

LUFKIN DISTRICT

NEWS

IN THIS ISSUE | WINTER 2023

New Position at the District:
 Meet Seth! 1
 Texas Downtown Annual
 Conference 1
 Lab Technician Honored with
 Award 2
 TxDOT Construction Project
 Wins Award for Contractors 2
 DE Corner 3
 Maintenance Projects 3
 End The Streak 3
 I-69 Development 4

Upcoming Construction
 Projects:
 Livingston Area Office 5
 Lufkin Area Office 6
 Nacogdoches Area Office 7
 District Contacts 8

To learn more about Lufkin District projects, visit: txdot.gov/inside-txdot/district/lufkin.html

We want to hear from you. Take our Newsletter Survey: surveymonkey.com/r/CH56VZW

View past newsletters at: txdot.gov/inside-txdot/district/lufkin/newsletter.html

Check out TxDOT's 10-year Unified Transportation Program (UTP) at: txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/transportation-planning/utp.html

Join the TxDOT Team and Build a Career as Big as Texas: <http://www.dot.state.tx.us/jobs/default.htm>

New Position at the District: Meet Seth!

Seth Franks, P.E. has been named Director of Transportation (Traffic) Operations for the Lufkin District. Seth took over this new role which is also a new position for the Lufkin District on Sept. 1. This new position is dedicated to traffic operations and traffic safety.

Seth most recently served as the Lufkin District Traffic Engineer and was responsible for overseeing the daily activities of the District Traffic Engineering Office, including traffic planning, operations (signs/markings, speed zoning, traffic studies, etc.) and traffic construction.

Seth graduated from Texas A&M in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. After spending 2 years in the oil and gas industry, Seth began his TxDOT career in the Lufkin District's Central Design section as a part of the Engineering Assistant Rotation Program. He obtained his Physical Engineering license in April 2017 and was named the Lufkin District Bridge Engineer. From there he served as Assistant Area Engineer for the Nacogdoches Area Office beginning in March 2018 before moving to the District Traffic Engineer position.

Seth is married to Kalyn and they have three young children, Addilyn, Brett, and Sadie. Outside of work, Seth enjoys spending time with his family as well as fishing, golfing, and watching Texas Aggie Football.



Texas Downtown Annual Conference

Some Lufkin District engineers recently served on a panel at the Texas Downtown Annual Conference in Nacogdoches. The panel spoke and engaged in a question-and-answer session about best practices for enhancing pedestrian safety, roadway and design requirements, municipal maintenance agreements for downtown streets, speed studies, preserving historic brick, art, and grant funding opportunities.



Pictured left to right: Matt Brazil, Director of Transportation, Planning and Development; Shannon Ramos, Director of Construction; Randall Cooper, Nacogdoches Area Engineer; Elizabeth Ortega, Transportation Engineering Supervisor; Seth Franks, Director of Traffic Operations.

Lab Technician Honored with Award

Kristina Branton, Nacogdoches Area Office Lab Technician, was recently recognized for her leadership and innovation in the asphalt industry in the Fall 2023 edition of Texas Asphalt, a publication of the Texas Asphalt Pavement Association (TxAPA).

Kristina was nominated and selected to the group, Women of Asphalt, for helping shape the future of the asphalt industry through expertise and determination. Helping manage major infrastructure construction projects, she was recognized as a remarkable woman who is leaving her mark on the roadways we travel daily.

Kristina has worked for the Lufkin District for 11 years. Prior to her career at TxDOT, she joined the U.S. Army after 9/11 and spent a year in Iraq. She is married to Bo Branton, and they have four children. Kristina is determined about her TxDOT future.



"I hope to advance within this role and plan to continue to learn and grow in this industry. It is very satisfying to know that I have contributed to providing not only better but safer roadways for the traveling public."

When Kristina is not working, she loves being outdoors, preferably on or near the water. She also enjoys reading and art but is quick to say she is happiest near the water. Kristina said she is proud to be honored as a leader in the asphalt industry. Though overwhelmed at the recognition, she said she is thankful and grateful to be a part of TxDOT. She has advice for anyone wanting to excel in their chosen career.

