



TxDOT ROW

UTILITY WEEK

Partners in Coordination

Utility Week 2024

Sonesta Bee Cave Austin Hill Country

The banner features a central graphic of a bundle of glowing orange and yellow fibers, resembling a fiber optic cable or a bundle of rebar, set against a vibrant red background. The fibers are flanked by two dark blue cylindrical shapes, suggesting a cable or pipe. The text is overlaid on this graphic.

TxDOT ROW

UTILITY WEEK

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Day 1 – Monday, December 2, 2024 – Afternoon General Session and Round Table Meetings

Day 2 – Tuesday, December 3, 2024 – Morning General Session, Afternoon Breakout Sessions

Day 3 – Wednesday, December 4, 2024 – Morning General Session, Afternoon Breakout Sessions

**Day 4 – Thursday, December 5, 2024 – Morning General Session, District Showcase Walkthrough,
Conference Townhall Meeting**

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UTILITY WEEK

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Download the Cvent app for
live agendas and other
conference updates.

Time	Topic	Speaker
10:00AM – 12:00 PM	Vendor and TxDOT District Showcase Set-Up	
1:30PM – 4:30PM	<i>Registration and Check-In</i>	
2:00PM – 2:15PM	Conference Welcome & Safety Message	Wayne Robinson Juan Barron (Safety)
2:15PM – 2:45PM	Ethics – Combatting Fraud, Waste & Abuse in TxDOT Utility Relocations	Anthony Thomas
2:45PM – 3:00PM	<i>Networking Break</i>	
3:00PM – 4:30PM	TxDOT Round Table Meeting	Leo Tovar Hosting
3:00PM – 4:30PM	Consultant Round Table Meeting	Aimee Trawick Hosting
4:30PM	<i>Adjourn</i>	
4:30PM – 5:00PM	UESI Leadership Meeting	Jesse Cooper Hosting

Time	Topic	Speaker
7:30AM – 8:00AM	<i>Registration and Check-In</i>	
8:00AM – 8:15AM	Conference Housekeeping & Safety Message	Wayne Robinson Juan Barron (Safety)
8:15AM – 8:30AM	Conference Welcome	Kyle Madsen
8:30AM – 9:45AM	811 Presentation	Tina Sanders
9:45AM – 10:00AM	<i>Networking Break</i>	
10:00AM – 10:30AM	State of Right-of-Way Update	Greg Faber
10:30AM – 11:00AM	Updates from the Austin District	Tucker Ferguson
11:00AM – 12:00PM	District Showcase – Day 1 Houston, San Antonio, Amarillo, Beaumont, Brownwood	Leo Tovar MC for Districts
12:00PM – 1:30PM	<i>Lunch</i>	

	Track 1 Advancements in Utility Technologies	Track 2 Back to the Basics	Track 3 UESI
Time	Session 1	Session 1	Session 1
1:30PM - 2:15PM	UAS Drones Presenter: Sergio Roman	SUA Training/Workshop Presenter: Paul Fierro	Process Betterment Linear vs. Concurrent, Design and SUE
2:15PM - 2:30PM	Networking Break		
Time	Session 2	Session 2	Session 2
2:30PM - 3:15PM	Project Digital Delivery Presenter: Adrian Martinez	Payments Training & Workshop Presenters: Shereen McKenzie & Laura Bellard	Conflict Identification & Resolution
3:15PM - 3:30PM	Networking Break		
Time	Session 3	Session 3	Session 3
3:30PM - 4:15PM	Laredo District Digital Project Presenter: Kenneth Duncan	Project Overview Presenters: Billy O'Dell & Dakota Smith, Lambstar and Pamela Sherman, AMA Dist.	Quality Control - Best Practices for SUE & Survey
4:15PM	Adjourn		
5:00PM - 7:30PM	Networking Opportunity to immediately follow - 6 th floor lounge		

