



Interstate 27 (I-27) Advisory Committee Meeting #10

April 9, 2026 | 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | [Join Online](#)

Hotel Settles | 200 East Third Street, Big Spring, TX 79720

Senate Bill 1474 amended with House Bill 2775 established the I-27 Advisory Committee to:
Provide the department with information on the concerns and interests along the I-27 Corridor;
and Advise the department on transportation improvements impacting the I-27 Corridor.

Meeting Agenda

8:30-9:00 a.m.

Coffee and Networking

Virtual members can [join online](#) at 9:00 a.m.

9:00-9:10 a.m.

Welcome, Opening Remarks



Honorable Curtis Parrish
I-27 Advisory Committee Chair, Judge, Lubbock County



Commissioner Alvin New
Texas Transportation Commission

9:10 - 9:15 a.m.

New Members

Honorable Curtis Parrish
I-27 Advisory Committee Chair

Introduce I-27 Advisory Committee new members.

9:15 - 9:20 a.m.

Roll Call and Safety Minute

Aslan Zarafshan, Professional Engineer (P.E.), Project Management Professional (PMP), Transportation Engineer, Transportation Planning and Programming Division (TP&D), Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)

Honorable Curtis Parrish, I-27 Advisory Committee Chair



Committee Chair
Curtis Parrish
Lubbock County



Committee Vice-Chair
Mayor Lori Blong
City of Midland



Mayor
Dr. Victor D. Trevino Alvaro "Al" Arreola
City of Laredo



Mayor
"Al" Arreola
City of Del Rio



Mayor
Tom Thompson
City of San Angelo



Mayor
Cal Hendrick
City of Odessa



Mayor
Robert Moore
City of Big Spring



Mayor
Mark McBrayer
City of Lubbock



Mayor
Cole Stanley
City of Amarillo



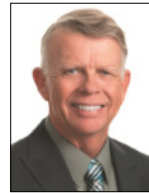
County Judge
Tano E. Tijerina
Webb County



County Judge
Lewis Owens
Val Verde County



County Judge
Charlie Bradley
Schleicher County



Commissioner
*Proxy
Rick Bacon
Tom Green County



County Judge
Dustin Fawcett
Ector County



County Judge
Terry Johnson
Midland County



County Judge
Randy Johnson
Howard County



County Judge
Nancy Tanner
Potter County



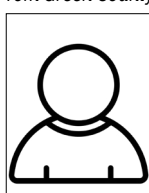
County Judge
Rowdy Rhoades
Moore County



County Judge
Alicia Law
Sherman County



County Judge
Wes Ritchey
Dallam County



Economic Development Member
To be Determined (TBD)
Segment 3



Executive Director
Victoria Vara
Segment 2: Sonora Economic Development Corporation



President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
John Osborne
Segment 1: Lubbock Economic Development Alliance



Executive Vice President
Gerry Schwebel
International Bank of Commerce



Director of Road Safety
*Proxy
Debra Richmond
Permian Strategic Partnership



Board Member, County Commissioner
Dee Vaughan
Texas Corn Producers

Meeting Agenda

9:20 - 9:50 a.m.

Roundtable: Member Updates and State of the I-27 Corridor

I-27 Advisory Committee Members

Advisory Committee Members share what's energizing them in their region about I-27.

9:50 - 10:00 a.m.

I-27 Implementation Plan Summary of Progress

Lorena Echeverria de Misi, P.E.,

Portfolio Planning Engineer, Transportation Planning and Programming Division, TxDOT

Presentation will summarize progress on the corridor in terms of project development and funding investments authorized by the 2026 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) and an update on I-27 designation.

10:00- 10:45 a.m.

I-27 Implementation Plan Project Updates and What's Next for I-27 Designation

Epigmenio Gonzalez P.E.

Laredo District Engineer, TxDOT

Russell Pehl, P.E.

Director of TP&D San Angelo District, TxDOT

Gabriel Ramirez, P.E.

Director of TP&D Odessa District, TxDOT

Anthony Boucher, P.E.

Director of TP&D Abilene District, TxDOT

Shelley Harris, P.E.