"Take advantage of every opportunity to grow, learn and advance. Continue to build your confidence and knowledge, and never stop growing!"

TxDOT Construction Project Wins Award for Contractors

A TxDOT construction project on US 96 in San Augustine County recently won the contracting companies national award. Madden Contracting LLC and Longview Asphalt Inc., of Minden, LA, were honored with the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) award for Quality in Asphalt Paving. The contractors were recognized at the recent 68th Annual NAPA conference in Miami Beach, FL.

The US 96 construction project consisted of contractors placing a leveling course of asphalt on the roadway, followed by a 2-inch surface course. Using a mix that included reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP), a sustainable paving technique that conserves virgin aggregates, earned them a green designation. The result was a pavement with a very smooth ride and an excellent appearance that earned awards from Texas Asphalt Pavement Association and The Texas Department of Transportation.

"The asphalt pavement industry is committed to building high-quality projects that deliver superior performance to the traveling public. A Quality in Construction award is measured against best practices designed to live up to that commitment," said James A. Mitchell, 2022 NAPA Chairman. "Earning the Quality in Construction Award demonstrates that Madden Contracting LLC and Longview Asphalt Inc. have met or exceeded these rigorous standards."

NAPA is the only trade association that exclusively represents the interests of the asphalt producer/contractor on the national level with government agencies and other national trade and business organizations. The company was founded in 1955 and has more than 1,100 members nationwide



D.E. Corner
Kelly O. Morris, P.E.

It's hard to believe we are already approaching the holidays with a new year right around the corner.

Here at the Lufkin District, we are busier than ever on major construction projects with more in the planning and design phases. This Winter Newsletter is full of updates and information you will find useful.

You will want to read about the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) Award that was given to contractors for their work on US 96 in San Augustine County. This is a national award, and we could not be prouder of our crews and the work of Madden Contracting LLC and Longview Asphalt Inc.

Be sure to read about one of our own employees being recognized recently in the Fall issue of Texas Asphalt Magazine in an article entitled "Paving the Way: Women Shaping the Asphalt Industry." Kristina Branton, Nacogdoches Area Office Lab Technician, was humbled by the recognition, and we are proud she is serving right here in the Lufkin District.

Also, you will want to read about some internal changes with the recent promotion of Seth Franks P.E. to the position of Director of Traffic Operations. Seth has been with the district for several years and his commitment to traffic safety is compelling. No doubt, you will see Seth out and about in the district.

Check out the I69 development page and our construction projects in the district. There is much work going on now and much more planned for the future. Always feel free to contact our offices with any questions regarding any projects.

I hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas with family and loved ones. But more importantly, I hope you have safe holidays. With the upcoming holiday parties and New Years Eve celebrations, I hope you all make a plan ahead of the festivities to stay safe. And know that whatever the weather brings, TxDOT crews will be ready to assist and work through any roadway issues that might arise. Happy Holidays!

UPCOMING LOCAL LETTING MAINTENANCE PROJECTS	
Contract Description	Estimated Value
Bridge Preventative Maintenance Letting date: November 2023	\$730,000
Bridge Preventative Maintenance Letting date: November 2023	\$440,000
Crack Seal Letting date: November 2023	\$260,000
Crack Seal Letting date: November 2023	\$255,000
Districtwide Tree Trimming Letting date: December 2023	\$1,500,000
Metal Beam Guardfence Letting Date: December 2023	\$215,000
Metal Beam Guardfence Letting Date: December 2023	\$170,000
Metal Beam Guardfence Letting Date: January 2024	\$220,000
Traffic Control Services Letting Date: January 2024	\$1,720,000
District Concrete Pavement Repair Letting Date: February 2024	\$545,000

End The Streak

Nov. 7th marks the 23rd anniversary of the last deathless day on Texas roadways. It is an unwelcome anniversary that is marked by at least one person dying on Texas roadways every day since Nov. 7, 2000. More than 79,000 people – loved ones, children, and friends, have died in a crash.

