Interstate 69: Extending the Market Reach of Texas Ports and Industries



Alliance for I-69 Texas



I-69 is a Major Freight Corridor

- The I-69 System in Texas includes upgrading US 59, US 77, US 281 and SH 44 to interstate highway standard
- The I-69 System is a multi-modal trade corridor that already moves high volumes of freight traffic
- Passage of the New NAFTA (USMCA) highlights the anticipated continued growth in North America trade and the need for additional capacity on the I-69 corridor
- Freight movements by truck in Texas are expected to double by 2050



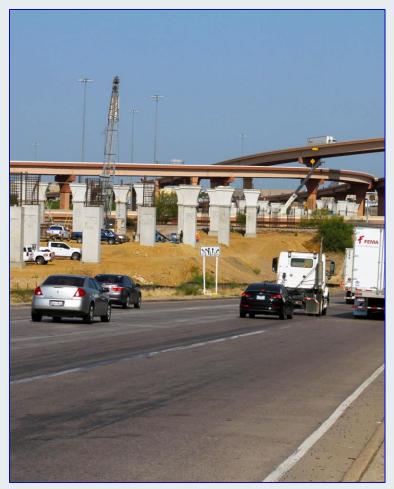
Completing I-69 Important to South Texas

- Upgrades to I-69 will stretch the market reach of South Texas ports and businesses further and faster into the American Heartland and Mexico
- Efficiency for truck cargoes depends on the full logistics chain including I-69 as a longdistance highway link
- Providing safe and adequate roadways is crucial to the Port of Corpus Christi and the region's industrial shipping partners



Building I-69 One Project at a Time

- The guaranteed 90% federal funding for the Interstate Highway Program ended decades ago and no additional miles are eligible for federal funds under that program
- Today the Texas Transportation Commission and Metropolitan Planning Organizations allocate funding
- I-69 projects must compete for funding against all other project needs across the state's urban and rural highway system
- Because there is no longer a dedicated funding source for interstate construction, I-69 is being built one incremental project at a time, each a few miles in length



Construction of I-69W extension at I-35 interchange in Laredo

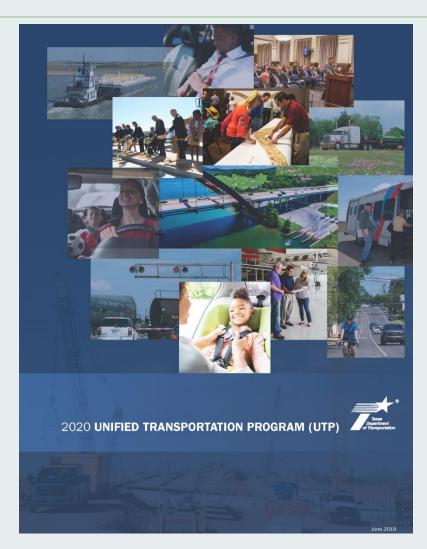
Status of I-69

- 207 miles of I-69 and I-2 have been added to the Interstate Highway System so far
- Over half of the overall 1,100 total miles is now signed or in TxDOT development process
- TxDOT is pushing forward on the highest priority projects up and down the route
- A \$120 million I-69 project on US 77 south of Robstown is underway – including a bypass of Driscoll. The result will be a continuous 31 miles of I-69 from I-37 through Kingsville



Success in 10-Year State 2020 UTP

- The number and value of I-69 projects in TxDOT's 10-year Unified Transportation Program has increased in recent years
- More than 60 projects on the I-69 route with a combined cost of more than \$6 billion are in the 2020 Program, a 50% increase compared to the 2019 UTP
- Area I-69 projects in the funding program include:
 - \$210 million in San Patricio County
 - \$260 million in Kleberg County
 - \$170 million in Kenedy County



Signing More Miles as I-69

- I-69 signs will go up in 2020 on 5 miles of US 77 south of Robstown and 1.5 miles of I-169 at Brownsville
- Federal law allows segments connected to an Interstate Highway to be signed as soon as they are at interstate standard
- A law initiated by the Alliance allows signing of completed segments that are not connected if there is a specific plan to have them connected by Year 2037. The Alliance is seeking removal of the 2037 deadline
- About 70 miles are now at interstate standard but not connected



Alliance Keeps Spotlight on I-69

- The Alliance has kept I-69 high on the agenda of state decisionmakers
- Billions in scheduled projects are located across the I-69 route and the Alliance works to keep community leaders and legislators informed and involved in the project development process
- Because I-69 is a major freight corridor the Alliance is active in TxDOT's freight planning efforts
- Transportation Commissioner Alvin New is a champion of regional connectivity and has been stressing the obvious need for I-69



Commissioner New speaks at Alliance luncheon



2019 Alliance Annual Meeting

Providing Transportation Leadership

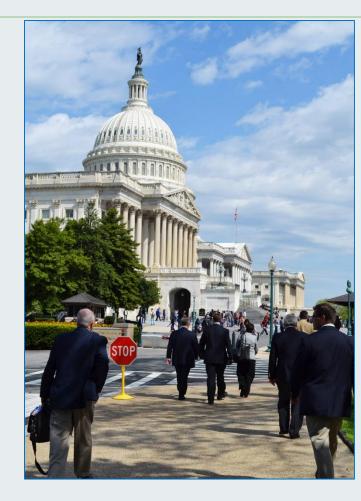
- In 2019 the Alliance was part of a successful effort to add a 10-year extension to Prop 1 highway funding
- The Alliance helped initiate and is well represented among the members of TxDOT's I-69 Advisory Committee which has helped TxDOT select priority projects
- The Alliance plays an active role in the Transportation Advocates of Texas which brings together leaders from around the state to support additional funding for Texas highways
- Alliance representatives regularly participate in the work of the TxDOT Freight Advisory Committee and development of the Texas Freight Plan





Alliance Federal Advocacy

- The Alliance helped create and sustains a strong multi-state I-69 Congressional Caucus. The Caucus is used to echo the federal agendas of I-69, Texas ports and Texas border ports of entry.
- Each year we bring a significant delegation to Washington with representatives of all 8 states on the national corridor
- Connectivity is the Alliance's goal. Members help provide the political clout for I-69 projects in sparsely populated counties
- New federal opportunities include the ROUTES initiative focusing on rural infrastructure, the ongoing update of the National Freight Strategic Plan and reauthorization of the FAST Act



I-69 Alliance: 25 Years of Working Together





- The Alliance for I-69 Texas was formed in 1994 with the Port of Corpus Christi, Nueces County and the City of Corpus Christi among the founding members
- All segments of the route are represented in the Alliance
- Staffed by an experienced public policy and communications team in Texas and Washington
- Persistence has helped build support from lawmakers, state leaders, Transportation Commissioners, local communities and industry

Alliance for I-69 Texas

Supporting Progress on I-69



www.i69TexasAlliance.com