Director of TP&D Lubbock District, TxDOT

Brandon Vinson, P.E.

Amarillo District Design Engineer, TxDOT

I-27 District updates will focus on added-capacity projects, project identification, and sequencing to upgrade the corridor to interstate standards. Updates on new authorizations through the 2026 UTP will also be provided.

10:45 - 11:00 a.m.

Truck Parking Implementation

Leah Casey, Masters of Public Leadership (MPL), PMP

Freight Planner, Transportation Planning and Programming Division, TxDOT

Review of TxDOT process for implementing truck parking, and update on potential truck parking locations along the I-27 corridor.

11:00 - 11:25 a.m.

TxDOT Innovation: The Cooperative and Automated Transportation Program (CAT)

Nicole Coronado, P.E.

Transportation Engineer, Strategic Initiatives and Innovation Division, TxDOT

Review of TxDOT's initiative to prepare the state's infrastructure for the future of mobility.

11:25 - 11:30 a.m.

Closing Remarks

Honorable Curtis Parrish

Advisory Committee Chair

Outstanding issues and summary of action items and future meetings or recommended topics.

11:30 a.m.

Adjourn

About I-27 Advisory Committee Leadership



Honorable Curtis Parrish

Judge, Lubbock County, Advisory Committee Chair

Curtis Parrish was elected Lubbock County Judge in 2018, serving as the probate, guardianship and mental health judge for Lubbock County, as well as administrative duties with the Commissioners Court. Judge Parrish has always been active in the Lubbock community, having worked with and served on the boards of several organizations, including Civic Lubbock, Inc., Lubbock United Neighborhood Association and The Salvation Army of Lubbock. He also had an active part in establishing the Buddy Holly Museum and was an integral part of the Buddy Holly Walk of Fame for many years.



Mayor Lori Blong

Mayor, City of Midland, Advisory Committee Vice-Chair

Lori Blong was elected City of Midland Mayor in November 2022, becoming the first woman to serve as the city's mayor. She previously represented District 4 on the city council for over three years and has served as mayor pro tempore as well as council liaison for the Midland Development Corporation. She is also a member of Congressman August Pfluger's Energy Task Force and the Permian Basin Petroleum Association board, and is a founding member of the Midland Quality of Place Conservancy. Early in her career, Mayor Blong was a school teacher and later co-founded Octane Energy with her husband in 2013.

About Texas Transportation Commission



Alejandro "Alex" G. Meade III

Texas Transportation Commissioner

Alex Meade previously served as the city manager of Pharr, where he managed a \$200 million budget and almost 700 employees. He also has served as the chief executive officer of the Mission Economic Development Corporation. Meade is a member of the Texas Transportation Commission, which oversees statewide activities of the Texas Department of Transportation. Meade, who lives in Mission, was appointed by Governor Abbott on March 21, 2023.



Alvin New

Texas Transportation Commissioner

Alvin New is a business investor, rancher and former San Angelo Mayor. He is a former member of the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce Board and the Concho Valley Center Economic Development Board. New is a member of the Texas Transportation Commission, which oversees statewide activities of the Texas Department of Transportation. New, who lives in San Angelo, was reappointed by Governor Abbott on April 8, 2021.

About TxDOT Leadership



Caroline Mays, American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)

Director of Planning and Modal Programs

Caroline is a senior leader in the Texas Department of Transportation with over 25 years of experience in multimodal transportation planning, programming, policy, project development, and implementation at various levels. She currently serves as the Director of Planning and Modal Programs where she oversees transportation planning activities across multiple divisions.



Humberto "Tito" Gonzalez, Jr., P.E.

Division Director, Transportation Planning and Programming Division

Tito has over 20 years of experience and currently serves as the TxDOT Director of the Transportation Planning and Programming Division. As the Transportation Planning and Programming (TPP) Division Director, Tito manages statewide planning activities such as development of the Unified Transportation Program, Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, and Corridor, Freight, and Border Planning.



