

LUFKIN DISTRICT

NEWS

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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

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

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View past newsletters at:



Winter Weather Response

Rhonda Oaks, Public Information Officer

The month of January brought two significant winter weather threats to the Lufkin District and crews prepared district roadways and responded to neighboring districts that were impacted. Winter weather threats occurred twice in January and once in February which required district response in the de-icing of area roadways.

In the Lufkin District, crews applied a total of 560,000 gallons of brine solution on major roadways, overpasses, and bridges in efforts to keep roads open in the event of freezing precipitation. The Emergency Operations Center was activated, and crews worked 12-hour shifts until the winter weather passed. It was an all-hands-on-deck event in late January.

Lufkin District crews were also deployed to the Houston and Beaumont districts. The Special Jobs crew reported to the Houston District to assist in brine placement on I-69, both in Harris and Montgomery counties. In the Beaumont District, crews reported to Jasper, Newton, Anahuac, Beaumont, and Orange counties to assist in brine and de-icing operations.



Teach Them to Buckle Up!

Rhonda Oaks, Public Information Officer

It's sad to realize that vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among all teens, according to the National Highway Safety Administration. And yet, a simple click of a seat belt can dramatically increase their chances of survival in a crash.

The Teen Click It or Ticket Statewide Safety Campaign recently made a stop at Hudson High School in hopes of getting that message across to local teens. Featured in the event for students was a pickup truck that had crashed and was demolished into pieces. Remarkably, the two occupants involved in the accident walked away with only minor injuries. Many of the students were asking how the occupants managed to live through the crash. We were pleased to inform them it was because both occupants were wearing seat belts.



In Texas, 49 percent of all teen fatalities in 2023 were not wearing seat belts, and we are seeing this trend continue to rise. In the Lufkin District in 2023, there were 19 motor vehicle crashes involving unrestrained teens, ages 15-20, who sustained fatal or serious injuries. Of those crashes, there were seven fatalities and 18 serious injuries. This is alarming, and we hope events like Teen Click It or Ticket will encourage teens to make the choice to buckle up. The Lufkin District was proud to host this statewide safety event as a tour stop on their agenda. We are committed to changing these alarming statistics, and we hope the public, parents, and local school districts will also support these efforts

Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles

Melissa McKnight, Transportation Funding Specialist

TxDOT's statewide "Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles" motorcycle safety and public awareness campaign urges motorists to look twice for motorcycles, especially at intersections, where motorcycle collisions most commonly occur.

More than half of fatal motorcycle crashes result from collisions with other vehicles. Drivers simply don't see the motorcycle or misjudge its distance and speed. The combination of congested roadways, distracted driving and the difficulty of seeing motorcycles in traffic has led to many preventable fatalities each year.

Pay special attention at intersections, nearly one in three motorcycle fatalities happens at roadway intersections. Give full attention to driving. Any distractions such as a phone call or changing the radio station can have deadly consequences. Slow down. Obey posted speed limits and drive to conditions. Look twice when changing lanes. Check mirrors and blind spots, as well as always using your turn signals. If you are behind a motorcycle, maintain a safe following distance. Move over to the passing lane and don't crowd motorcycles, leave room when passing them.



One of the things I am most proud of in the Lufkin District is how well our group comes together during emergency weather events. They respond quickly and prioritize safety. Weather events are always unexpected, and in January we faced two winter storms that brought the threat of freezing rain and snow. Read about how our crews went into response mode with an all-hands-on-deck effort during these events. We kept the roads prepared, treated, and open for motorists while also assisting neighboring districts when they needed our help.

TxDOT's goal is to ensure safety for you and for us, and one of our most precious assets is our children. The Teen Click It or Ticket safety campaign event was scheduled to make a stop at Hudson High School as part of a statewide campaign tour. Getting the safety message out to our teens about the importance of wearing seat belts is vital to keeping them safe. The statistics show a significant number of teens are not buckling up, and we aim to change that.

We receive many inquiries about the future of I-69. The Lufkin District has several projects either under construction or in the planning stages for the Interstate. I encourage you to check our I-69 projects update page and continue to reach out to me or our Transportation, Planning, and Development section with your comments or questions.

The transition from winter to spring signals one of the busiest times of the year for TxDOT. We urge all drivers to stay alert as you travel the roadways. You will likely encounter a work zone somewhere. Please slow down and give our crews room to work. They want to get home safely as much as you do. Be safe, enjoy the ride, and enjoy the beautiful spring weather.