TxDOT created End The Streak in an effort to raise awareness and how this issue impacts every Texan. We need to end the streak of daily deaths. We know it is a big goal, but it is possible to reach, and it will take us all to do our parts behind the wheel. When you drive remember:

- Drive at a safe speed and to roadway and weather conditions
- Do not drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Put the phone away and do not let anything distract your attention from driving

The Lufkin District will be promoting End The Streak throughout the month of November to help us all remember to drive safely.



I-69 DEVELOPMENT IN THE LUFKIN DISTRICT

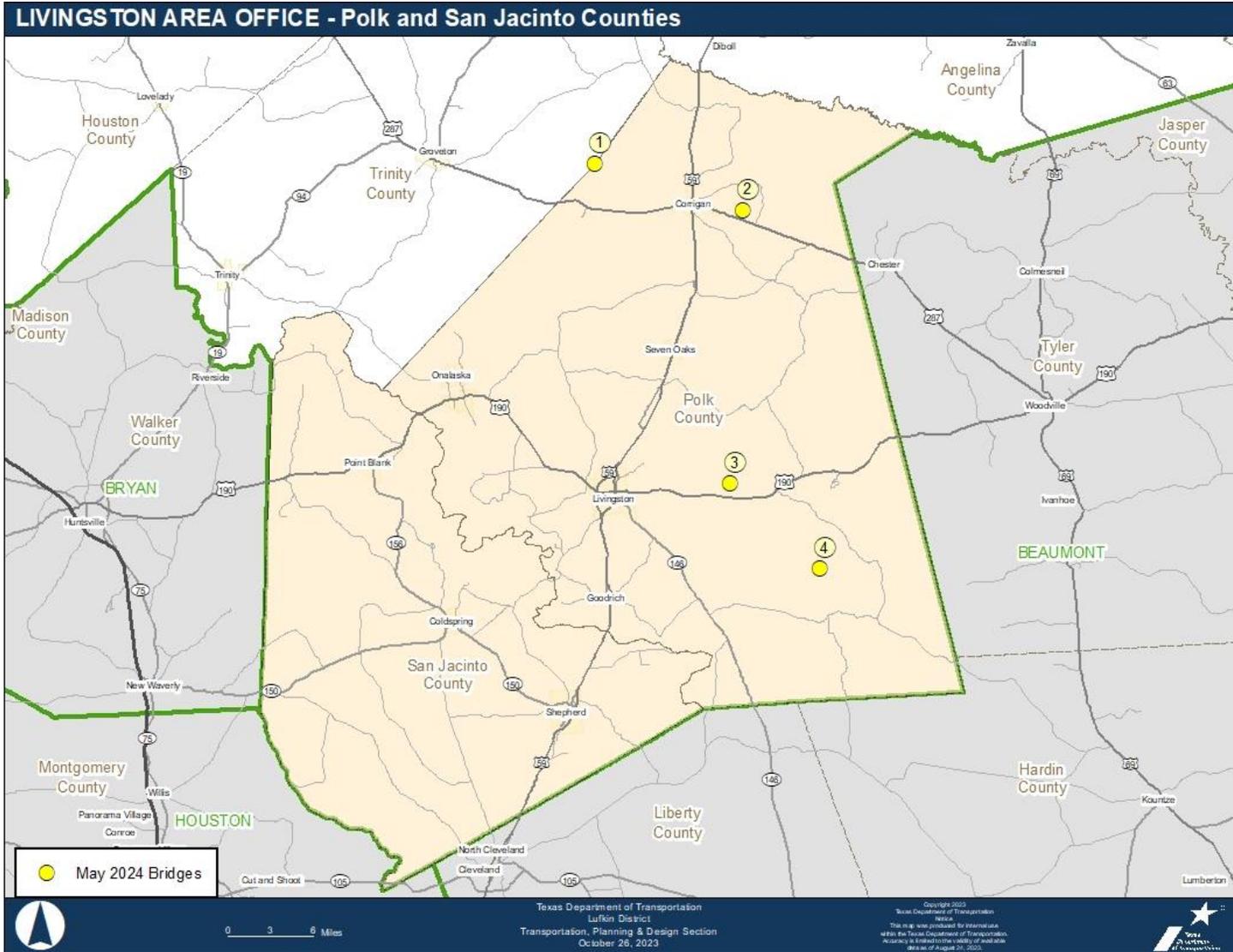
Jennifer Adams, Advance Transportation Planning Director (936) 633-4469

There are currently ten projects that the Lufkin District is actively developing to meet interstate standards. These projects are in varying stages of development from schematic to construction. Below is a brief status on each. For more information on I-69 projects development in the district, please visit our webpage at www.txdot.gov and search "[I-69 Projects Overview](#)".