Andrew Canon

Freight, Trade, and Connectivity Section Director

Andrew has over 25 years of experience. He started as the Freight, Trade, and Connectivity Section Director in November 2023. He directs and manages a wide range of projects including the Statewide Freight Mobility Plan, corridor planning projects, and international trade and transportation planning studies. From 2004 to 2023, he served as Executive Director of the Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization, and then the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization.



Lorena Echeverria de Misi, P.E.

Portfolio Planning Engineer

Lorena has over 25 years of experience in the private and public sectors. Her experience includes planning, design, management, and construction of urban and rural transportation projects. Prior to becoming Portfolio Planning Engineer, she was Manager of the TxDOT TPP Division Corridor Planning Branch, she held different positions at the Pharr, San Antonio, and Austin Districts, as well as in the Professional Engineering Procurement Services (PEPS) Division.

About TxDOT Leadership



Epigmenio Gonzalez P.E.

District Engineer, Laredo District

Epigmenio has over 25 years of experience with TxDOT. He served as the Director of Transportation Operations for the Pharr District, where he helped modernize operations. Epigmenio currently oversees the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance in the Laredo District. Epigmenio began his current role as Laredo District Engineer in November 2022.



Chris Cowen, P.E.

District Engineer, San Angelo District

Chris has over 25 years of experience with TxDOT. He has held several positions assisting with the design, construction, and maintenance operations. In 2011, he served as the Director of Construction for the Bryan District where he oversaw the construction program with contracts totaling more than \$500 million. Chris began his current role as San Angelo District Engineer in October 2020.



Saul Romero, P.E.

District Engineer, Odessa District

Saul has over 15 years of experience with TxDOT and was promoted to Odessa District Director of Construction in 2023, where he managed \$1.8 billion in active projects and consultant oversight. He was appointed District Engineer for the Odessa District in November 2025.



Jeremy Dearing, P.E.

District Engineer, Abilene District

Jeremy has over 25 years of experience with TxDOT and was appointed as the Director of Transportation Operations for the Lubbock District in February 2019 to help improve the safety communications for district Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) networks, device monitoring systems for signal, ITS, illumination systems, and identifying intersections for new innovative designs. Dearing has served on the statewide Safety Task Force. He was appointed District Engineer for the Abilene District in March 2025.



Steven Warren, P.E.

District Engineer, Lubbock District

Steven has over 25 years of experience with TxDOT. He was named the Director of Transportation Planning and Development in the Lubbock District overseeing all advance planning, environmental, right-of-way, utilities, and plan development. In 2012, he was honored with the Gibb Gilchrist Award in recognition of outstanding service in highway engineering to the State of Texas. He was named Lubbock District Engineer in August 2016.



Blair Johnson, P.E.

District Engineer, Amarillo District

Blair has over 20 years of experience with TxDOT. In his role as District Engineer, Blair oversees the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of 9,394 miles of roads and 840 bridges spread across 17,848 square miles in the Texas Panhandle. He was named Amarillo District Engineer in September of 2020.



About the I-27 Advisory Committee



Texas Governor Greg Abbott signed Senate Bill 1474 to **establish the I-27 Advisory Committee** on June 15, 2021. The Committee is required to meet at least twice per state fiscal year (September through August).

Established to

Provide the department with information on concerns and interests along the I-27 Corridor.

Advise the department on transportation improvements impacting the I-27 Corridor.

House Bill 2775

House Bill 2775 amends the I-27 Advisory Committee membership from 23 to 26 by adding one representative each from Schleicher County and Ector County, and one representative from the City of Odessa.

Composed of



12 County Representatives
County Representatives or a county official designated by the judge

- Committee Chair
Curtis Parrish
Lubbock County Judge
- Tano Tijerina**
Webb County Judge
- Lewis Owens**
Val Verde County Judge
- Charlie Bradley**
Schleicher County Judge
- Rick Bacon**
**Proxy*
Tom Green County Commissioner
- Dustin Fawcett**
Ector County Judge
- Terry Johnson**
Midland County Judge
- Randy Johnson**
Howard County Judge
- Nancy Tanner**
Potter County Judge
- Rowdy Rhoades**
Moore County Judge
- Alicia Law**
Sherman County Judge
- Wes Ritchey**
Dallam County Judge