Time	Topic	Speaker
7:30AM – 8:00AM	<i>Registration and Check-In</i>	
8:00AM – 8:15AM	Conference Housekeeping & Safety Message	Juan Barron (Safety) Wayne Robinson
8:15AM – 9:00AM	State of UPS	Wayne Robinson
9:00AM – 9:30AM	Active Research: Develop & Update Methodology for Calculation of Reimbursement Levels for Utility Relocations	Katelyn Kasberg Cesar Quiroga
9:30AM - 10:00AM	<i>Networking Break</i>	
10:00AM – 10:30AM	Commercial Sign Section Update	Wendy Knox
10:30AM – 11:00AM	National Utility Initiatives & Topics	Jesse Cooper
11:00AM – 12:00PM	District Showcase – Day 2 Corpus Christi, El Paso, Laredo, Lubbock, Lufkin	Leo Tovar MC for Districts
12:00PM – 1:30PM	<i>Lunch</i>	

	Track 1 Utilities by Others	Track 2 Broadband	Track 3 UESI
Time	Session 1	Session 1	Session 1
1:30PM - 2:15PM	Utilities in Maintenance Presenter: Mark Johnson	Texas Broadband Development Office (BDO) – Closing the Digital Divide Presenters: Andrea Pacheco & Lauren Weber	Relocations, Monitoring & Verification, Inspection
2:15PM - 2:30PM	<i>Networking Break</i>		
Time	Session 2	Session 2	Session 2
2:30PM - 3:15PM	Utilities and Traffic Safety Presenter: Harsh Doshy	TxDOT Broadband Program Updates Presenter: Cristy Burch	Construction Management Plans
3:15PM - 3:30PM	<i>Networking Break</i>		
Time	Session 3	Session 3	Session 3
3:30PM - 4:15PM	RTI Presenter: Darrin Jensen	Broadband Coordination Roundtable MC: Sarah Wegenast	ASCE #75
4:15PM	<i>Adjourn</i>		

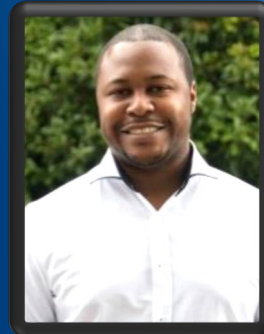
Time	Topic	Speaker
7:30AM – 8:00AM	<i>Registration and Check-In</i>	
8:00AM – 8:05AM	Safety Message	Justin Braudrick
8:05AM – 10:00AM	RULIS and Right-of-Way Application's Helpdesk - Talk Show	MC: Justin Braudrick
10:00AM - 10:30AM	<i>Networking Break</i>	
10:30AM - 11:00AM	Material Certifications & Test Reports – CMC Steel Texas	Jason Dinscore
11:00AM – 12:00PM	District Showcase – Day 3 Odessa, Pharr, Tyler, Yoakum, Atlanta	Leo Tovar MC for Districts
12:00PM – 1:30PM	<i>Lunch</i>	
1:30PM – 2:00PM	Right-of-Way Conversation	Greg Faber & Wayne Robinson
2:00PM – 2:15PM	<i>Networking Break</i>	
2:15PM – 2:45PM	TxDOT District Showcase Walk-through	
2:45PM – 3:30PM	Conference Townhall Meeting	Wayne Robinson
3:30PM	<i>Adjourn</i>	



Wayne Robinson
UPS Director



Corinna Clark,
Lead ROW Utility
Specialist



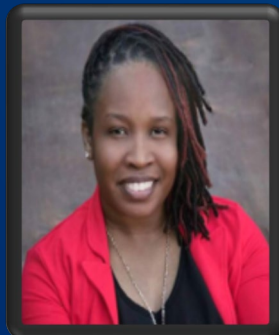
Russell Johnson,
Lead Utility Portfolio
Coordinator