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

UPCOMING LOCAL LETTING MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Contract Description	Estimated Value
Trinity Tree and Brush Removal Letting date: March 2025	\$300,000
Sabine Tree and Brush Removal Letting date: March 2025	\$375,000
Sabine On-Call Traffic Letting date: March 2025	\$488,000
San Jacinto Tree and Brush Removal Letting date: April 2025	\$78,000
Nacogdoches On-Call Traffic Letting date: April 2025	\$600,000
Polk Metal Beam Guardfence Letting Date: May 2025	\$300,000
Sabine Metal Beams Guardfence Letting Date: May 2025	\$300,000

Service Awards

January 2025

David G. Crawford	5 Years
Lauren P. Gerland	5 Years
Cathy R. Williams	10 Years

February 2025

Bryan K. Herman	5 Years
Christopher Birdwell	5 Years
Guadalupe Sandoval	5 Years
Kyle L. Johnson	5 Years
Paul G. Engelking	5 Years

March 2025

Diego Lopez	5 Years
Peter D. Weeks	10 Years
Joe L. San Miguel Jr.	25 Years
Dianne L. Pyle	40 Years



Preslie Gerland
Transp. Eng. Supervisor
5 Years



David Crawford
General Engineering Tech
5 Years



Kyle Johnson
Construction Inspector
5 Years

I-69 DEVELOPMENT IN THE LUFKIN DISTRICT

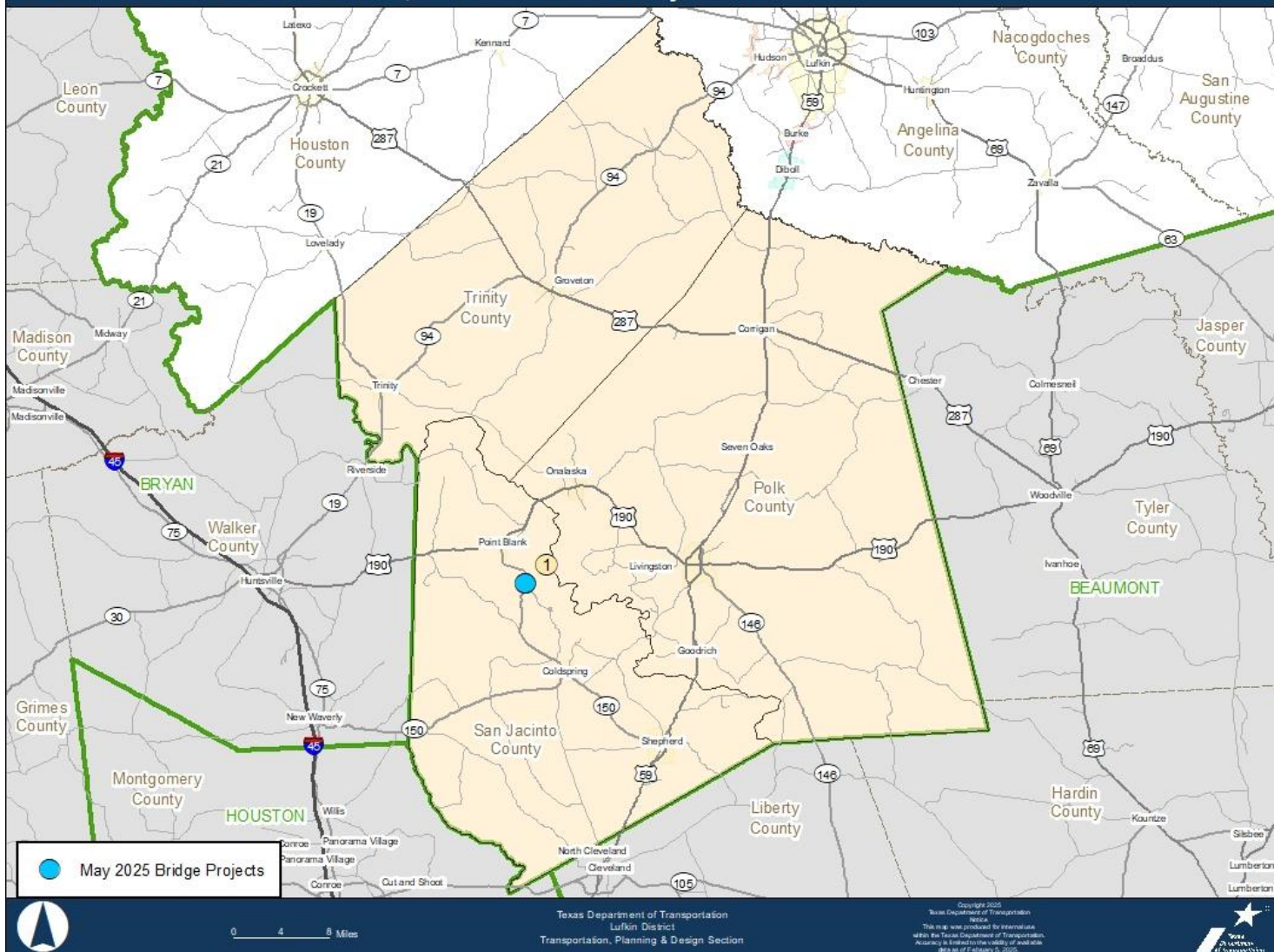
Jennifer Adams, Advance Transportation Planning Director

