



Finding of No Significant Impact for a FHWA Project

Proposed Action: I-35 Capital Express South

Project Limits: From: US 290W/SH 71 to SH 45SE

City: Austin and Buda **County:** Travis and Hays Counties **State:** Texas

TxDOT CSJ(s): CSJ No. 0015-13-077 & 0016-01-113

In accordance with 23 CFR Section 771.119 and Section 771.121, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and FHWA have determined that I-35 Capital Express South will not have a significant impact on the human or natural environment.

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Preferred Alternative is based on the final Environmental Assessment (EA) dated December 2021 and the entire project record. This decision documents the selection of the Build Alternative (Alternative 2), presented in the final EA as the Preferred Alternative, which is described as:

The project would add two non-tolled high-occupancy managed lanes in each direction along Interstate-35 (I-35) from United States 290 (US 290) West/State Highway 71 (SH 71) to SH 45 Southeast (SE). The managed lanes would be elevated from north of Stassney Lane to south of William Cannon Drive. Additionally, the project would reconstruct bridges, add auxiliary lanes, improve bicycle and pedestrian accommodations along I-35 frontage roads, and includes other safety and mobility improvements. The facility consists of a separated concrete barrier and three to four, 11- to 12-foot wide mainlanes, two, 11- to 12-foot wide managed lanes, a 4-foot to 10-foot wide outside shoulder, 4-foot to 10-foot wide inside shoulder, two to three, 11-foot wide frontage road lanes, and a SUP in each direction. A 4-foot wide buffer would separate the mainlanes from the managed lanes. The ROW would typically be 300 to 420 feet wide. Storm sewer is included to convey stormwater and will replace the ditches in some places. Curb and gutter would be added to frontage roads. The project would require approximately 13.45 acres of additional ROW, including approximately 0.68 acre of permanent drainage easement and 0.89 acres of floodplain management area. The project would require 3.15 acres of temporary construction easements and would require utility relocations. More detailed information on ingress and egress points, and the location of auxiliary lanes can be found in the Final EA, dated December 2021.

A Notice of Availability of the draft EA was issued on April 11, 2021.

A public hearing for this project was held on April 27, 2021 in person and virtually from April 27, 2021 through May 26, 2021.

No changes to the draft EA were made as a result of comments received on the draft EA during the posted comment period or from comments made at the public hearing.

Public Hearing Documentation has been prepared and is available for review on request.

The final EA and technical reports contained in the file of record have been independently evaluated by TxDOT and determined to adequately and accurately discuss the need, purpose, alternatives, environmental issues, impacts of the proposed project, and appropriate mitigation measures. These documents provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. These documents are incorporated by reference into this decisional document.



Finding of No Significant Impact for a FHWA Project

Based upon TxDOT's review and consideration of the analysis and evaluation contained in the EA for this project, and after careful consideration of all social, economic, and environmental factors, including input from the public involvement process, TxDOT hereby issues this Finding of No Significant Impact for the I-35 Capital Express South project from US 290W/SH 71 to SH 45SE.

TxDOT will ensure adherence and completion of all project commitments described in the final EA December 2021, Section 8. TxDOT will ensure that any and all local, state, or federal permit requirements and conditions are met and otherwise complied with.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

DocuSigned by:

Doug Booher

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TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division Director

12/21/2021

Date



2021-2024 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program

Highway Projects

From: [Lori Morel](#)
To: [Lillie Salas](#); [Daniel Dargevics](#)
Cc: [Nick Page](#); [Michelle Meaux](#); [Tamelia Spillman](#); [Peggy Thurin](#); [Angela Erwin](#); [Sara Garza](#); [Heather Ashley-Nguyen](#); [Brandon Marshall](#); [Glendora Lopez](#); [Jackie Ploch](#); [Jamye Sawey](#); [Juan Valera-Lema](#); [Karie Brown](#); [Lindsey Kimmitt](#); [Sandra Chipley](#); [Scott Ford](#); [Sonya Hernandez](#); [Tim Wood](#); [Bonnie Sherman](#); [Hettie Thompson](#); [Karen Burkhard](#); [Katie DeLong](#); [Reane Gilder](#); [Sue Theiss](#)
Subject: **FEDERAL APPROVAL** - Early Action Approval 12/6/2021
Date: Monday, December 6, 2021 5:00:29 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
Importance: High

FHWA has lifted the exceptions on follow projects listed below. TxC is in the process of being updated. Approval date will be 12/6/2021

