



I-35 Northeast Expansion Central CONSTRUCTION NEWS



October 2022: Issue 1

In this issue

- 1| Project Overview
- 2| Happening Now
- 3| Active Construction Sites
- 4| Groundbreaking Recap
- 4| Contact Us

The I-35 NEX Central project team is dedicated to keeping you informed on construction progress and traffic impacts. The majority of construction is currently being completed at night to reduce traffic impacts to the travelling public. To find major lane closures and alternate routes visit www.i35nex.com.



Project Overview

The I-35 Northeast Expansion (NEX) Central project consists of construction of approximately 9.5 miles of elevated, non-tolled lanes from I-410 N to FM 3009. The elevated lanes will provide one high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane and two general purpose lanes in each direction. The I-35 elevated lanes will provide direct connections to I-410 South, I-410 North, and Loop 1604 West. The project also includes construction necessary to transition the elevated lanes and connectors with the existing highways including revisions to ramps and frontage roads and accommodations for drainage, utilities, signs, and other highway improvements. This project is being completed through a partnership between the Texas

Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and Alamo NEX Construction.



**May
2022**

Groundbreaking
ceremony



**June
2022**

Start of construction



**February
2026**

Southbound
lanes open



**December
2027**

Expected completion

Happening Now

Geotechnical engineering is heavily utilized on this project. Geotechnical engineering is the science and mechanics of using soil and rock to understand what is beneath the ground surface. This work is significant to the I-35 NEX Central project because engineers need to know the characteristics of natural earth materials when designing the new elevated lanes being built between the existing highway and frontage roads. Results from this testing influences the design and materials used in construction. Engineers are continuing to sample and survey earth materials along the project to provide valuable information to the design and construction teams.



This is an interior photo of the first drill shaft on the I-35 NEX Central project demonstrating the layers of earth being drilled through.