There are currently ten projects the Lufkin District is actively developing to meet interstate standards. 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 (Under Construction)** – involves 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 fall 2019 and is scheduled for completion in fall 2026, weather permitting.
- **US 59 Diboll Relief Route (Under Construction)** – involves constructing a new location controlled-access roadway east of Diboll. Construction began in spring 2020 and is scheduled for completion in summer 2025, weather permitting.
- **US 59 Upgrade Moffett Rd to SH 103 (Under Construction)** – involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled-access roadway by adding frontage roads. Construction began in 2021 and will be complete spring 2025, weather permitting.
- **US 59 Upgrade Redland (Under Construction)** – involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled-access roadway by adding frontage roads between SL 287 and FM 2021. Construction began late in 2022 and is scheduled for completion in fall 2026, weather permitting.
- **US 59 Corrigan Relief Route (Under Construction)** – involves a new location controlled-access roadway, west of Corrigan. Construction began in fall 2022 and is scheduled for completion in summer 2026, weather permitting.
- **US 59 Upgrade Shepherd to Cleveland (Under Construction)** – involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled-access roadway by adding frontage roads between FM 2914 and SL 573. Construction began in 2023 and is scheduled for completion in spring 2027.
- **US 59/US 259 North Nacogdoches Interchange (Schematic)** – involves upgrading US 59 to a controlled-access roadway from Stallings Drive/SL 224 to 1.3 miles north of reconstructing the US 59/US 259 interchange and adding new frontage roads. ROW mapping is underway and acquisitions began in winter 2024. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2029.
- **US 59 Upgrade to Shepherd to Trinity River (Schematic)** – involves upgrading existing US 59 to a controlled-access roadway by adding frontage roads between FM 223 to just north of the Trinity River. ROW mapping is underway and acquisitions will begin this year. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2029.
- **US 59 Upgrade North Livingston (Schematic)** – involves reconstructing the US 59/US 190 interchange and reconstructing US 59 main lanes and frontage roads from just south of US 190 to SL 116. TxDOT is currently working on the development of the schematic. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2032.
- **US 59 Upgrade South Livingston (Feasibility)** – 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. This project currently does not have construction funding identified.

