



I-35 Northeast Expansion Central CONSTRUCTION NEWS



June 2023: Issue 9

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The I-35 Northeast Expansion (NEX) Central project consists of construction of approximately 9.5 miles of elevated, non-tolled lanes from I-410 North to FM 3009. The elevated lanes will provide one high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane and two general purpose lanes in each direction. There will be direct connections to I-410 N and Loop 1604 W. Expected completion date is December 2027.

Safety Minute



Summer is a time for fun and adventure, but it is also a time when the roads can be particularly dangerous. The period between Memorial Day and Labor Day is known as the 100 deadliest days of summer, and it is important to take extra precautions to stay safe on the roads during this time. Here are some tips to help you stay safe while driving in Texas this summer.

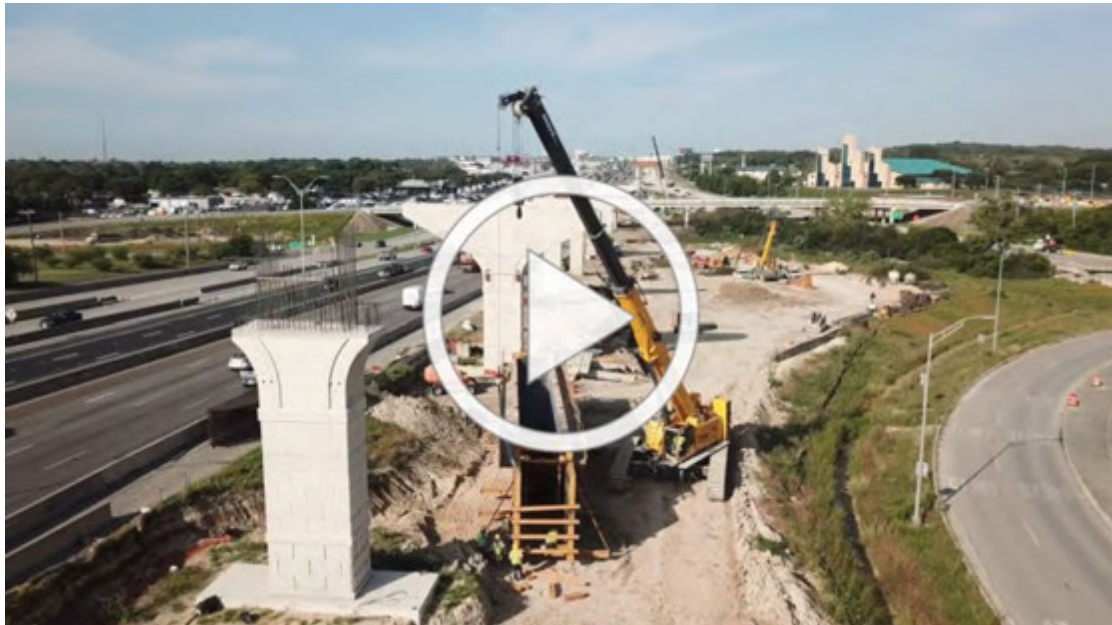
Always wear your seatbelt. This is the most important safety measure you can take while driving. According to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) data, Texas fell below the national average for seat belt use in 2021. Additionally in 2021, of the Texans who died in fatal crashes where restraint use was a known factor, 46 percent were reported as not restrained.

Avoid distracted driving. This includes texting, talking on the phone, eating, drinking, and anything else that takes your attention away from the road. Distracted driving causes one in 10 traffic fatalities and it is especially dangerous during the summer months when there are more people on the roads.

Finally, never drink and drive. Alcohol impairs your judgment and slows your reaction time, making it much more likely that you will be involved in an accident. In the 10-year period from 2012 to 2021, more than 37 percent of traffic fatalities in Texas involved drivers impaired by alcohol or drugs. If you plan on drinking, make sure to have a designated driver or use a ride-sharing service to get home safely. By following these tips, you can help ensure that you and your loved ones stay safe on the roads during the 100 deadliest days of summer.