Approved. Early Action approval is effective 12/6/2021 for the following projects:

0196-07-034 – NCTCOG_ MPO ID 14070 Warren Park Deck Plaza
0015-10-062 – CAMPO_ MPO ID 51-00351-00, IH 35
0015-13-389 – CAMPO_ MPO ID 51-00353-00, IH 35
0015-13-077 – CAMPO_ MPO ID 51-00352-00, IH 35
0016-01-113 – CAMPO_ MPO ID 51-00354-00, IH 35

Thanks,

Lori



Lori Morel
Transportation Planner
Transportation Planning & Programming Division – STIP
Work Phone: 512.486-5033 Cell Phone: 512.810.6663
Lori.Morel@txdot.gov

From: Bales, Genevieve (FHWA) <Genevieve.Bales@dot.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 4:46 PM
To: Lori Morel <Lori.Morel@txdot.gov>; Angela Erwin <Angela.Erwin@txdot.gov>
Cc: Campos, Jose (FHWA) <Jose.Campos@dot.gov>; barbara.maley@dot.gov; Leary, Michael (FHWA) <Michael.Leary@dot.gov>
Subject: Early Action Approval 12/6/2021

This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Approved. Early Action approval is effective 12/6/2021 for the following projects:

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0015-13-077 – CAMPO_ MPO ID 51-00352-00, IH 35

0016-01-113 – CAMPO_ MPO ID 51-00354-00, IH 35

Genevieve E. Bales,

Statewide Transportation Planner

U.S. Department of Transportation | Federal Highway Administration

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Office: (512) 536-5941 | Fax: (512) 536-5990 | Email: genevieve.bales@dot.gov

Website: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/txdiv/>



Logged in as Tricia Bruck-Hoyt

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Project Management

Reports

Support

Project Management > Area List > STIPs (M-CAMPO) > Revisions (2021-2024) > TIP Instances (11/2021) > Highway Projects (11/2021) > Project Details

Color Key: - Business rule violation - Value changed in current session - Different from DCIS or latest approved copy

Data

Statewide STIP Revision Phase Construction
 District County
 MPO Highway
 CSJ - - TIP FY

Phase Construction
 Engineering
 Environmental
 Engineering
 Right-of-Way
 Acquisition
 Utilities
 Transfer

Total Project Cost Information

Prelim Engineering	\$6,606,742
ROW Purchase	\$5,000
Construction Cost	\$216,800,000
Const Engineering	\$5,797,753
Contingencies	\$242,697
Indirect Costs	\$0
Bond Financing	\$0
Potential Chg Ord	\$0
Total Project Cost	\$229,452,192

Revision Date NOX (Kg /D):
 Project Sponsor VOC (Kg /D):
 MPO Proj Number PM10 (Kg /D):
 MTP Reference PM2.5 (Kg /D):
 City CO (Lbs /D):

YOE Cost
 Toll
 TCM

Limits From

Limits To

Project Description Add two NB and two SB non-tolled managed lanes and two additional SBFR lanes from SH 71 to William Cannon, reconstruct ramps, frontage road operational improvements, and add FR & mainlane auxiliary lanes.

P7 Remarks

Project History Spring Amendment Cycle 2021
 Administrative Amendment 2021
 Fall Amendment Cycle 2021

Authorized Funding by Category/Share

Category	Federal	State	Regional	Local Match	Local Contributions	Total
2	\$78,878,000	\$19,719,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$98,597,500
4R	\$63,880,000	\$15,970,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$79,850,000
7	\$30,682,000	\$7,670,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$38,352,500
Total	\$173,440,000	\$43,360,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$216,800,000

