

NEWS RELEASE

FORT WORTH DISTRICT

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EAST LOOP I-820 PROJECT AWARDED

\$174 Million Project to Begin in 2018

Dec. 14, 2017

TARRANT COUNTY – As part of the <u>Texas Clear Lanes</u> initiative focused to improve mobility throughout the state, the Texas Transportation Commission today awarded the \$174 million Interstate 820 project to a contractor. The 3-mile project will improve mobility and safety for drivers in Northeast Tarrant County through the I-820 bottleneck between State Highway 121 and Randol Mill Road. This work is part of the \$1.3 billion congestion relief initiative started by Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Legislature to reduce gridlock in some of the state's most congested areas.

Project improvements will reconstruct the existing roadway, build an additional lane in each direction, replace the Trinity River Bridges and create new direct connectors to and from SH 121.

"Projects like the East Loop 820 project will improve drive times, reduce costs, and improve quality of life for our Texas drivers," said Chairman J. Bruce Bugg, Jr. "Texas leadership, the Texas Transportation Commission and TxDOT are committed to reducing congestion in North Texas."

The <u>Texas Clear Lanes</u> initiative was formed when Governor Abbott called on the Texas Transportation Commission to develop a focused initiative to address the most congested chokepoints in Texas. Texas Transportation Commission Chairman J. Bruce Bugg, Jr. then met with transportation leaders and elected officials in the state's five major metropolitan areas. Those listening tours and collaborative efforts with metropolitan planning organizations and TxDOT districts helped shape this initiative.

The project was awarded to Flatiron Constructors, Inc. of Austin. Utility relocation has begun and construction will begin this spring. Construction is estimated for completion in 2023.

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