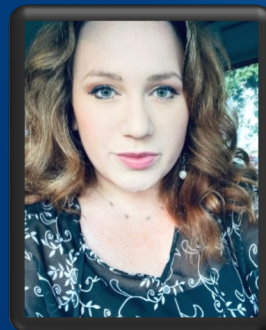
Mak Saeedi,
ROW Utility Specialist



Laura Bellard
Utility Portfolio Coordinator



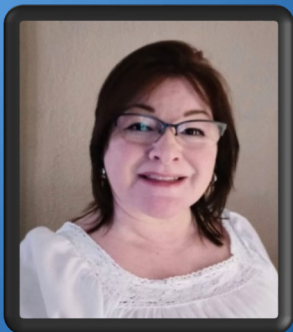
Shereen McKenzie
Utility Portfolio Coordinator



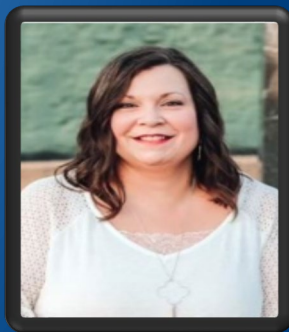
Sarah Wegenast,
Utility Auditor



Tammy Sanders,
Utility Auditor



Hazel Zepeda
ROW Utility Specialist



Christina Melder
ROW Utility Specialist



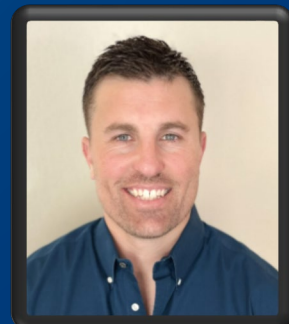
Paul Fierro
ROW Utility Specialist



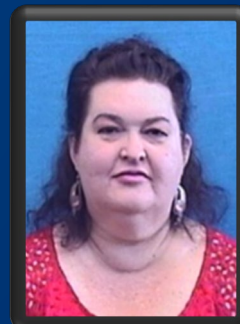
Leonel "Leo" Tovar
ROW Utility Specialist



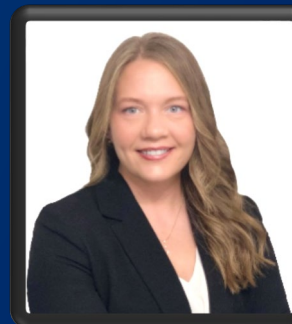
Juan Barron
ROW Utility Specialist



Justin Braudrick
Utility Portfolio Coordinator



April Dow
Utility Portfolio Coordinator








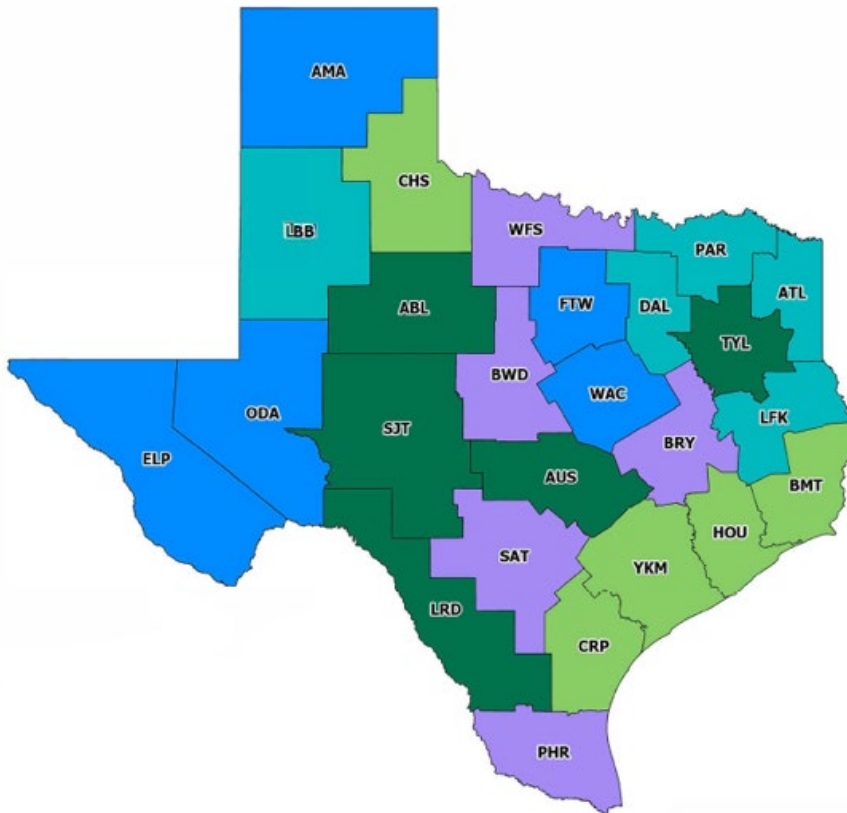
Mary O'Con
Utility Portfolio Coordinator

