

CONNECTING AND INVESTING IN HOUSTON COMMUNITIES

I-45 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

People in the Houston area need the I-45 Improvement Project:

- I-45 was built more than 50 years ago, when the population in TxDOT's Houston District area* was under 2 million.
- Since 1970, this area's population has grown by more than 200% (current population nearly 7 million).
- By 2050, the current population of this area is expected to almost double to nearly 13 million.

*Includes Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Montgomery and Waller counties.



The Houston District area is booming — and that brings growing pains. The district is home to nearly 7 million people with a projected population growth of more than 80 percent by 2050. The I-45 corridor in Houston is home to 9 of the top 25 most congested roadways in Texas. With the North Houston Highway Improvement Project (NHHIP), the Houston region will receive more than \$43 billion in economic development, reduced travel times, environmental benefits, and much more.

For every \$1 spent on NHHIP construction, the region realizes a nearly \$7 return on this vital infrastructure investment.

Investment

Return



\$1B

in additional local, state and federal revenues **for further investment in community needs.**

\$3.3B

in **environmental benefits** with the NHHIP including improved air quality due to less idling.



\$10B

in economic benefits with the project, including **tens of thousands of new jobs.**

\$29B

in savings to the community due to **better, safer and more reliable** travel times.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Write to us at HOU-PIOWebmail@txdot.gov so we can keep our partners informed about the region's support for this vital project.

Parts of the I-45 North corridor have not been updated since being built over 50 years ago. The NHHIP will address critical needs including updating the highway to current design and safety standards, relieving traffic congestion, improving storm water drainage, and improving evacuation routes.



COMMUNITIES

In addition to compensating property owners and paying to relocate residents directly impacted, TxDOT will provide more than \$27 million in financial assistance for affordable housing in adjacent neighborhoods. Highway improvements will substantially lessen inter-city traffic.



FLOOD MITIGATION

Build new storm drains, pump stations and detention ponds to help reduce flooding.



JOB

92,000 direct jobs and 89,000 indirect jobs are being generated from this project.



NEW PED-BIKE PATHS

New pedestrian and cyclist facilities on all cross streets behind protective curb.

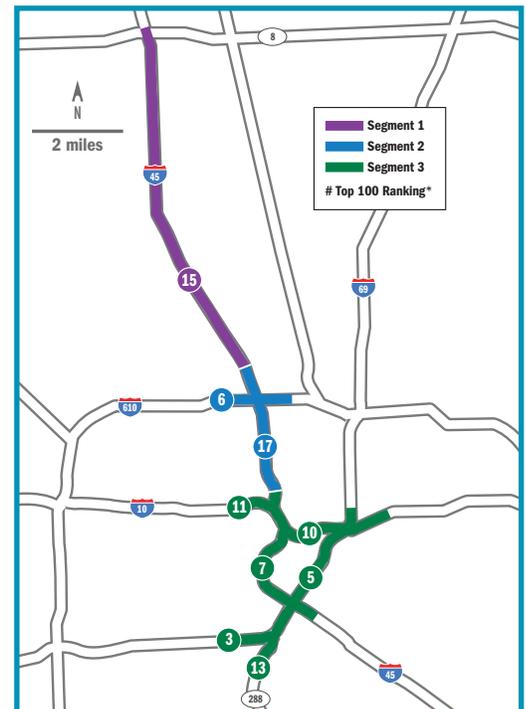


NEW NOISE MITIGATION

Add walls to mitigate roadway noise and serve as a visual screen.

9 IN THE TOP 25

The I-45 corridor has **9 of the Top 25 Most Congested Roadways in Texas.***



*Source: Texas A&M Transportation Institute's *100 Most Congested Roadways in Texas*, published 2020.

1,000,000+

In the last decade, the Houston metro area added more people than the entire population of Austin.

250

The population of Houston grows by 250 people every day.

TIMELINE

- » TxDOT continues coordination with FHWA and local officials on agreement needed to move the initial project segments forward.
- AUG. 31, 2021** The Texas Transportation Commission adopted the 2022 Unified Transportation Program (UTP), including funding for NHHIP.
- JUNE 30, 2021** TxDOT staff briefed the Texas Transportation Commission on the upcoming public comment period for the UTP, TxDOT's 10-year planning document.
- March 2021** The Houston area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) passed its most recent resolution supporting NHHIP. **There have been 16 unanimous MPO approvals between April 2005 and March 2021 to develop this project.**
- Feb. 2021** Record of Decision Feb. 4, 2021: TxDOT issues Record of Decision (ROD) for the NHHIP (signals completion of the environmental review process).
- Fall 2020** Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), in the voluntary and extended open comment period **400+ Comments**
- 2020** Housing Focus Group **4+ Meetings**
- 2019 – 2020** Traffic Focus Group **24+ Meetings**
- 2019-2020** Mayor's Facilitation Effort **22+ Meetings**
- 2018 – 2019** 12 Technical Reports **130+ Commenters**
- Summer 2017** Draft Environmental Impact Statement **465+ Comments**
- 2011 – 2019** Public & Stakeholder Meetings **310+ Meetings**

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT FOR FINAL EIS/ROD

Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision

-  Mailed postcards to impacted property owners.
-  Published "Changes for the Better" video.
-  Published NHHIP Newsletter, Fall 2020 Edition.
-  Extended the Final EIS review period, doubling the review time.
-  Advertisements in 15 community newspapers to share project information.
-  Prepared and published 14 "NHHIP Project Facts & Highlights" to help convey concise and key information on topics of high priority to the public.
-  One-month open comment period on the UTP.

See for Yourself

Scan the QR codes for videos:



Video:
Housing Before and After



Video:
Changes for the Better