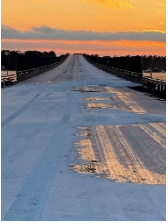


LUFKIN DISTRICT

N E W S



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Winter Storm 2021

The Lufkin District began preparing for the winter storm before many of us thought it would even matter. Crews pre-treated roads while the sun was still shining.

When it hit East Texas, it hit hard. Many of you were without electricity, water and heat. Many of our local towns suffered infrastructure damage that would take weeks to repair. But through all of it, there was one thing that didn't change – TxDOT crews were on the job.



Crews worked 12-hour shifts for more than a week to treat and clear roadway surfaces, as did many across the state. During the weather event, 170 Lufkin District employees worked throughout the storm, utilized 125 pieces of equipment and 37 blades to clear snow from the roadways. Most of you saw only the equipment on the roadways, but there were many people behind the scenes working around the clock to help get the roadways clear, including several TxDOT contractors you normally see working on construction projects.

Texas Department of Public Safety professionals worked to help keep the crews a little safer as they did their jobs. City employees and law enforcement from Lufkin, Diboll, Crockett, Livingston, Onalaska, as well as county employees and law enforcement from Angelina, Houston, Shelby, Polk, Trinity and San Jacinto counties worked around the clock with us and used their equipment to help. Volunteer fire departments as well as local businesses pitched in also.

TxDOT crews placed 143,292 gallons of brine on the roadways to keep them passable and reduce the amount of snow and ice accumulation. In addition, 3,265 pounds of melt down were placed that helped reduce the build-up. Also, 48 dump trucks placed 570 cubic yards of small rock to help with traction and another 150 tons of salt were placed before temperatures warmed above freezing. ■

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

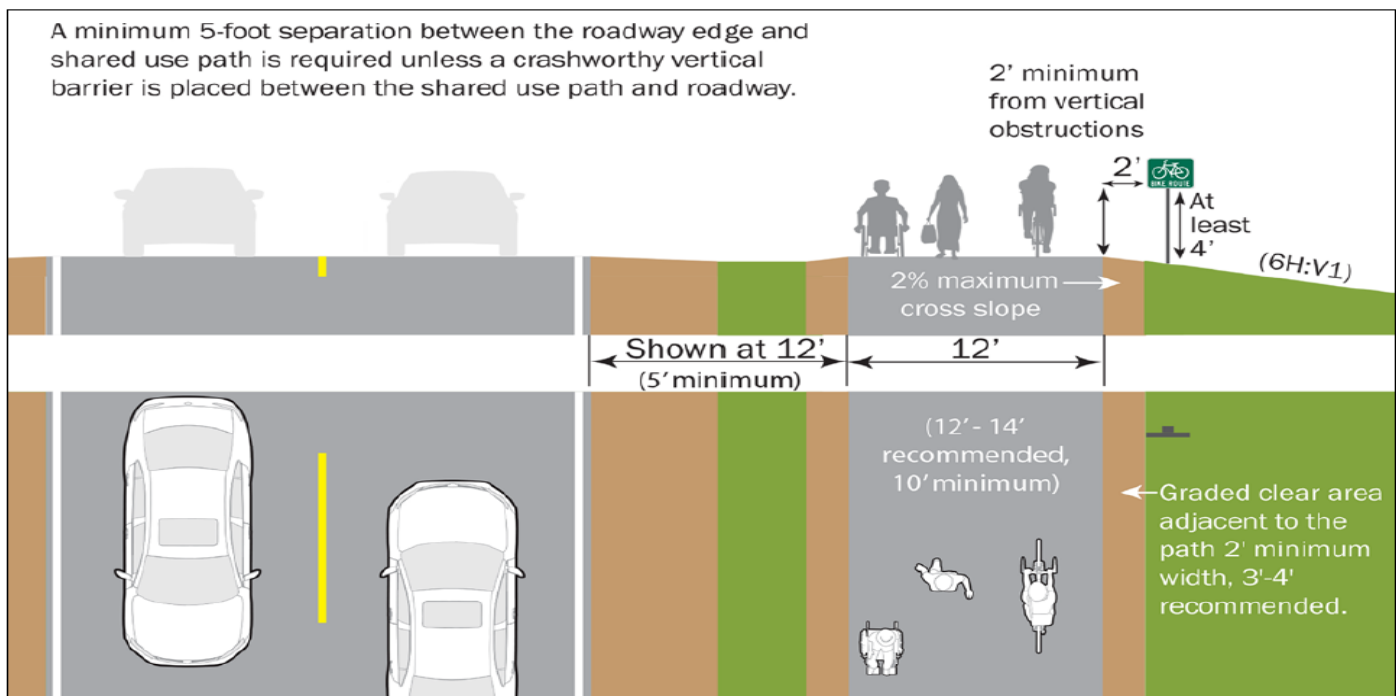
Join the TxDOT Team and Build a Career as Big as Texas: <http://www.dot.state.tx.us/jobs/default.htm>

