250 LANE MILES: 1,190.98

## NEW TxDOT APP HELPS YOU SAVE MONEY, REDUCE EMISSIONS

DALLAS - Keeping vehicles road-ready and saving money at the pump is now easier than ever thanks to a new smartphone Web app, which the Dallas District unveiled last month.

TxDOT's new "Roadcents" Web app allows drivers to take a few simple steps to reduce their vehicle emissions, which contribute to air pollution.
"Roadcents" is a Web-based app for a mobile device or computer that tracks your vehicles' maintenance and calculates how drivers can save by changing their driving and vehicle maintenance habits. Drivers also can receive email alerts when their vehicles are scheduled for maintenance; find nearby auto repair facilities and gas stations; and get tips on what to do in case of a roadside breakdown or collision.

Driving a vehicle that needs maintenance can add \$100 to annual gas spending, while underinflated tires increase vehicle emissions and can add an extra \$90 a year in fuel costs.


The new TxDOT "Roadcents" Web app makes it easy for drivers to reduce vehicle emissions, keep their vehicle maintenance up-to-date, and save money in a simple and efficient way.

TxDOT graphic


From Mr. Stan S. of Dallas:
"I have driven on interstate 20 between Dallas and Canton Texas almost every business day for the past 10 years. Knowing that this road is traveled by a lot of 18 wheelers I do expect to see remnants of tires on occasion on the roadway. However I never see the same remnants the next day. Thank you for keeping the roads clear."

## From Ms. Liz W. of Waxahachie:

"Thanks for fixing the light at Deer Creek and Hwy 77. Also, Thanks for the flashing red light at Becky Ln. and Hwy 77. That makes it much easier and safer to get out of our neighborhood."

## From Mr. Michael H. of Dallas:

" I want to let you know that as I drove to work this morning, I no longer see the ugly mattress on the road near the NWH east exit. It looks like somebody (hopefully your crew) came by and picked up that disgusting sight. I will be in touch with you as I notice things
of this nature.
I don't feel like I have to contact you for every debris left on the highway but when it become an eye-sore it definitely has to be addressed. I presume this CASE ID can be closed. You have a wonderful day."

## From Ms. Amy N. of Midlothian:

"Just wanted to say THANKS!!! I sent in a concern last week about a STOP line at SB 360/287 and it was corrected within a week. Very impressive! Keep up the good work!"

TxDOT graphic


