



Loop 360 – Westlake Drive/Cedar Street Project

February 4, 2025

Community Update – Q/A

How will the finished Westlake Drive bridge look in terms of design and aesthetics?

- Overall aesthetic plan will include natural limestone rock surfaces, painted finishes, and star motifs. The retaining wall treatment will look like native stone and reflect the natural surroundings. See more details here:

<https://www.txdot.gov/loop360/features.html>

How will the shared use paths work in its final configuration?

- Alongside the new mainlanes, these 10 ft wide paths are generally 5 ft away from the roadway's curbs and gutters. They will not be striped but are wide enough for bicyclists and pedestrians to use simultaneously without conflict. There will also be protected east to west shared use paths on the Westlake and Cedar Street bridges.

Will the Pennybacker Bridge be widened?

- No, there are no plans to change this iconic structure, other than to maintain it.

When does construction start on the Westlake Drive bridge?

- As soon as the traffic shifts to Southbound temporary mainlanes between San Clemente offices and Refuel/Shell gas station, the project team can begin construction, and the contractor can focus on the intersection work. We anticipate this work to start the later part of March or early April and will provide advance notification.

Is traffic protected from northbound Loop 360 during the detour?

- Yes, the traffic turning right from east Westlake Drive to go to Cedar Street will make the U-turn to go southbound with a protected signal and will not merge into live traffic. The current double U-turn currently in place at Cedar Street will be used in this detour configuration.
- Southbound traffic will use two new U-turns that will open south of Westlake Drive by the Shell/Refuel station to go northbound in this “Super Street” configuration.

Will there be a U-turn south of Bold Ruler?

- In response to community requests for an additional U-turn, the project team is currently evaluating if there is a viable option that can be safely implemented without creating additional issues such as bypass traffic through neighboring communities.

Will the left turn “exit” from northbound Loop 360 to Cedar Street stay narrow?

- This left lane exit is part of the temporary configuration. When the mainlanes open in its final configuration, the left turn lanes at Cedar will be at grade and accessible from the connector roads.

Why is the right turn lane to northbound Loop 360 from Westlake Drive so tight?

- This right turn is part of the temporary configuration. The project team will evaluate if any improvements can be made.

Do you expect traffic pattern changes when bridge construction starts?

- The project team will evaluate any congestion issues and if any improvements can be made.

Can the length of the left-turn lane at southbound Loop 360 be extended?

- The lane is the same length as it was prior to construction. The excavation of the mainlanes limits any possible extension north of the intersection. The project team will evaluate if any improvements can be made to the signal timing.

Can the barrels at the shoulder by Waymaker Way off northbound Loop 360 be moved to make it less dangerous?

- The project team placed the barrels in response to neighborhood concerns that drivers were using the shoulder as a bypass lane. Intended to prevent accidents, these barrels may impact acceleration for right turns. They will be removed once the mainlanes are open in the final configuration. The project team will evaluate if any improvements can be made.

Can orange barriers also be placed at the shoulder at Bold Ruler Way to prevent bypass traffic in Davenport Ranch?

- The project team will evaluate if any improvements can be made.

Can the orange barrier near the Nalle Woods be moved?

- The project team will go on site to evaluate if they can be moved.

Can the cones in the Riverbend Church be moved?

- TxDOT cannot move any cones at Riverbend Church. Any cones on their property have been placed by their staff to address traffic that uses their parking lot to bypass Loop 360.

Is there a way to limit cut through traffic that uses Davenport Ranch when Loop 360 congestion?

- TxDOT is not in a position to control where drivers drive. The project team has utilized message boards, traffic calming and can evaluate if there are additional opportunities to improve communication to drivers. The project team will reach out the City of Austin to explore coordinating possible solutions.

Can TxDOT assist with City of Austin to coordinate installing a gate for Davenport Ranch?

- TxDOT has no jurisdiction with the City and does not have any ability to request the City to install a gate.

Can speeds be limited or reduced on neighboring roads?

- While the City of Austin manages adjacent roads to Loop 360, TxDOT can bring this to their attention and follow up with community representatives.

What is the work schedule for construction?

- Construction is generally 5 days a week (from sunrise to sundown). If the contractor does not meet the contractual milestone (Westlake Drive bridge constructed in 6 months) there is an incentive and disincentive built into the contract. They could be penalized if it is completed late or incentivized if it is completed early. If there is an opportunity to accelerate the schedule, the contractor may reach out to do work outside of that window. Weather conditions can impair the timeline and could possibly include Saturday work.

Is there a safety as well as schedule incentive?

- TxDOT does not have safety incentives, but we do require reporting of all safety incidents to align with both state and federal requirements.

What type of protection is on the job site, safety precautions are there?

- The contractor takes safety seriously, in addition to compliance with OSHA protocol, federal and state laws. With weekly and bi-weekly safety meetings, the contractor is responsive for maintaining employee and public safety.

Is the contractor contract public?

- Yes, the contractor and contract information are available to the public. Please reach out to request a copy.

What month will the Courtyard / RM 2222 project start?

- We do not have a month for work to start in 2026.

Will the project evaluate the lights at Pascal Lane and Wild Basin?

- The Loop 360 planning team's goal is to eliminate all signalized intersections throughout the entire corridor. While they are not part of any current projects, those streets could possibly be part of a holistic future or isolated project.

How are you addressing Westbank Drive?

- Westbank is also included in a future plan, though there is currently no funding to proceed. We continue to address Loop 360 safety and coordinate efforts with City of West Lake Hills, City of Austin, Travis County on this intersection.