Livingston Area Office

LIVINGSTON AREA OFFICE - Polk, San Jacinto and Trinity Counties

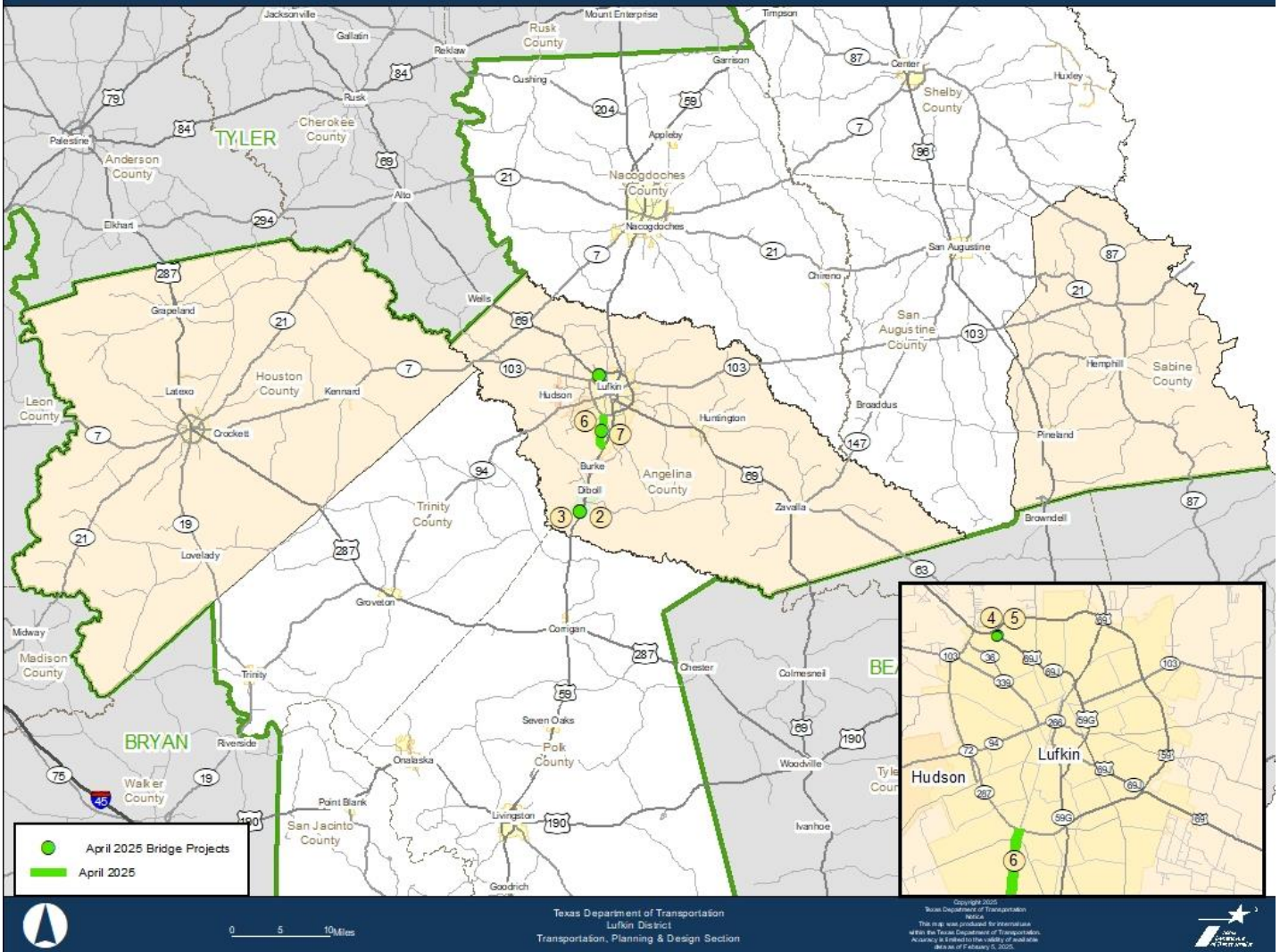


UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Project Number	County	Highway	Description of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
0403-01-050	San Jacinto	SH 156	Replace Bridge and Approaches (BSSP – Higher Risk)	\$1,375,000.00	1