- [US 59/SL 224 South Interchange](#) – project involves upgrading existing US 59 by constructing new US 59 direct connectors at SL 224(S) and frontage roads along SL 224 between SH 7 and US 59. Construction began in September 2019 and is anticipated to be complete summer 2024, weather permitting.
- [US 59 Diboll Relief Route](#) – project involves constructing a new location controlled-access roadway east of Diboll. Construction began in Spring 2020 and is anticipated to be summer 2025, weather permitting.
- [US 59 Upgrade Moffett Rd to SH 103](#) – this project in Lufkin involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled access roadway by adding frontage roads. Construction began in 2021 and scheduled for completion in winter 2024, weather permitting.
- [US 59 Upgrade Redland](#) – project involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled access roadway by adding frontage roads between SL 287 and FM 2021. Construction began in late 2022 and is anticipated to be completed in fall 2025, weather permitting.
- [US 59 Corrigan Relief Route](#) – project involves the construction of a new location controlled-access roadway, west of Corrigan. Construction began in fall 2022 and is anticipated to be completed in summer 2026, weather permitting.
- [US 59 Upgrade Shepherd to Cleveland \(future I-69\)](#) – project involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled-access roadway by adding frontage roads between FM 2914 and SL 573. Construction was awarded to begin in fall 2023 and is anticipated to be completed in fall 2029.
- [US 59/US 259 North Nacogdoches Interchange](#) – this project involves upgrading US 59 to a controlled-access roadway from Stallings Drive/SL 224 to 1.3 miles north of US 259 by reconstructing the US 59/US 259 interchange and adding new frontage roads. A public meeting was held on Aug. 3, 2023. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2029.
- [US 59 Upgrade Shepherd to Trinity River](#) – project involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled-access roadway by adding frontage roads between FM 223 (Church Street) to just north of the Trinity River. TxDOT held a public meeting on April 27, 2023. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2029.
- [US 59 Upgrade North Livingston](#) – project involves upgrading US 59 to a controlled-access roadway by reconstructing the US 59/US 190 interchange, reconstructing US 59 main lanes and frontage roads from just south of US 190 to SL 116. TxDOT is currently working with a consultant on the development of the schematic. A public meeting is tentatively scheduled in early 2024. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2032.
- [US 59 Upgrade South Livingston](#) – project involves upgrading US 59 to a controlled-access roadway by reconstructing the US 59/FM 1988 interchange, reconstructing US 59 main lanes and adding frontage roads from just south of US 190 to 0.39 miles south of FM 1988. TxDOT is currently working with a consultant on the development of the schematic. A public meeting is tentatively scheduled in early 2024. This project currently does not have construction funding identified.