Lufkin District ADA Accessibility Program

Since 2018, the Lufkin District has completed construction or design of approximately 23 miles of American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalk along on-system roadways (not including pedestrian infrastructure incorporated in highway projects). One of our major goals is to ensure **everyone** gets home safely.

What is the difference between sidewalk and shared-use path (SUP)?

SUPs are two-way accommodations for bicyclists, pedestrians, and other users of all ages and abilities. A SUP offers physical separation from vehicular traffic either by an open space or physical barrier. Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA) is currently working with the District and TxDOT Public Transportation Division on a Conditional Project for the 2019 Transportation Alternative/Safe Routes to School project for Lanana Creek Trail SUP.



This figure is from the TxDOT Bicycle Tourism Trails Study – Technical Memorandum 3: Recommended Bikeway Design Criteria <https://ftp.txdot.gov/pub/txdot-info/ptn/tech-memo-3-design-criteria.pdf>

What is TxDOT's policy on building sidewalks and bicycle accommodations?

TxDOT is committed to proactively plan, design and construct facilities to safely accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians. It is critical that bicycle and pedestrian accommodations be considered and discussed as the need and purpose of a project is defined during the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, taking into consideration existing and anticipated bicycle and pedestrian facility systems and needs. Plans, specification, and estimates (PS&E) shall also ensure that proposed designs are constructed according to ADA, American Association of State Highway Officials (AASHTO) Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, and TxDOT's Roadway Design Manual (RDM). The inclusion of bicycle and pedestrian facilities shall be considered when the project is scoped. Public input, when applicable, as well as local city and metropolitan planning organization (MPO) bicycle and pedestrian plans shall be considered.

The District is looking for potential projects, from local project sponsors, to be prepared for possible future funding opportunities. If you have a SUP or sidewalk project you would like to discuss with the District, contact Jimmy Thompson, P.E. – Lufkin District ADA Coordinator at (936) 633-4397 or Jimmy.Thompson@txdot.gov.



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

I never thought as we published our winter edition of the newsletter that most of our winter weather was still ahead of us. Across the state, we experienced some of the most unprecedented winter weather we have had in decades. I am proud to say that we rose to meet those challenges while also meeting all safety and COVID-19 protocols. I want to thank everyone, not only our dedicated employees, but those contractors and others who came to our assistance to help clear the roadways.

One of Lufkin District's goals is ensuring that all users, including bicycles and pedestrians, get home safely. I encourage you to read about the District's ADA Accessibility Program.

Many of us have teens or young adults who are just learning to drive. The shocking statistic that 41% of all teen drivers who died in crashes in 2019 were not buckled up is one we are working to change. Learn more about our current teen "Click It Or Ticket" safety campaign.

We continue to work daily to plan, construct and maintain the state's transportation system. View our I-69 Project Updates and upcoming construction and maintenance projects to see what we have coming up. I welcome your comments or questions about any of these projects.

As you look forward to taking a few days off for Spring Break or begin planning a summer vacation, I hope you will put safety at the top of your list. Stay safe and healthy and enjoy your springtime!

UPCOMING LOCAL LETTING MAINTENANCE PROJECTS	
Contract Description	Estimated Value
Ditch and Culvert Cleaning in San Jacinto County Letting date: April 2021	\$250,000
Concrete pavement surface repairs in Shelby, Angelina, Nacogdoches, San Augustine and Sabine Counties Letting date: April 2021	\$300,000
High Edge Removal in Nacogdoches County Letting date: May 2021	\$250,000
Concrete pavement surface repairs in Houston, Polk, San Jacinto and Trinity Counties Letting date: June 2021	\$300,000



Teen Drivers Should Buckle Up

Vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among teenagers. The "Teen Click It or Ticket" safety campaign is designed to remind teens to buckle up every seat and for every ride.