2021-2024 STIP		11/2021 (Current) Revision: Pending Review							
DISTRICT	MPO	COUNTY	CSJ	TIP FY	HWY	PHASE	CITY	YOE COST	
AUSTIN	CAMPO	TRAVIS	0015-13-077	2022	IH 35	C		\$ 216,800,000	
LIMITS FROM: US 290W/SH 71		PROJECT SPONSOR: TxDOT							
LIMITS TO: LP 275-Slaughter Lane		REVISION DATE: 11/2021							
PROJECT Add two NB and two SB non-tolled managed lanes and two additional SBFR lanes from SH 71 to William Cannon, reconstruct ramps, frontage road operational improvements, and add FR & mainlane auxiliary lanes.		MPO PROJ NUM: 51-00352-00							
DESCR: Cannon, reconstruct ramps, frontage road operational improvements, and add FR & mainlane auxiliary lanes.		FUNDING CAT(S): 2M,4,7							
REMARKS P7:		PROJECT Spring Amendment Cycle 2021 Administrative Amendment 2021							
		HISTORY: Fall Amendment Cycle 2021							
TOTAL PROJECT COST INFORMATION			AUTHORIZED FUNDING BY CATEGORY/SHARE						
PRELIM ENG: \$	6,606,742	COST OF APPROVED PHASES	CATEGORY	FEDERAL	STATE	REGIONAL	LOCAL MATCH	LC	TOTAL
ROW PURCH: \$	5,000		2	\$ 78,878,000	\$ 19,719,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 98,597,500
CONST COST: \$	216,800,000	\$ 216,800,000	4R	\$ 63,880,000	\$ 15,970,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 79,850,000
CONST ENG: \$	5,797,753		7	\$ 30,682,000	\$ 7,670,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 38,352,500
CONTING: \$	242,697		TOTAL	\$ 173,440,000	\$ 43,360,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 216,800,000
INDIRECT: \$	0								
BOND FIN: \$	0								
POT CHG ORD: \$	0								
TOTAL COST: \$	229,452,192								

TIP History

2021-2024 STIP		07/2020 Revision: Not Approved 07/22/2021							
DISTRICT	MPO	COUNTY	CSJ	TIP FY	HWY	PHASE	CITY	YOE COST	
AUSTIN	CAMPO	TRAVIS	0015-13-077	2022	IH 35	C	OTHER	\$ 134,800,000	
LIMITS FROM: US 290W/SH 71		PROJECT SPONSOR: TxDOT							
LIMITS TO: LP 275-Slaughter Lane		REVISION DATE: 07/2020							
PROJECT: Add northbound and southbound non-tolled managed lanes, reconstruct ramps, improve frontage road and							MPO PROJ NUM: 51-00352-00		
DESCR: freight movements, and add auxiliary lanes							FUNDING CAT(S): 2M,4,7		
REMARKS P7:				PROJECT HISTORY:					
TOTAL PROJECT COST INFORMATION			AUTHORIZED FUNDING BY CATEGORY/SHARE						
		COST OF APPROVED PHASES	CATEGORY	FEDERAL	STATE	REGIONAL	LOCAL MATCH	LC	TOTAL
PRELIM ENG: \$	6,606,742		2	\$ 78,878,000	\$ 19,719,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 98,597,500
ROW PURCH: \$	5,000		4R	\$ 18,280,000	\$ 4,570,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 22,850,000
CONST COST: \$	134,800,000	\$ 134,800,000	7	\$ 10,682,000	\$ 2,670,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 13,352,500
CONST ENG: \$	5,797,753		TOTAL	\$ 107,840,000	\$ 26,960,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 134,800,000
CONTING: \$	242,697								
INDIRECT: \$	0								
BOND FIN: \$	0								
POT CHG ORD: \$	0								
TOTAL COST: \$	147,452,192								

Comment History

Time	User	Comment	Related Approval
2021/07/22 19:33:19	Jose Campos	Not approved. Project description reflected in e-STIP and in the CAMPO FY 2021-2024 TIP and 2045 RTP, does not indicate the number of non-tolled managed lanes being added or the scope of the proposed frontage road and freight movement improvements. Approval is withheld pending clarification of project scope.	07/2020: Not Approved



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Data

Statewide STIP Revision Phase Construction
 District County
 MPO Highway
 CSJ - - TIP FY

Phase Construction
 Engineering
 Environmental
 Engineering
 Right-of-Way
 Acquisition
 Utilities
 Transfer

Total Project Cost Information

Prelim Engineering	\$8,093,258
ROW Purchase	\$7,695,732
Construction Cost	\$133,200,000
Const Engineering	\$8,076,742
Contingencies	\$1,866,404
Indirect Costs	\$0
Bond Financing	\$0
Potential Chg Ord	\$0
Total Project Cost	\$158,932,136

Revision Date NOX (Kg /D):
 Project Sponsor VOC (Kg /D):
 MPO Proj Number PM10 (Kg /D):
 MTP Reference PM2.5 (Kg /D):
 City CO (Lbs /D):

YOE Cost
 Toll
 TCM

Limits From

Limits To

Project Description Add two NB and two SB non-tolled managed lanes and one additional frontage road lane in each direction from Slaughter Lane to Onion Creek Parkway, reconstruct ramps, and add FR & mainlane auxiliary lanes.