8 Municipal Representatives
Mayors or a city manager/assistant city manager designated by the mayor

- Committee Vice-Chair
Lori Blong
Mayor of Midland
- Dr. Victor D. Trevino**
Mayor of Laredo
- Alvaro "Al" Arreola**
Mayor of Del Rio
- Tom Thompson**
Mayor of San Angelo
- Cal Hendrick**
Mayor of Odessa
- Robert Moore**
Mayor of Big Spring
- Mark McBrayer**
Mayor of Lubbock
- Cole Stanley**
Mayor of Amarillo



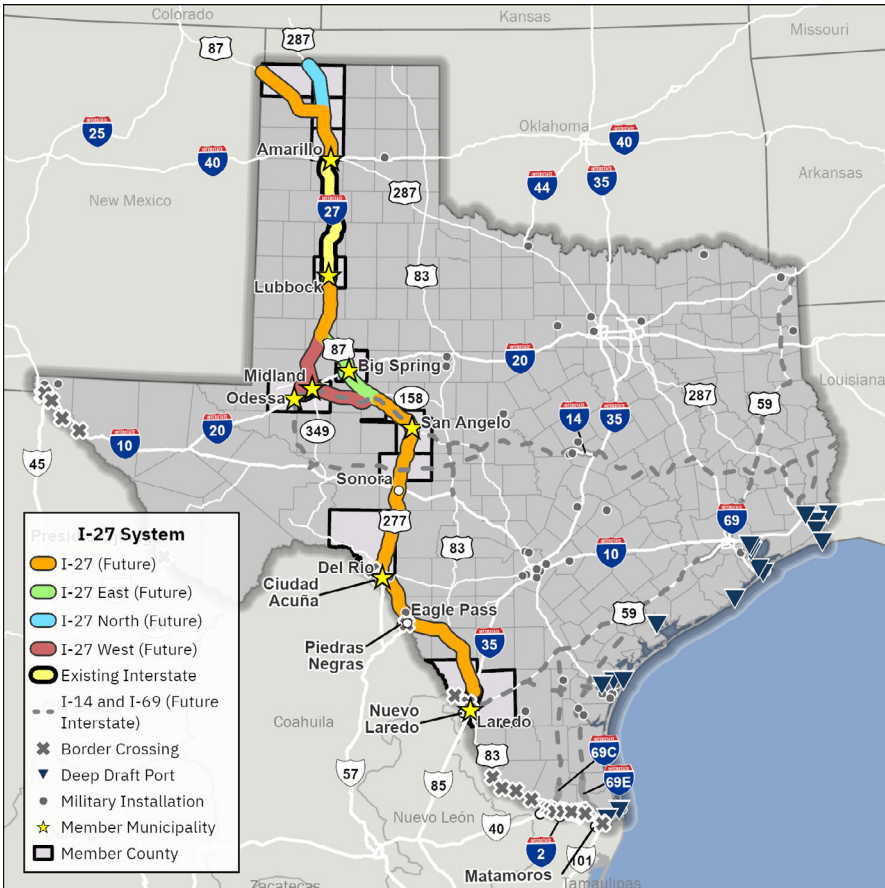
3 Economic Development Professionals
Members based on geographic segments established for the Ports-to-Plains Corridor Interstate Feasibility Study

- TBD**
Segment 3:
Economic Development
- Victoria Vara**
Segment 2: Sonora Economic Development Corporation
- John Osborne**
Segment 1: Lubbock Economic Development Alliance



3 Business Professionals
Members from the agriculture, international trade, and energy industries

- Gerry Schwebel**
International Bank of Commerce
- Debra Richmond**
**Proxy*
Permian Strategic Partnership
- Dee Vaughan**
Texas Corn Producers



Click the shield at the top of the page or scan the QR code to visit TxDOT's I-27 Advisory Committee webpage at: <https://www.txdot.gov/government/partnerships/i-27-advisory-committee.html>

ABOUT THE I-27 ADVISORY COMMITTEE
I-27 ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APRIL 2026