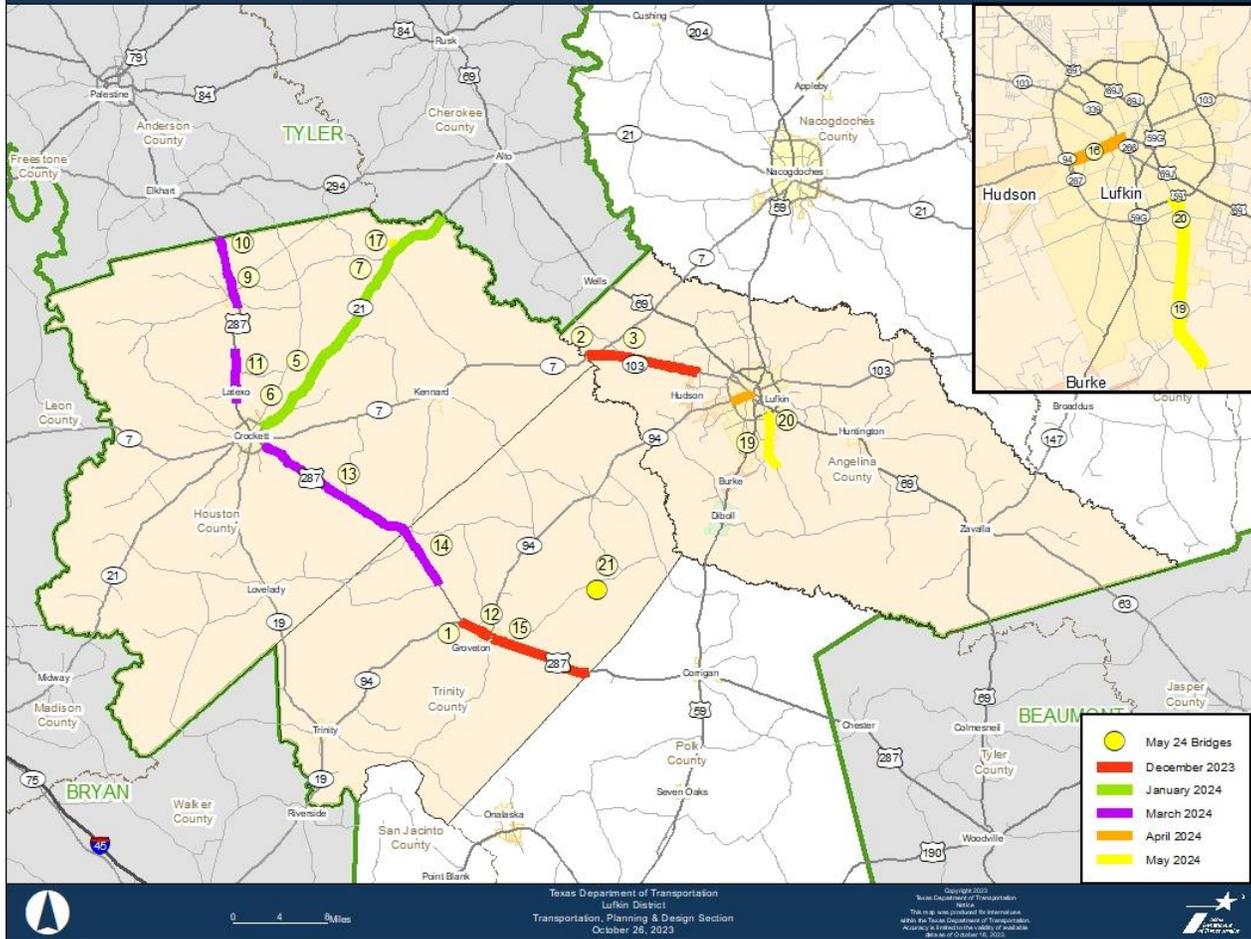
Livingston Area Office



UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS					
Project Number	County	Highway	Description Of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
0911-04-094	Polk	CR 151	Replace Bridge and Approaches	\$1,193,046.50	1
0911-04-095	Polk	CR 272	Replace Bridge and Approaches	\$591,402.00	2
0911-04-096	Polk	CR 1241	Replace Bridge and Approaches	\$915,171.00	3
0911-04-097	Polk	CR 1077	Replace Bridge and Approaches	\$895,790.50	4