Lufkin Area Office

LUFKIN AREA OFFICE - Angelina, Houston and Sabine Counties



UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

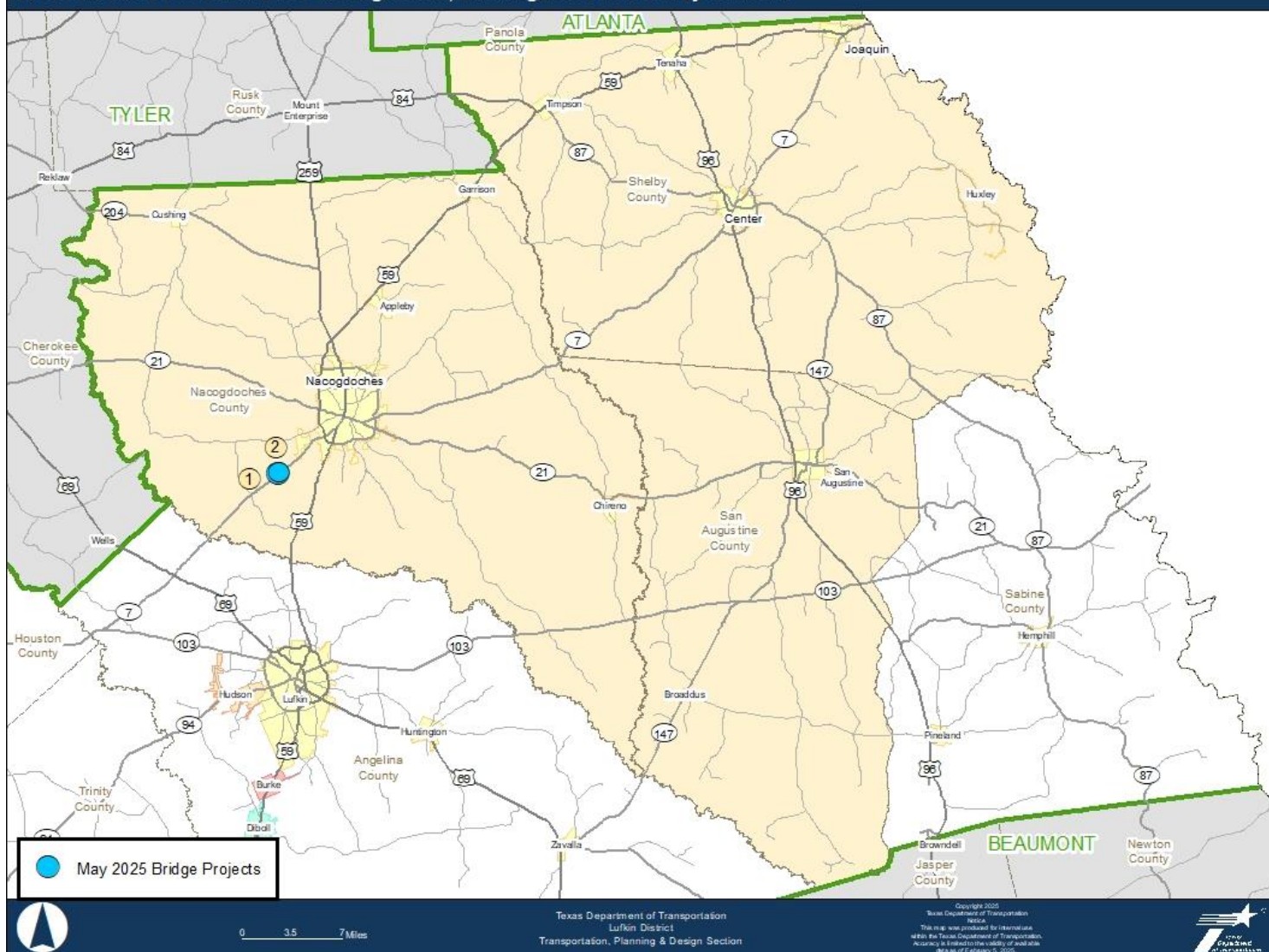
Project Number	County	Highway	Description of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
0911-00-115	Angelina	VARIOUS*	Bridge Repair Maintenance	\$538,461.54	1
0176-03-142	Angelina	US 59	Concrete repair, Joint repair, and Erosion repair - BMIP	\$75,000.00	2
0176-03-143	Angelina	US 59	Concrete repair, Joint repair, and Erosion repair - BMIP	\$100,000.00	3
0199-08-025	Angelina	BU 69J	Clean and Paint bridge, Replace rocker bearings, Repair joints and Concrete repair - BMIP	\$400,000.00	4
0199-08-026	Angelina	BU 69-J	Clean and Paint bridge, Replace rocker bearings, Repair joints and Concrete repair - BMIP	\$400,000.00	5
0176-08-022	Angelina	FM 324	Reconstruct Existing Pavement	\$3,615,384.62	6
0176-08-026	Angelina	FM 324	Replace Bridge and Approaches	\$24,856,481.00	7
0911-00-153	Angelina	VARIOUS*	Culvert Repairs Districtwide	\$1,000,000.00	8

*PROJECT NOT MAPPED

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

Nacogdoches Area Office

NACOGDOCHES AREA OFFICE - Nacogdoches, San Augustine and Shelby Counties



UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Project Number	County	Highway	Description of Work	Estimated Cost	ID
0553-03-034	Nacogdoches	SH 7	Replace Bridge and Approaches	\$28,935.00	1
0911-08-060	Nacogdoches	Spanish Bluff Rd	Replace Bridge and Approaches	\$30,974.50	2

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

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