The 2019 state statistics are shocking. Of the 561,974 crashes in Texas, 106,063 involved teen drivers (ages 15-20). Forty-one percent of those killed in a crash were unrestrained. In the Lufkin District, teen drivers were involved in six crashes resulting in six serious injuries and one fatality.

Between now and the end of the school year, educators plan to use these statistics in the classroom to teach teens about the importance of buckling up. We encourage parents to do their part and help our educators inform young drivers of these facts:

- Seat belts prevent occupants from being ejected from a vehicle and lower the risk of dying in a crash by 45%.
- Texas law requires drivers and passengers to wear a seat belt or face fines up to \$200.

To find out more about Teen Click It or Ticket, visit <https://www.txdot.gov/driver/kids-teens/teen-clickit.html>. ■

I-69 DEVELOPMENT IN THE LUFKIN DISTRICT

Jennifer Adams, I-69 Project Manager (936) 633-4469

There are currently eight projects that the Lufkin District is actively developing. These projects are in varying stages of development. Below is a brief update on the status of these projects. For more information on these I-69 projects and others under development across the state, please visit our webpage at www.txdot.gov and search "I-69 Projects Overview".



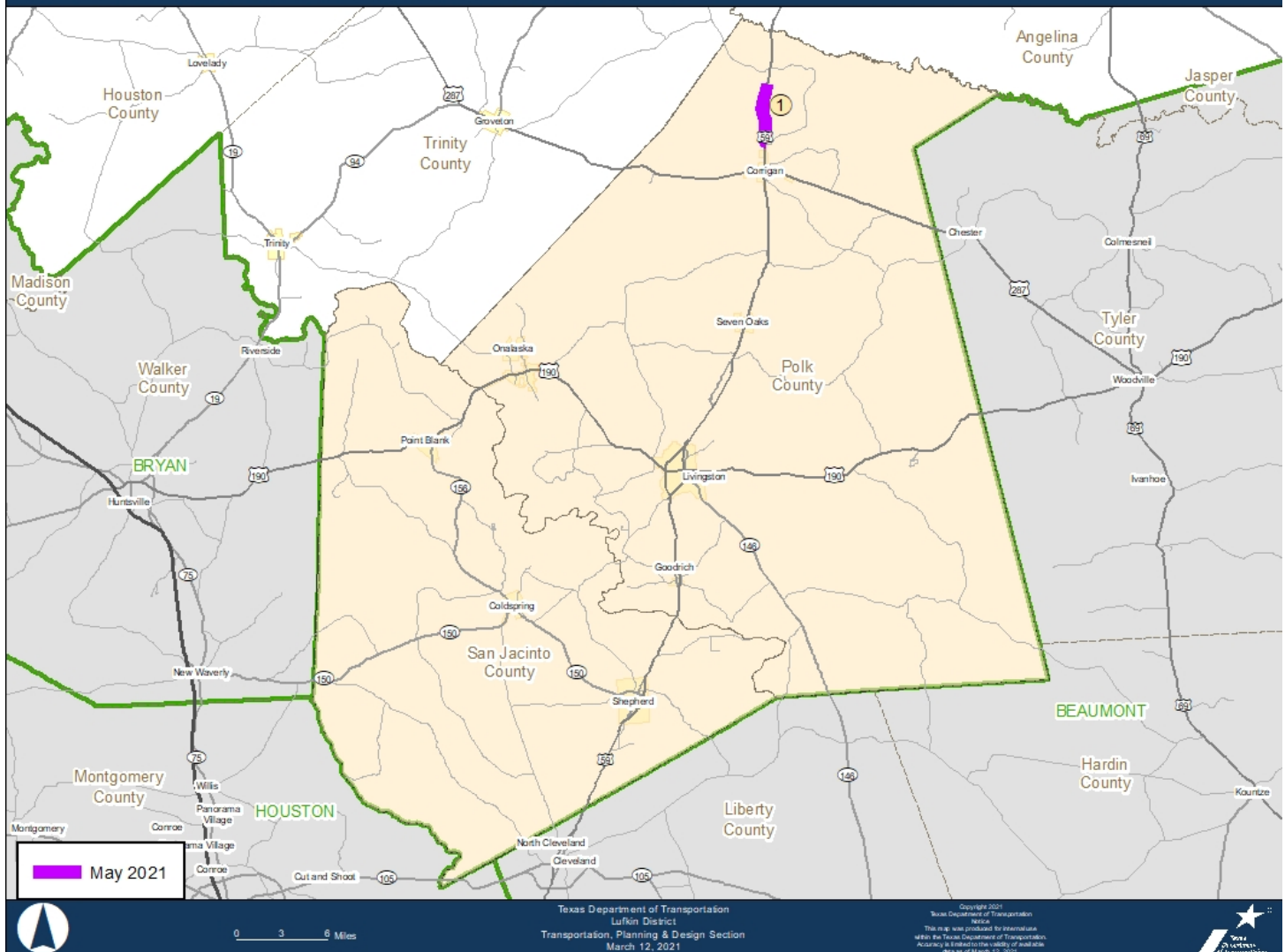
Driven by Texans

- **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. Utility relocations are currently underway. Construction began in September 2019 and is anticipated to be complete Summer 2023.
- **US 59 Diboll Relief Route** – project involves constructing a new location controlled access roadway east of Diboll. Utility relocations are currently underway. Construction began in Spring 2020 and is anticipated to be complete Fall of 2024.