Utility Specialist District Assignments as of 08/2023

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Specialist Assignment

	Hazel Zepeda - Hazel.Zepeda@txdot.gov
	Paul Fierro - Paul.Fierro@txdot.gov
	Chrissy Melder - Christina.Melder@txdot.gov
	Leo Tovar - Leonel.Tovar@txdot.gov
	Juan Barron - Juan.Barron@txdot.gov



District

Abilene
Amarillo
Atlanta
Austin
Beaumont
Brownwood
Bryan
Childress
Corpus Christi
Dallas
El Paso
Fort Worth
Houston
Laredo
Lubbock
Lufkin
Odessa
Paris
Pharr
San Angelo
San Antonio
Tyler
Waco
Wichita Falls
Yoakum

Specialist

Juan Barron
Paul Fierro
Chrissy Melder
Juan Barron
Leo Tovar
Hazel Zepeda
Hazel Zepeda
Leo Tovar
Leo Tovar
Chrissy Melder
Paul Fierro
Paul Fierro
Leo Tovar
Juan Barron
Chrissy Melder
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Paul Fierro
Chrissy Melder
Hazel Zepeda
Juan Barron
Hazel Zepeda
Juan Barron
Paul Fierro
Hazel Zepeda
Leo Tovar

Utility Portfolio Section, ROW Division

Title

Utility Portfolio Section Director
Lead Utility Specialist
Lead Utility Portfolio Coordinator
ROW Utility Specialist
ROW Utility Specialist
ROW Utility Specialist
ROW Utility Specialist
ROW Utility Specialist
ROW Utility Specialist
Utility Portfolio Coordinator
Utility Portfolio Coordinator
Utility Portfolio Coordinator
Utility Portfolio Coordinator
Utility Auditor
Utility Auditor

Name

Wayne Robinson
Corinna Clark
Russell Johnson
Chrissy Melder
Hazel Zepeda
Juan Barron
Leo Tovar
Mak Saeedi
Paul Fierro
April Dow
Justin Braudrick
Laura Bellard
Mary O'Con
Shereen McKenzie
Sarah Wegenast
Tammy Sanders

Email

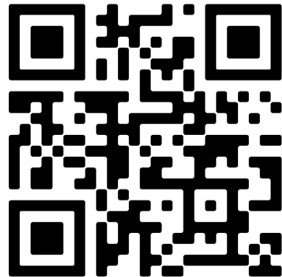
Wayne.Robinson@txdot.gov
Corinna.Clark@txdot.gov
Russell.Johnson@txdot.gov
Christina.Melder@txdot.gov
Hazel.Zepeda@txdot.gov
Juan.Barron@txdot.gov
Leonel.Tovar@txdot.gov
Mak.Saeedi@txdot.gov
Paul.Fierro@txdot.gov
April.Dow@txdot.gov
Justin.Braudrick@txdot.gov
Laura.Bellard@txdot.gov
Mary.OCon@txdot.gov
Shereen.McKenzie@txdot.gov
Sarah.Wegenast@txdot.gov
Tammy.Sanders@txdot.gov