Lufkin Area Office

LUFKIN AREA OFFICE - Angelina, Houston and Trinity Counties



UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Project Number	County	Highway	Description Of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
0319-01-069, etc	VA	VA	Resurface with Thin Overlay Mix at Various Locations in Trinity and Angelina Counties	\$4,171,036.14	1
0118-01-022	Houston	SH 21	Widen to Non-Freeway (add shoulders)	\$6,421,474.74	2
0118-01-024	Houston	SH 21	OCST and Overlay	\$2,379,806.92	3
0118-02-036	Houston	SH 21	Widen to Non-Freeway (add shoulders)	\$5,575,100.69	4
0911-00-096	Angelina	VA*	Profile Pavement Markings	\$3,461,538.46	5
0109-03-041, etc	VA	VA	Install Illumination at Various Locations along US 287 in Houston and Trinity Counties	\$146,062.50	6
0109-03-044	Houston	US 287	HMA Overlay	\$9,905,000.00	7
0109-04-034	Houston	US 287	HMA Overlay	\$5,780,000.00	8
0319-04-091	Angelina	SH 94	Mill/Inlay	\$2,332,692.31	9
0118-03-005	Houston	PR 44	Restoration of park road	\$201,753.00	10
0911-28-063	Houston	VA*	Restore RV Pullouts, park roads, parking lots, and campsite pullouts	\$513,088.50	11
0576-02-069	Angelina	FM 58	Rehabilitate existing roadway	\$6,923,076.92	12
0576-02-072	Angelina	FM 58	Mill and HMA Overlay	\$2,332,692.31	13
0911-40-030	Trinity	CR 5633	Replace Bridge and Approaches	\$540,000.00	14