P7 Remarks

Project History Spring Amendment 2021
 Administrative Amendment 2021
 Fall Amendment 2021

Authorized Funding by Category/Share

Category	Federal	State	Regional	Local Match	Local Contributions	Total
2	\$103,198,000	\$25,799,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$128,997,500
4U	\$680,000	\$170,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$850,000
7	\$2,682,000	\$670,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,352,500
Total	\$106,560,000	\$26,640,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$133,200,000

2021-2024 STIP		11/2021 (Current) Revision: Pending Review						
DISTRICT	MPO	COUNTY	CSJ	TIP FY	HWY	PHASE	CITY	YOE COST
AUSTIN	CAMPO	TRAVIS	0016-01-113	2022	IH 35	C		\$ 133,200,000
LIMITS FROM: LP 275-Slaughter Lane							PROJECT SPONSOR: TxDOT	
LIMITS TO: SH 45 SE							REVISION DATE: 11/2021	
PROJECT Add two NB and two SB non-tolled managed lanes and one additional frontage road lane in each direction							MPO PROJ NUM: 51-00354-00	
DESCR: from Slaughter Lane to Onion Creek Parkway, reconstruct ramps, and add FR & mainlane auxiliary lanes.							FUNDING CAT(S): 2.4R,7	
REMARKS P7:							PROJECT Spring Amendment 2021 Administrative Amendment 2021	
HISTORY: Amendment 2021								
TOTAL PROJECT COST INFORMATION				AUTHORIZED FUNDING BY CATEGORY/SHARE				
PRELIM ENG: \$	8,093,258	CATEGORY	FEDERAL	STATE	REGIONAL	LOCAL MATCH	LC	TOTAL
ROW PURCH: \$	7,695,732	2	\$ 103,198,000	\$ 25,799,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 128,997,500
CONST COST: \$	133,200,000	4U	\$ 680,000	\$ 170,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 850,000
CONST ENG: \$	8,076,742	7	\$ 2,682,000	\$ 670,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 3,352,500
CONTING: \$	1,866,404	TOTAL	\$ 106,560,000	\$ 26,640,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 133,200,000
INDIRECT: \$	0							
BOND FIN: \$	0							
POT CHG ORD: \$	0							
TOTAL COST: \$	158,932,136							

TIP History

2021-2024 STIP		07/2020 Revision: Not Approved 07/22/2021							
DISTRICT	MPO	COUNTY	CSJ	TIP FY	HWY	PHASE	CITY	YOE COST	
AUSTIN	CAMPO	TRAVIS	0016-01-113	2022	IH 35	C	OTHER	\$ 165,200,000	
LIMITS FROM: LP 275-Slaughter Lane		PROJECT SPONSOR: TxDOT							
LIMITS TO: SH 45 SE		REVISION DATE: 07/2020							
PROJECT: Add northbound and southbound non-tolled managed lanes, reconstruct ramps, improve frontage road and							MPO PROJ NUM: 51-00354-00		
DESCR: freight movements, and add auxiliary lanes							FUNDING CAT(S): 2M,4,7		
REMARKS P7:				PROJECT HISTORY:					
TOTAL PROJECT COST INFORMATION			AUTHORIZED FUNDING BY CATEGORY/SHARE						
PRELIM ENG: \$	8,093,258	COST OF APPROVED PHASES	CATEGORY	FEDERAL	STATE	REGIONAL	LOCAL MATCH	LC	TOTAL
ROW PURCH: \$	7,695,732		2	\$ 103,198,000	\$ 25,799,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 128,997,500
CONST COST: \$	165,200,000	4R	\$ 18,280,000	\$ 4,570,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 22,850,000	
CONST ENG: \$	8,076,742	7	\$ 10,682,000	\$ 2,670,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 13,352,500	
CONTING: \$	1,866,404	TOTAL	\$ 132,160,000	\$ 33,040,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 165,200,000	
INDIRECT: \$	0								
BOND FIN: \$	0								
POT CHG ORD: \$	0								
TOTAL COST: \$	190,932,136								

Comment History

Time	User	Comment	Related Approval
2021/07/22 19:35:57	Jose Campos	Not approved. Project description reflected in e-STIP and in the CAMPO FY 2021-2024 TIP and 2045 RTP, does not indicate the number of non-tolled managed lanes being added or the scope of the proposed frontage road and freight movement improvements. Approval is withheld pending clarification of project scope.	07/2020: Not Approved