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TxDOT Utility District & Division Contact Web Map



SCAN ME



Meet the UPS Team

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- **Name:** Paul Fierro
- **Title:** ROW Utility Specialist
- **First position at TxDOT:** Surveyor
- **Years with TxDOT:** 29 years
- **United States Marine Corps Veteran:** 5 yrs.
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I am third generation TxDOT, my Grandfather retired from the San Angelo District Maintenance Office with 31 yrs., My father retired from the Fort Worth District ROW/Utility Section with 32 yrs.



- **Name:** Leonel (Leo) Tovar
- **Title:** ROW Utility Specialist
- **First position at TxDOT:** Corpus Christi District UC
- **Years with TxDOT:** 6 years
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I live in Corpus Christi and love to fish the various bodies of water surrounding Corpus Christi.



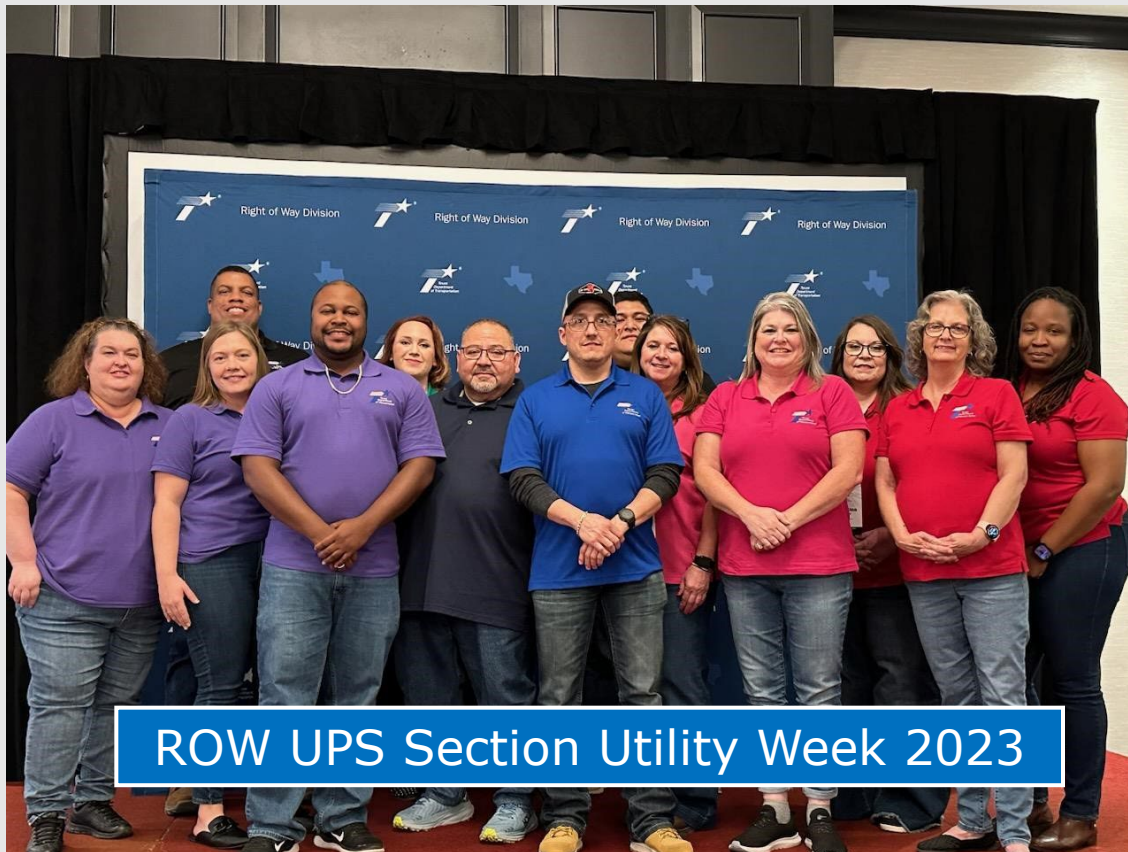


Meet the UPS Team

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- **Name:** Russell Johnson
- **Title:** Lead ROW Utility Portfolio Coordinator
- **First position at TxDOT:** Managing the Portfolio of the Utility Portfolio Section
- **Years with TxDOT:** 7 years
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I am a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated and Ancient and Accepted Free Masons Rishon Lodge #1



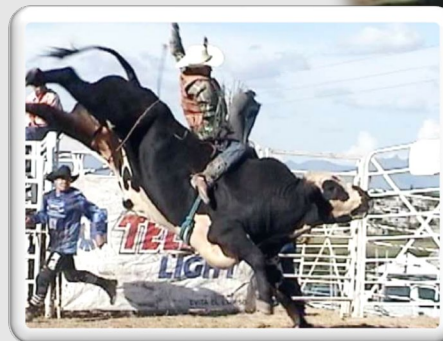


- **Name:** April Dow
- **Title:** ROW Utility Portfolio Coordinator
- **First position at TxDOT:** Utility Permit Coordinator for the Houston District
- **Years with TxDOT:** almost 7 years
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I LOVE BLACK CATS



My Fur Baby Midnight

- **Name:** Juan Antonio Barrón
- **Title:** ROW Utility Specialist
- **First position at TxDOT:** Utility Coordinator for the Laredo District
- **Years with TxDOT:** 6 years
