

I-35 Capital Express Central: Drainage Tunnel and Pump Station Fact Sheet

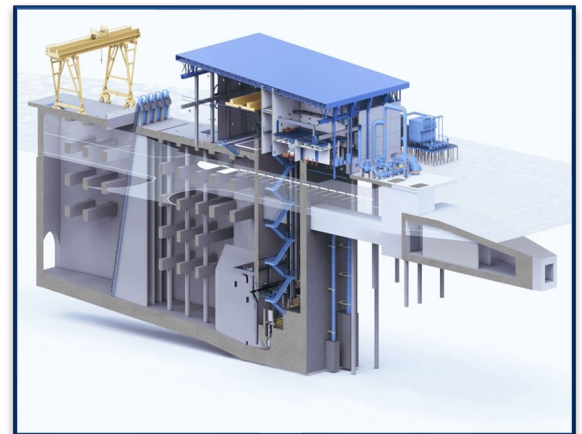
Project Purpose

The Drainage Tunnel and Pump Station segment of the I-35 Capital Express Central project will enhance water treatment in Austin. Much of the city’s watershed was developed in the 1950’s and 1960’s with minimal requirements for water quality, leaving many areas without sufficient water treatment. This segment will collect, move and treat water to accommodate lowered I-35 mainlanes, while benefiting the greater community.

Project Overview

Drainage tunnels will be constructed between Airport Boulevard and Holly Street; and from Cesar Chavez Street to US 183. Access shafts will also be added along I-35 to ensure proper maintenance and operational access to the new infrastructure. The project will also include the construction of a pump station to improve stormwater management along the corridor. Some project features include:

- Tunnel
 - Length: approximately 6.5 miles.
 - Depth: 70 to 200 feet.
 - Diameter: 22-foot diameter tunnels.
 - Access shafts.
- Pump Station
 - Capacity to move approximately 130,000 gallons of water per minute.
 - Large mechanical trash screen.



Benefits of the Drainage Tunnel and Pump Station project include:

- The pump station will remove trash and some sediment to improve water quality.
- The tunnel will improve water quality in the Waller Creek tunnel.
- Provide 350 acres of reduced floodplain east of I-35.
- Reduce more than 178 acres of runoff currently flowing into the Waller Creek watershed and ease capacity constraints on the Waller Creek tunnel.

Details

The estimated construction cost is \$748 million. Construction is funded by TxDOT and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO). Anticipated construction start is mid-2025.

Contact Information

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