

I-45 NHHIP DIRECTLY IMPACTED COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Independence Heights

East Downtown/EaDo

Fifth Ward

Third Ward

Near Northside/Woodland Heights

The project brings significant economic impacts to the Houston area as well as much needed safety improvements to one of the state's most congested highways. Some 92,000 direct jobs are being created with an additional 89,000 indirect jobs generated from this project. The overall statewide economic impact of NHHIP is estimated at \$19.2 billion.

The future of transportation is changing and the infrastructure in the nation's fourth largest city needs to change with it. Parts of the I-45 corridor have not changed since being constructed over 50 years ago. The I-45 improvement project not only brings these highways up to current standards, but also prepares for the future by improving resiliency to weather events and providing safer more efficient travel that could accommodate the transition to electric and self-driving vehicles. And, importantly, it will increase the opportunity for transit and high-occupancy vehicles as a mode choice for those traveling along the I-45 North Houston corridor. Additionally, the neighborhoods in the project area will see many specific benefits beyond the economic and safety improvements.



ROW Acquisition

EARLY START

Early acquisition of impacted residents and businesses to advance/expedite replacement housing and relocation options.

OFFERING MORE

TxDOT providing Enhanced Relocation Services above and beyond what regularly offered; goal is to minimize disruption as much as possible.

PERSONAL DISCUSSIONS

One-on-one meetings with impacted owners and tenants concerning property acquisition and relocation processes

HOME EDUCATION

Classes on home ownership, which include mortgage lending process

BENEFITS FOR RESIDENTIAL OWNERS

Eligible for Replacement Housing Supplement and actual cost moving expense up to 50 miles

BENEFITS FOR RESIDENTIAL TENANTS

Eligible for rental supplement and moving expenses up to 50 miles

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY OWNERS

Receive fair market value offer, owners and tenants' rental expenses

Flood Mitigation and System-wide Drainage Improvements

DRAINAGE PLAN TEAMWORK

TxDOT worked with Harris County Flood Control and the City of Houston to develop a drainage plan extending from downtown up Little White Bayou to Independence Heights that improves hydrologic chokepoints and drainage to the west (with more capacity coming from White Oak).

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

The NHHIP would specifically provide drainage improvements at I-45 at North Main Street, I-45 at Crosstimbers in Independence Heights, I-10 at Houston Avenue, I-45 at Travis, and many other streets.

FLOOD AREA REDUCED

The NHHIP would reduce Houston's total flood area by approximately 796 acres, the equivalent of more than 600 football fields, lowering flood elevations in Independence Heights and other areas that are frequently inundated during heavy rain events.

FLOOD CONTROL INVESTMENT

The NHHIP enables TxDOT to invest \$20 million in the City of Houston's Buffalo Bayou Bypass Canal Projects, a post-Hurricane Harvey FEMA initiative, as part of the NHHIP drainage and mitigation infrastructure solution.

Economic Benefits

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- 92,000 direct jobs created
- 89,000 indirect jobs created

OVERALL EFFECT

\$19.2 billion statewide Final Demand

BETTER FOR BUSINESS

Improved mobility for the trucking industry which improves distribution from the Port of Houston to stores.

*Economic effects estimated by State of Texas Comptroller's Office and Regional Economic Model Inc. (REMI)

Safety

FEWER CRASHES

Reduce crash frequency and severity

INCREASE SPACE TO MOVE

- Reduce short weaving areas
- Eliminate crowded merging locations

IMPROVED BRIDGES

Raise bridges to meet national height standards.

Need & Purpose

ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS VITAL

Current roadway configurations do not meet federal safety standards and current future and traffic demands; I-45 traffic in project area anticipated to increase 40% from 2015 to 2040.

EMERGENCY ROUTE

I-45 evacuation capacity limited

Affordable Housing

FUNDING MADE AVAILABLE

TxDOT commitment to fund \$30 million in affordable housing project grants in the four impacted neighborhoods.

Key Takeaway

TxDOT has fully, completely, and in good faith complied with all legal requirements in planning for and evaluating alternatives and impacts of the North Houston Highway Improvement Project (NHHIP). Moreover, TxDOT has committed to many significant actions bringing multiple benefits to the community.