- **US 59 Upgrade in Lufkin between Moffett Rd and SH 103** – project involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled access roadway by adding frontage roads. Utility relocations are underway. Construction will begin in 2021.
- **US 59 Upgrade in Redland between SL 287 and FM 2021** – project involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled access roadway by adding frontage roads. TxDOT received environmental clearance and completed ROW mapping. ROW acquisitions and demolition are underway. Upon completion of ROW acquisition and demolition, utility relocations will begin. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2022.
- **US 59 Corrigan Relief Route** – project involves the construction of a new location controlled access roadway west of Corrigan. TxDOT received approval of the schematic and environmental studies in March 2018. ROW acquisitions have begun. Upon completion of ROW acquisition and demolition, utility relocations will begin. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2022.
- **US 59 Upgrade in San Jacinto and Liberty Counties between FM 2914 and North Cleveland** – project involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled access roadway by adding frontage roads. TxDOT received approval of schematic and environmental studies in August 2019. ROW acquisitions have begun. Upon completion of ROW acquisition and demolition, utility relocations will begin. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2023.
- **COMING SOON – US 59/US 259 NORTH NACOGDOCHES INTERCHANGE** – this project involves converting existing US 59 to a four-lane controlled access freeway from FM 343 to just north of the US 59/US 259 interchange. The proposed project would include reconstructing the US 59/US 259 interchange and constructing frontage roads. TxDOT has hired a consultant who began field surveying in late 2020. This survey data will be used to begin schematic and environmental studies. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2029.