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I played a lot of sports as a kid and baseball was my passion back then, but bull riding became my passion when I discovered it at around 15 yrs old, I started riding bulls at 17 and did it for around 15 yrs. I like fishing and flying my drone. Today I enjoy having a BBQ with family and friends.





ROW UPS Section Utility Week 2023

Meet the UPS Team

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- **Name:** Justin Braudrick
- **Title:** ROW Utility Portfolio Coordinator, RULIS Subject Matter Expert (SME)
- **First position at TxDOT:** Signal Technician for the Dallas District
- **Years with TxDOT:** 9 ½ years
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I live on a Horse Performance Ranch in Scurry, Tx. I compete in Calf Roping and Team Roping jackpots and rodeos.





Meet the UPS Team

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ROW UPS Section Team Building-
Safety Banquet 2024

Meet the UPS Team

Connecting you with Texas.

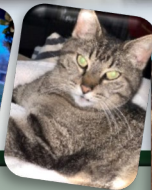
- **Name:** Christina (Chrissy) Melder
- **Title:** ROW Utility Specialist
- **First position at TxDOT:** Clerk I in the Atlanta District, as a High School (DECA) Student during my Senior year
- **Years with TxDOT:** 29 years
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I love to spend time with my family, love bluebonnets, and I baked and decorated specialty cakes as a hobby for over 20 years, **AND** I'm going to be a **Lolli**.



Meet the UPS Team

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- **Name:** Corinna Clark
- **Title:** Lead ROW Utility Specialist
- **First position at TxDOT:** Maintenance Office Tech in the Paris District
- **Years with TxDOT:** 32
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I love animals, flowers, and the outdoors. I became a crazy old bird lady during the pandemic.



