



## I-35 CAPITAL EXPRESS CENTRAL PROJECT LIVE35 AESTHETICS DESIGN PROGRAM

### Program Purpose

The Texas Department of Transportation celebrates Austin's cultural and community diversity with the Live35 (Locally Influenced Visual Enhancements) aesthetics design program. Live35 provides opportunities for the community to give feedback about the different types of visual enhancements being considered for the I-35 Capital Express Central project.



The goals of the program include:

- Identify locations of the current aesthetics package.
- Identify the community-facing features.
- Define the roles and responsibilities of TxDOT and the City of Austin.
- Provide input on preferred aesthetics plan.

### History and Overview

An aesthetics working group was developed as part of previous project efforts, consisting of nearly 20 agencies and organizations. Formed in 2015, this group utilized results from a public survey to create a Capitol concept for aesthetics along the I-35 corridor within the project area. Survey respondents ranked the following as the three most important aesthetic elements:

- Lighting.
- Landscape plantings.
- Concrete wall panels.

The Capitol concept was used to develop the I-35 Aesthetics Guidelines for specific bridge bents and beams, sign structures, retaining and abutment walls, safety barriers, ornamental trellises, hardscape, illumination, and landscaping and irrigation details.

## **Aesthetics Program Partnership**

TxDOT and the City of Austin are working on a strategy for implementation and maintenance of aesthetics improvements using the I-35 Aesthetics Guidelines. This includes:

- Funding the aesthetic elements on the east-west crossings and Lady Bird Lake.
- Implementing the infrastructure for the community facing features.
- Ensuring compatibility with possible improvements on Cap and Stitch components.
- Maintaining the aesthetic elements along I-35 once constructed.

## **Future Community Involvement Opportunities**

As part of Live35, TxDOT will continue to gather input about the aesthetic design elements for the I-35 Capital Express Central project through further community engagement and feedback submitted in meetings and online. Community feedback will be reviewed and considered as the project progresses. A draft of the aesthetic concepts will be shared with the public in spring 2022.

## **Contact information**

For additional project information, please contact:

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