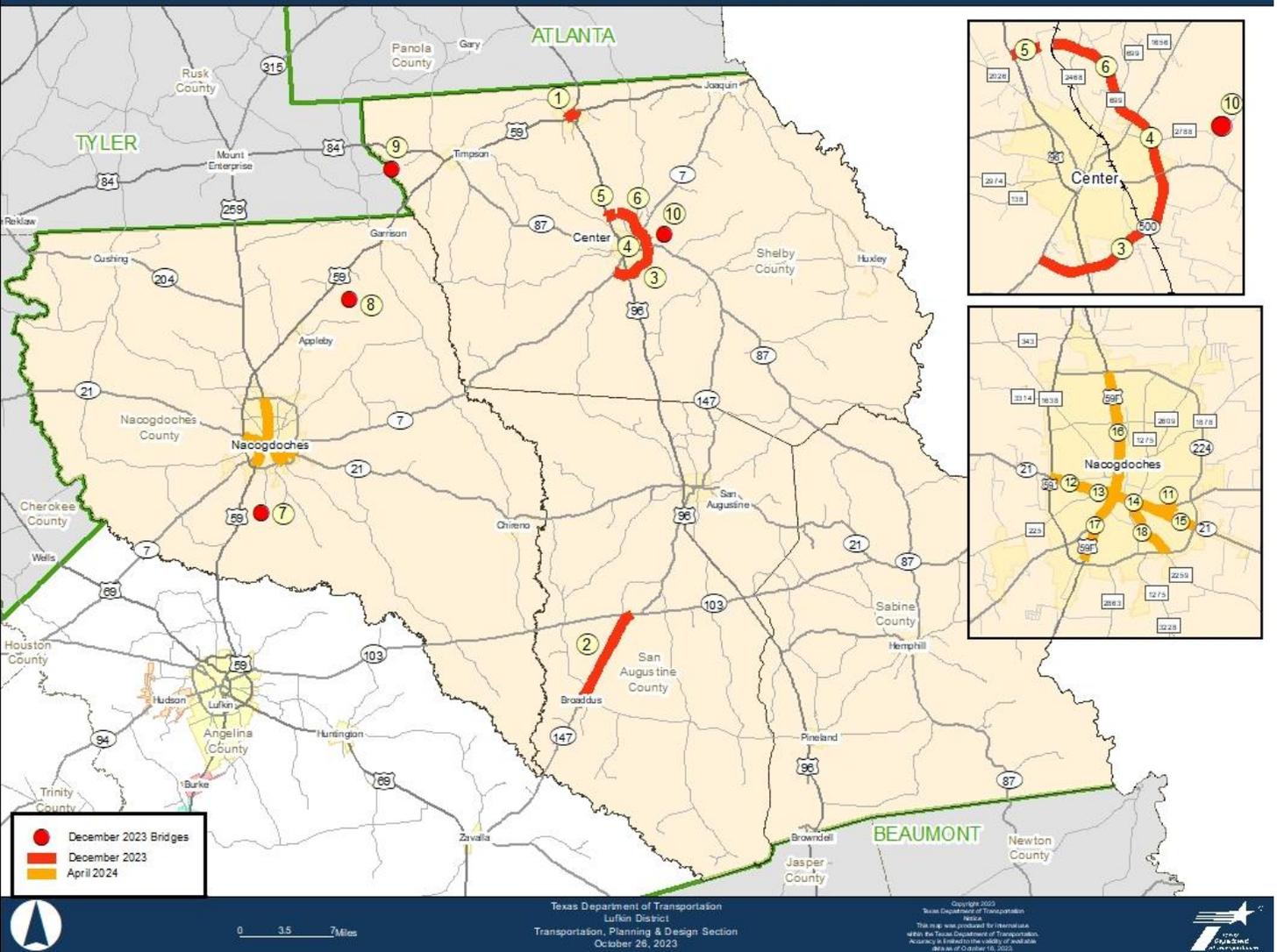
* PROJECT NOT MAPPED

For more information, please visit the Project Tracker page at:

txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/project-tracker.html

Nacogdoches Area Office

NACOGDOCHES AREA OFFICE - Nacogdoches, Sabine, San Augustine and Shelby Counties



UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Project Number	County	Highway	Description Of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
0319-01-069, etc	VA	VA	Resurface with thin Overlay Mix at Various Locations in Shelby and San Augustine Counties	\$3,618,725.06	1
0911-08-049	Nacogdoches	CR 526	Replace Bridge and Approaches	\$925,340.00	2
0911-08-050	Nacogdoches	CR 271	Replace Bridge and Approaches	\$623,588.35	3
0911-39-064	Shelby	CR 4760	Replace Bridge and Approaches	\$388,561.25	4
0911-39-065	Shelby	CR 3047	Replace Bridge and Approaches	\$728,196.15	5
0118-06-077, etc	Nacogdoches	VA	Mill and Inlay at Various Locations in Nacogdoches City Limits	\$8,462,000.00	6
0911-08-058	Nacogdoches	VA*	Maintain/repair of 0.75 miles of "bottom" road	\$80,000.00	7
0911-08-059	Nacogdoches	VA*	Seal coat office entrance, parking lots, and compound asphalt	\$30,000.00	8
0911-39-073	Shelby	VA*	Addition of approx. 1,200' of access road	\$50,000.00	9

* PROJECT NOT MAPPED

For more information, please visit the Project Tracker page at:
txdot.gov/inside-txdot/projects/project-tracker.html

DISTRICT CONTACTS

District Engineer:

Kelly O. Morris, P.E.

District Public Information Officer:

Rhonda Oaks

**Director of Transportation Planning
and Development:**

Matt Brazil, P.E.

Director of Construction

Shannon Q. Ramos, P.E.

Director of Maintenance:

Kevin Buranakitipinyo, P.E.

**Advance Transportation Planning
Director:**

Jennifer Adams

Director of Transportation Operations:

Seth Franks, P.E.

1805 N. Timberland Drive
Lufkin, TX 75901
936-633-4433

AREA ENGINEER CONTACTS

Lufkin Area Office:

Jesse Sisco, P.E.

1805 N. Timberland Drive

Lufkin, TX 75901

936-633-4331

Livingston Area Office:

Clint Jones, P.E.

3161 US 59 N.

Livingston, TX 77351

936-327-8981

Nacogdoches Area Office:

Randal Cooper, P.E.

918 Industrial Blvd.

Nacogdoches, TX 75961

936-585-7043

COUNTY MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR CONTACTS

Angelina:

Steven Harris
936-634-3414

Houston:

Danny Luna
936-544-2264

Nacogdoches:

Clint Norton
936-585-7041

Polk:

James Henagan
936-327-8914

Sabine:

Kenneth Courville
409-787-1751

San Jacinto:

Chester Dixon
936-628-3328

San Augustine:

Scott Duffey
936-275-9671

Shelby:

Milton Kelley
936-598-4113

Trinity:

David Wars
936-642-1132