Livingston Area Office

LIVINGSTON AREA OFFICE - Polk and San Jacinto Counties



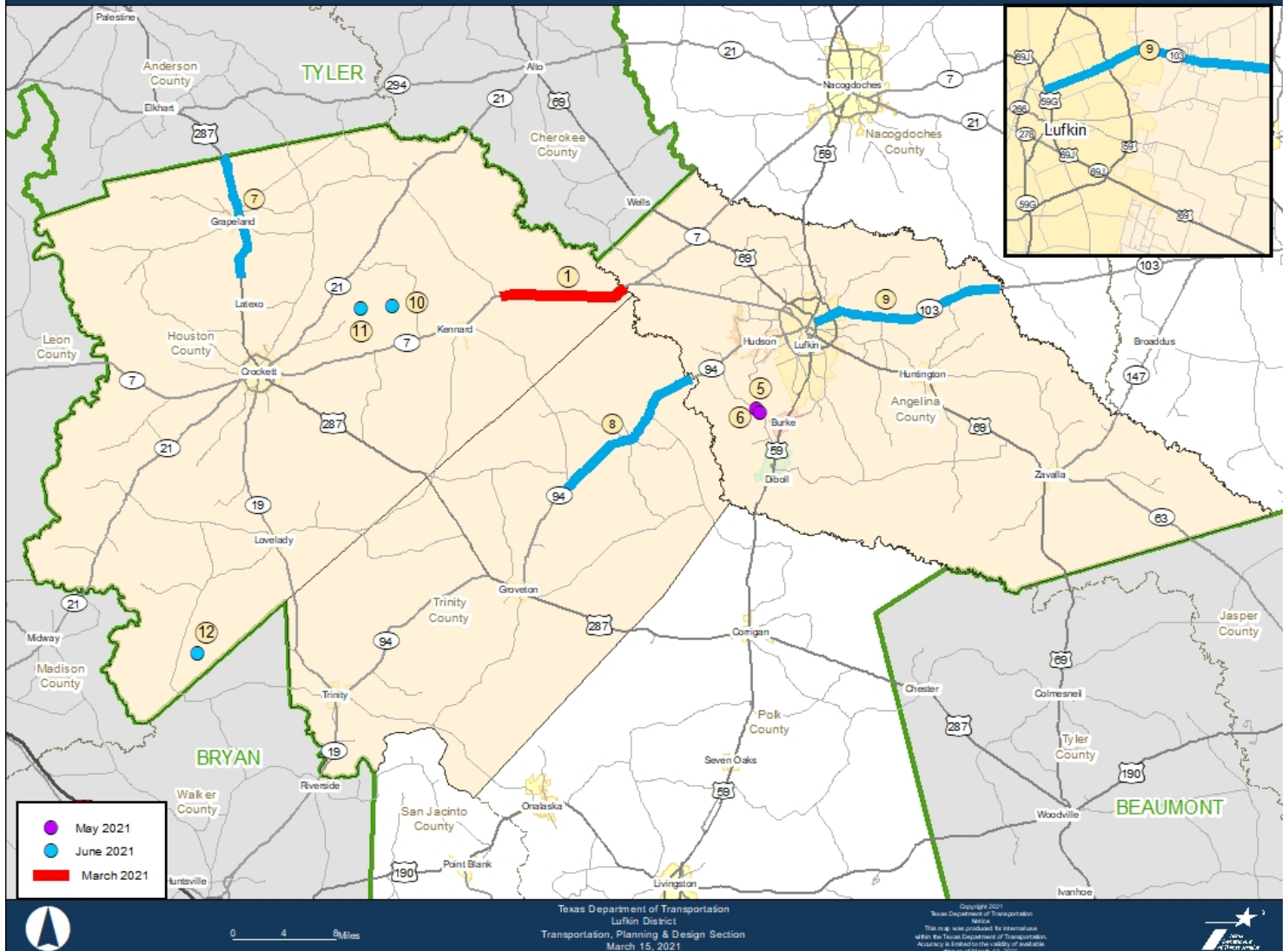
UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Project Number	County	Highway	Description Of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
0176-04-087	Polk	US 59	Safety Improvement To Correct Superelevation	\$5,200,000.00	1