#AlwaysSafeAlwaysReady

Construction Update



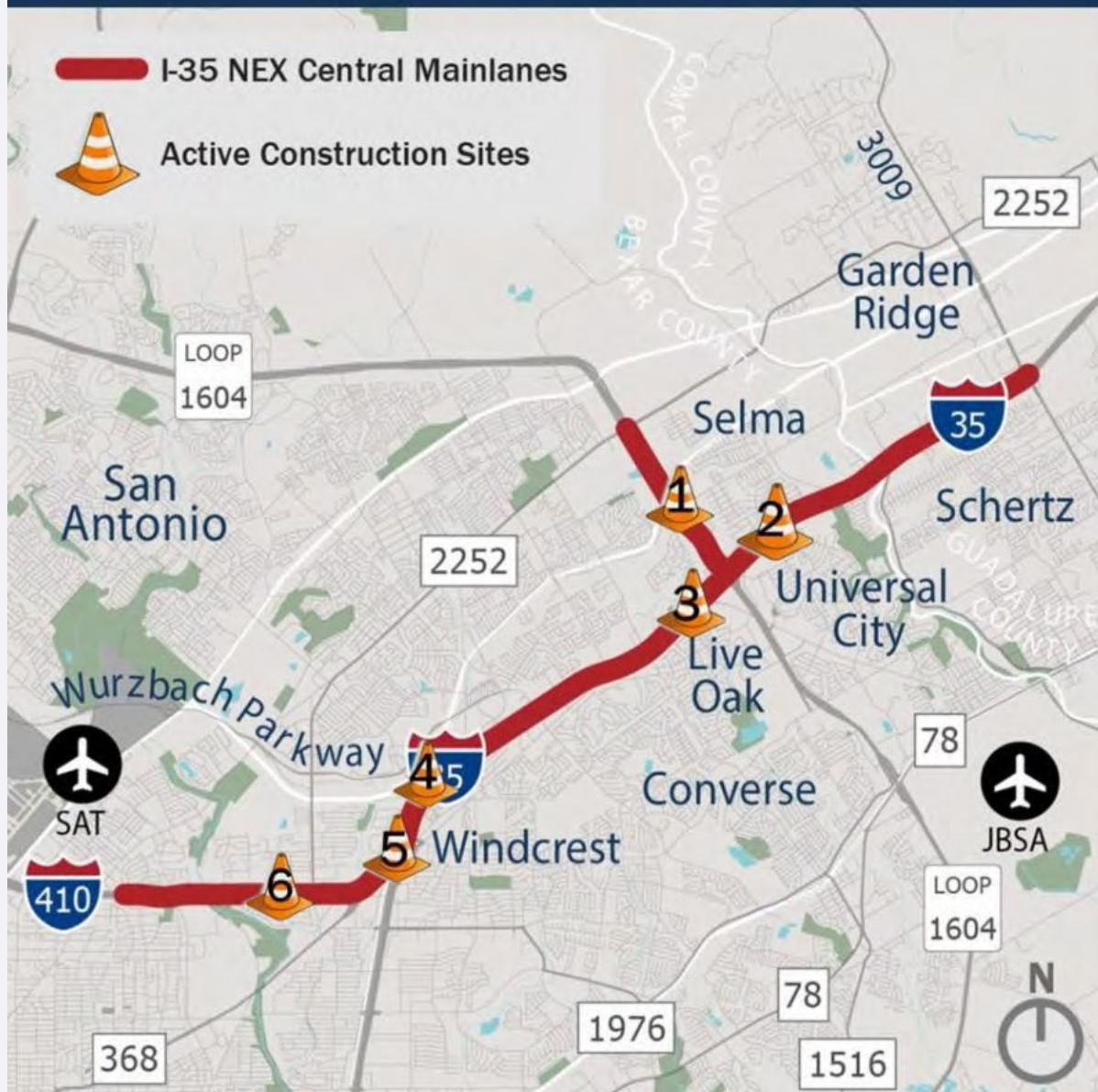
This video highlights the latest construction activities occurring on the I-35 NEX Central project

We are excited to share with you the progress being made on the I-35 NEX Central Project. This video spotlights the latest construction activities on I-35 on southbound and northbound I-35 in the area between Loop 1604 and Toepperwein Road. Caps are being prepared for concrete to be poured into them using cranes and more drilled shafts are almost ready to be transformed into columns on the northbound frontage road. So far, there are 23 columns completed and 12 bent caps completed in this section of the project.

Active Construction Sites

The map below highlights where active construction is currently taking place on I-35 NEX Central, indicated by the traffic cones. The active construction sites shown on the map below are intended to indicate major construction operations. You can view project information and lane closures at www.i35nex.com. Please note construction preparation work, including placement of barriers, is also ongoing within the limits of the project.

ACTIVE CONSTRUCTION SITES MAP



The construction cones on the map indicate where active construction is taking place now through July 2023.

1. Drilled shafts and column foundations work continues in the area of the I-35 and Loop 1604 interchange. Retaining wall construction is also taking place in that area.
2. Drilled shaft, bridge foundation work, and bent cap installation continues and frontage road widening continues on southbound I-35 near Forum Parkway.
3. Girder installations begin near Pat Booker Road and I-35 southbound. Bridge foundations, column work, soil nail walls, and temporary road widening continues from Judson Road to I-35 Access Road. Column and drilled shaft work on the northbound frontage road of I-35 near Toepperwein Road.

4. Long-term alternating lane closure on southbound frontage road of I-35 between Thousand Oaks Drive and Whirlwind Drive for roadway reconstruction, paving and drilled shaft work.
5. Column construction continues at the I-35 and I-410 interchange. Drilled shaft work north of Walzem Road on the northbound and southbound side of I-35.
6. Drilled shaft work continues in the area of I-410 from Perrin Creek to Perrin Beitel.

The Art of Engineering



The columns in the top-left and middle pane exhibit the Hill Country Region design theme. The columns in the bottom left and far-right pane are the Mission Region design theme.

There is much more than meets the eye when it comes to the columns and bridges along the I-35 NEX Central Project. In the San Antonio District, TxDOT has implemented design themes for infrastructure projects that reflect the area's unique cultural and historical heritage. These aesthetic accents include the use of decorative columns and caps, and are found in specific areas of San Antonio.

The bridges to the north and west of San Antonio outside of I-410 are known as the Hill Country Region Design theme. One of the most prominent design elements used in this region is the use of simple materials to express the historical architecture of Hill Country towns into the modern structures of the roadways. One example of that is the use of a chiseled stone finish and a rough stone finish on columns, bridges and retaining walls.

The other design theme that can be found in the I-35 NEX Central project around the I-410 area is known as the Mission Region theme. The major elements used in the Mission Region aesthetics are heavy, strong and richly textured materials that prominently reflect unique architecture of the historical San Antonio Missions. In the middle of the columns in this region there is an arch that is symbolic of the arches of the historical San Antonio Missions.

Contact Us

Questions or Comments

I-35 NEX Central Project
(726) 800-4809
i35nexcentral@txdot.gov

Public Information Office
7330 San Pedro Ave
Suite 600
San Antonio, TX 78216

Social Media

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Sign up for weekly lane closure notices and newsletters by emailing us at i35nexcentral@txdot.gov.

Project Information

www.i35nex.com

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I-35 NEX Central Public Information Office | 7330 San Pedro Ave, Suite 600, San Antonio, TX 78216

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