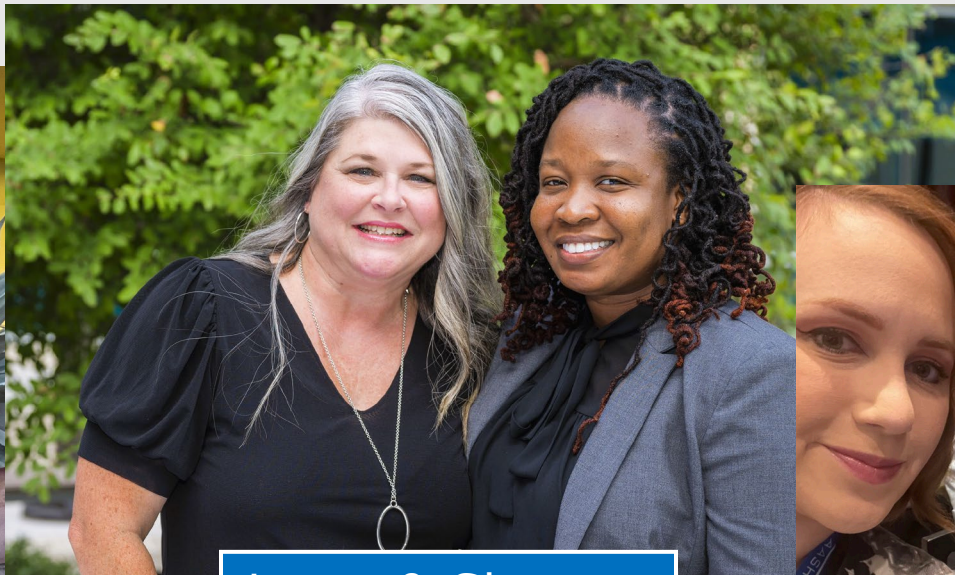


Meet the UPS Team

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Corinna



Laura & Shereen



Sarah & Tammy

- **Name:** Tammy Sanders
- **Title:** Utility Auditor II
- **First position at TxDOT:** Construction Recordkeeper III in the Abilene District
- **Years with TxDOT:** 10 years
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I love spending time at the beach and with my family. I love dancing and the outdoors.



Meet the UPS Team

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- **Name:** Hazel Zepeda
- **Title:** ROW Utility Specialist
- **First position at TxDOT:** Pharr District Design Section
- **Years with TxDOT:** 23 years
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I like to travel with my family.





ROW UPS Section Team Building-
Safety Banquet 2024

- **Name:** Mary O'Con
- **Title:** ROW Utility Portfolio Coordinator
- **First position at TxDOT:** ROW Division Utility Section
- **Years with TxDOT:** 1 year
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I love watching my son's Baseball games and dirt bike racing. I like to shop, play Bunco, and collect teacups.





ROW UPS Section Team Building- Safety Banquet 2024

- **Name:** Laura Bellard
- **Title:** ROW Utility Portfolio Coordinator
- **First position at TxDOT:**
Office Manager, Beaumont District TPD
- **Years with TxDOT:** 9 years
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I have had several hobbies turn into side businesses throughout the years- videography, photography, social media promotions, and pottery painting! I enjoy traveling and spending time with my family at our camp on Lake Sam Rayburn.



- **Name:** Wayne Robinson
- **Title:** Utility Portfolio Section Director
- **First position at TxDOT:** ROW Agent I in the Mapping, Survey & Utility (MSU) Section in the ROW Division
- **Years with TxDOT:** 17 years
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I am a part-time farmer.





- **Name:** Shereen McKenzie
- **Title:** ROW Utility Portfolio Coordinator
- **First position at TxDOT:** ROW Division Utility Section
- **Years with TxDOT:** 1.5 years
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** I was born in Jamaica. I am a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta. I love to travel and attend concerts.



Meet the UPS Team

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- **Name:** Sarah Wegenast
- **Title:** Utility Auditor II
- **First position at TxDOT:** Waco District Construction Auditor
- **Years with TxDOT:** 2.5 years
- **Fun Interesting Fact:** Prior to TxDOT, I worked at TTI running crash tests. I enjoy 'mommin', training and teaching Brazilian jiu-jitsu, good coffee, and riding Harley's.





Networking Utility Week 2023



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- **Name:** Mak Saeedi
 - **Title:** ROW Utility Specialist
 - **First position at TxDOT:** Utility Permit Coordinator in the Dallas District
 - **Years with TxDOT:** 24 years