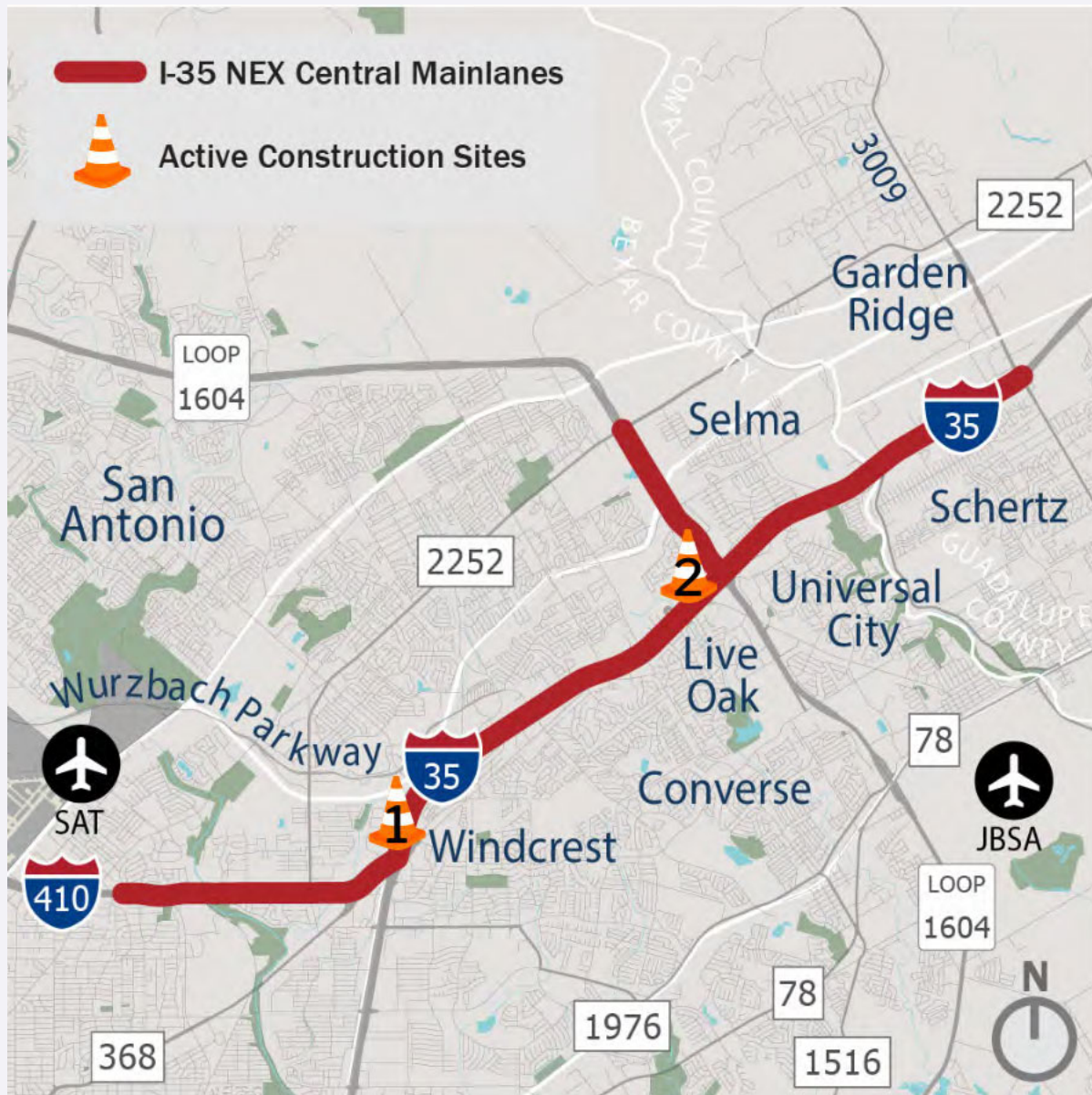


This is a photo of the first drill shaft completed on the I-35 NEX Central project.

The first of over 1,500 drilled shafts on the I-35 NEX Central project has been completed! Each drilled shaft acts as the base for a concrete column that will support the elevated lanes on the I-35 NEX Central project. This drilled shaft is located off southbound SH 218 (Pat Booker Road) and southbound I-35. This drilled shaft is over 60 feet deep, 8 feet wide and will utilize over 110 cubic yards of concrete. While this drilled shaft may sound large, the largest drilled shaft on this project is expected to be double this size at over 120 feet.

Active Construction Sites

The map below highlights where active construction is ongoing, indicated by the traffic cones. Please note construction preparation work, including placement of barriers, is ongoing within the limits of the project. The active construction sites below are intended to indicate major construction operations. We will continue to provide active construction updates to you throughout the project through newsletters and social media updates on our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages. Additionally, you can view project information and lane closures at www.i35nex.com.



1. Drill shafts are in progress in the area of southbound I-35 and SH 218 (Pat Booker Road). The first of eighteen drilled shafts in this area was completed in September 2022.
2. Active construction is occurring in the area of southbound frontage road of I-35 between Thousand Oaks Drive and I-410 in preparation for additional drilled shafts.

Groundbreaking Recap

In May 2022, the I-35 NEX Central project team, along with TxDOT, city, county, state and federal officials broke ground on the I-35 NEX Central project. The ceremony was held in the Santikos Entertainment Galaxy parking lot located off I-410 and I-35. Several esteemed speakers were present, including state representatives and officials as seen in the picture below.

"I-35 is one of the most congested roadways in Texas," said Chairman of the Texas Transportation Commission J. Bruce Bugg, Jr. "This will improve safety and mobility, address the anticipated growth in traffic and reduce travel time for drivers." I-35 NEX Central is a Texas Clear Lanes project. Texas Clear Lanes is a statewide strategic plan to provide congestion relief through non-tolled roads. Once complete, I-35 NEX central will help ease congestion in the corridor where over 200,000 drivers travel through per day.



Pictured left to right: Fernando Reyes (VIA Metropolitan), Felix Martin (Alamo NEX Construction), Jose Carlos Esteban (Webber), Angel Luis Sanchez (Ferrovia Construction), Sen. Donna Campbell, Texas Transportation Commission Chairman J. Bruce Bugg, Jr., Sen. Jose Menendez, San Antonio District Engineer Gina Gallegos, Reps. John Kuempel, Steve Allison, Elizabeth "Liz" Campos, and Barbara Gervin-Hawkins.

Questions or Comments

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Social Media

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E-alert

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

Project Information

www.i35nex.com

Scan here to access our website.



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