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

Lufkin Area Office

LUFKIN AREA OFFICE - Angelina, Houston and Trinity Counties



UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

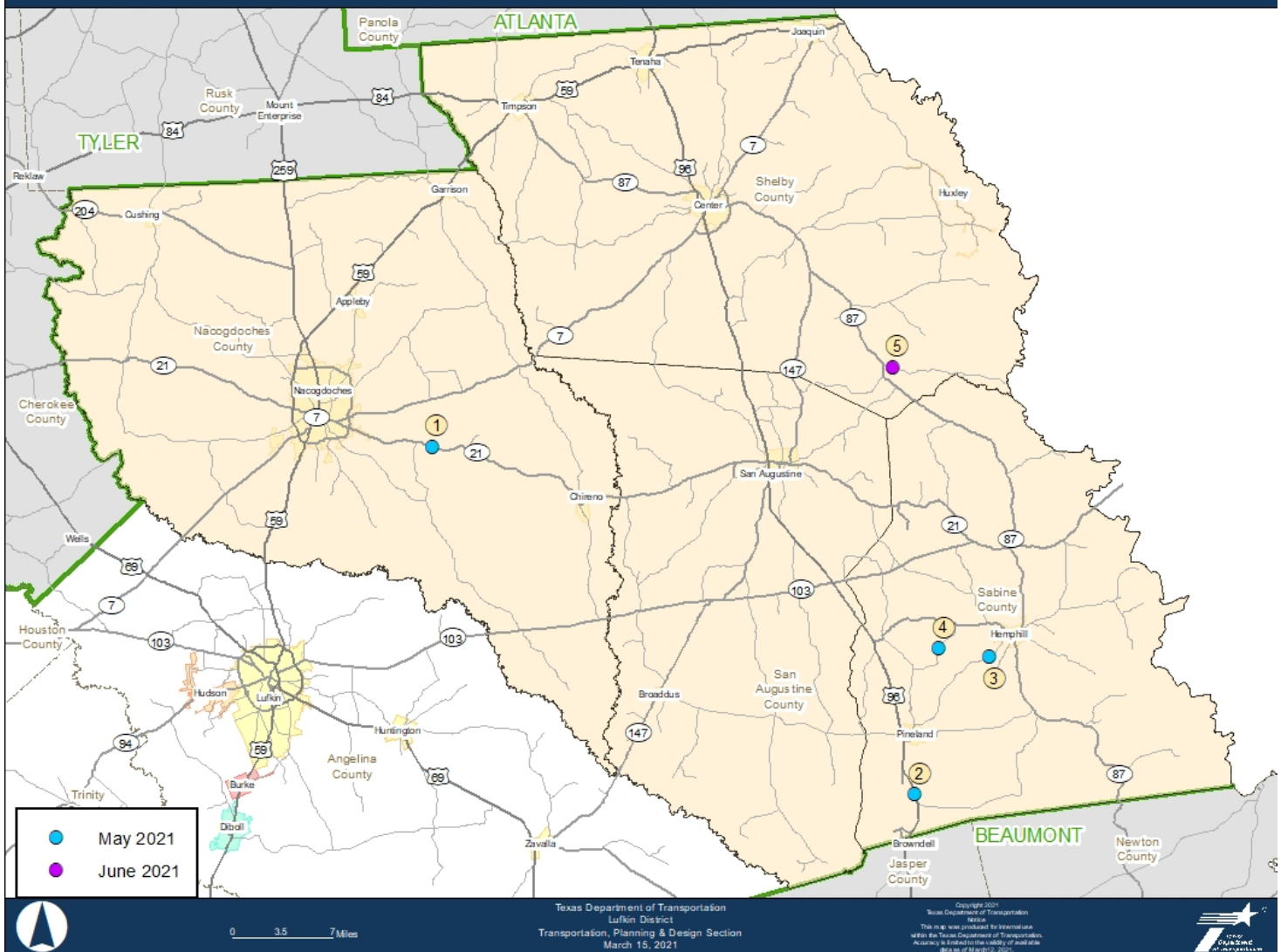
Project Number	County	Highway	Description Of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
0336-02-029	Houston	SH 7	Overlay With Thin Overlay Mix	\$1,107,445.00	1
0911-00-110	Angelina	VA*	Bridge Repair Maintenance - District Wide	\$615,934.00	2
0911-38-071	Angelina	VA*	Highway Improvement - Landscape and Scenic Enhancement	\$210,000.00	3
0911-00-108	Angelina	VA*	Intersection Improvement Along US 96 District Wide	\$433,000.00	4
2589-01-023	Angelina	FM 2497	Bridge Replacement at Cedar Creek	\$2,511,846.00	5
2589-01-024	Angelina	FM 2497	Bridge Replacement at Cedar Creek Relief	\$2,640,684.00	6
0109-03-036	Houston	US 287	Improve Guardrail To Design Standard And Safety Treat Fixed Objects	\$1,899,954.00	7
0319-03-055	Trinity	SH 94	Improve Guardrail To Design Standards	\$317,482.00	8
0336-05-064	Angelina	SH 103	Improve Guardrail To Design Standards	\$88,412.00	9
0911-28-049	Houston	CR	Replace Bridge And Approaches	\$398,300.00	10
0911-28-054	Houston	CR	Replace Bridge And Approaches	\$600,000.00	11
0911-28-060	Houston	CR	Replace Bridge And Approaches	\$600,000.00	12

**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
0118-08-076	Nacogdoches	SH 21	Replace Bridge And Approaches	\$5,691,237.00	1
0064-06-058	Sabine	US 96	Bridge Maintenance - Deck Repairs And Overlay	\$600,000.00	2
0694-01-031	Sabine	FM 83	Bridge Maintenance - Repair, Clean And Paint Steel Piling	\$325,000.00	3
1878-01-010	Sabine	FM 2024	Bridge Maintenance - Repair, Clean And Paint Steel Piling And Encase With Reinforced Concrete	\$210,000.00	4
1409-03-020	Shelby	FM 2261	Replace Bridge And Approaches	\$975,000.00	5

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

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District Public Information Officer:

Rhonda Oaks

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Jennifer Adams

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