



Alliance for I-69 Texas

Annual Luncheon Program

November 25, 2019 • Houston

Welcome and Recognition of Special Guests

Sydney Murphy, Polk County Judge

Chairman, Alliance for I-69 Texas

LUNCH

2019 Highlights, Recognitions and Introductions

Chairman Sydney Murphy

REMARKS

Alvin New

Commissioner, Texas Transportation Commission

Morteza Farajian

Executive Director of the USDOT Build America Bureau

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Chairman Sydney Murphy

Thanks to the supportive partners who made this event possible including:



Port of Corpus Christi Authority
Rio Grande Valley Mobility Task Force
TFP Nutrition
BXS Insurance



www.i69TexasAlliance.com



The Alliance for I-69 Texas

Encouraging Cooperation and Seeking Solutions Since 1994

2019 Officers



Chairman
Sydney Murphy
County Judge
Polk County



Vice-Chairman
Roger Guenther
Executive Director
Port of Houston
Authority



Vice-Chairman
James Carlow
Former County Judge
Bowie County



Vice-Chairman
Gerry Schwebel
Executive Vice President
International Bank of
Commerce



Secretary-Treasurer
David Garza
County Commissioner
Cameron County

2019 Board of Directors Roster

In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, and the by-laws of the Alliance for I-69 Texas, the following individuals were appointed to the Board of Directors for a term of one year, terminating at the 2019 annual meeting. (* denotes Executive Committee member)

Northeast

Charles Thomas*
Executive Director
Carthage Improvement Corp.

James Carlow*
County Judge, Bowie County

Chad Sims
County Judge, Harrison County

Larry Hurta
Mayor, City of Marshall

LeeAnn Jones
County Judge, Panola County

Cory Floyd
Texarkana Chamber of
Commerce

Steve Williams
City Manager, City of Carthage

East

Sydney Murphy*
County Judge, Polk County
Alliance Board Chairman

Greg Sowell
County Judge
Nacogdoches County

Keith Wright
City Manager, City of Lufkin

Todd Brown
Associate Dean, Stephen F.
Austin State University

Representative
Angelina County

Jim Jeffers*
City Manager
City of Nacogdoches

North Central

Roger Guenther*
Executive Director
Port of Houston Authority

Bob Harvey
President and CEO
Greater Houston Partnership

Richard Ridings
HNTB Corp.

Central

Billie Jones*
Wharton Chamber of
Commerce

Tim Barker
Mayor, City of Wharton

William T. Benton
Mayor, City of Rosenberg

Vincent Morales
County Commissioner
Fort Bend County

Jeff Wiley
President and CEO
Greater Fort Bend Economic
Development Council

Chad Odom
Executive Director
Wharton Economic
Development Council

West Spur

Gerry Schwebel*
Executive Vice President
International Bank of
Commerce

Ben Zeller
County Judge
Victoria County

Tano Tijerina
County Judge
Webb County

Pete Saenz
Mayor, City of Laredo

Sean Stibich
Executive Director
Port of Victoria

Coastal Bend

Charles Zahn*
Commission Chairman
Port of Corpus Christi
Authority

Barbara Canales*
County Judge
Nueces County

David Krebs
County Judge
San Patricio County

Joe McComb
Mayor
City of Corpus Christi

East Spur

David Garza*
County Commissioner
Cameron County

Sergio Contreras*
President & CEO
Rio Grande Valley Partnership

Richard Cortez
County Judge, Hidalgo County

Alan Johnson
Chairman
Port of Harlingen Authority

Raudel Garza
CEO, Harlingen Economic
Development Corp.

Daniel Silva
CEO, Mission Economic
Development Corp.

Cynthia Garza-Reyes
Business Development Dir.
City of Pharr

Regional Mobility Authorities

Pete Sepulveda
Executive Director
Cameron County RMA

Ramon Navarro
Executive Director
Hidalgo County RMA

Linda Ryan Thomas
Chairman
North East Texas RMA

Ex-Officio Members of the Board

Helen R. Walker
Former County Judge, Victoria
County, and Former Chairman,
Alliance for I-69 Texas

Robert Eckels
Former County Judge, Harris
County, and Former Chairman,
Alliance for I-69 Texas

John P. Thompson
Former County Judge, Polk
County; Former Chairman,
Alliance for I-69 Texas

Lloyd Neal
Former County Judge, Nueces
County; Former Chairman,
Alliance for I-69 Texas

Michael Behrens
Former Executive Director,
Texas Department of
Transportation

Amadeo Saenz
Former Executive Director,
Texas Department of
Transportation

I-69 Momentum Building

The border-to-border I-69 System in Texas is being built as a series of incremental upgrade projects on US 59, US 77, US 281, SH 44 and Loop 20. TxDOT is dramatically accelerating the pace of I-69 project programming. The latest 10-year Unified Transportation Program (UTP) funding plan includes more than 60 projects on the I-69 System covering approximately 175 miles.

NEW ADDITIONS TO UTP - The 2020 UTP includes almost \$6 billion for I-69 System projects. Notable additions to the 2020 list of upcoming projects are 41.5 miles of US 77 in Kenedy County, 28.7 miles of US 281 in Brooks and Hidalgo Counties, the US 77 Riviera Relief Route, completion of the I-69 Laredo Loop, 10 miles of US 281 in Alice, 6 miles of US 59 at Wharton and 6 miles of US 59 in San Jacinto County.

ON THE HORIZON - Projects set to go to contract in the next couple of years include the Diboll Relief Route, the Corrigan Loop, reconstruction of mainlanes and bridges in Downtown Houston, the Wharton Relief Route, extension of the I-69 freeway in Kingsville and direct connect ramps at I-35 in Laredo.

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS - Construction on major projects is underway or soon will be in Nacogdoches, Polk, Liberty, Harris, Fort Bend, Wharton, Victoria, Nueces, Webb, Jim Wells and Hidalgo Counties. Work recently started on the Nacogdoches South Project that will provide a new interstate standard free-flowing connection employing major bridge structures. When a series of projects on US 77 in Nueces County are complete they will fill an 11-mile gap and create a continuous 31-mile section of I-69 stretching south from Corpus Christi. Another gap project is underway in Liberty County and will extend the interstate stretching north from Houston.

Looking to 2020

- The Alliance has a well earned reputation for persistence in advocating for funding to develop Interstate 69 and for policies focused on freight movement and safety. In 2020 the Alliance will continue a work program that keeps the spotlight on the benefits of completing I-69 projects along the entire system.
- The Alliance will urge TxDOT to provide adequate funding to its district offices to do the work needed to get projects ready for funding in the future. We will work with those district offices to identify and select additional priority projects for study, design and future funding.
- In Washington we will press Congress and the Administration to address key issues to advance I-69 in the upcoming transportation legislation. This includes the need to increase overall federal investment in highways including allocation of additional funding for development of the National Highway Freight Network.
- The Alliance will work to have sections of I-69 designated as Critical Rural Corridors and included in the National Highway Freight Network. Daily freight movements with origins and destinations with Texas are projected to nearly double over 25 years.
- The Alliance will urge TxDOT and federal officials to utilize their legal authority to designate as interstate highways those eligible sections of the I-69 System that are now at interstate standard but are not yet connected to the Interstate Highway System.



2019 construction of new I-69 bridges in Fort Bend County



I-69 wall sign presentation to freshman Congressman Dan Crenshaw of Houston during the September I-69 DC Fly-In



I-69 Day in Austin delegation with Transportation Commissioners Laura Ryan and Jeff Austin during 2019 legislative session

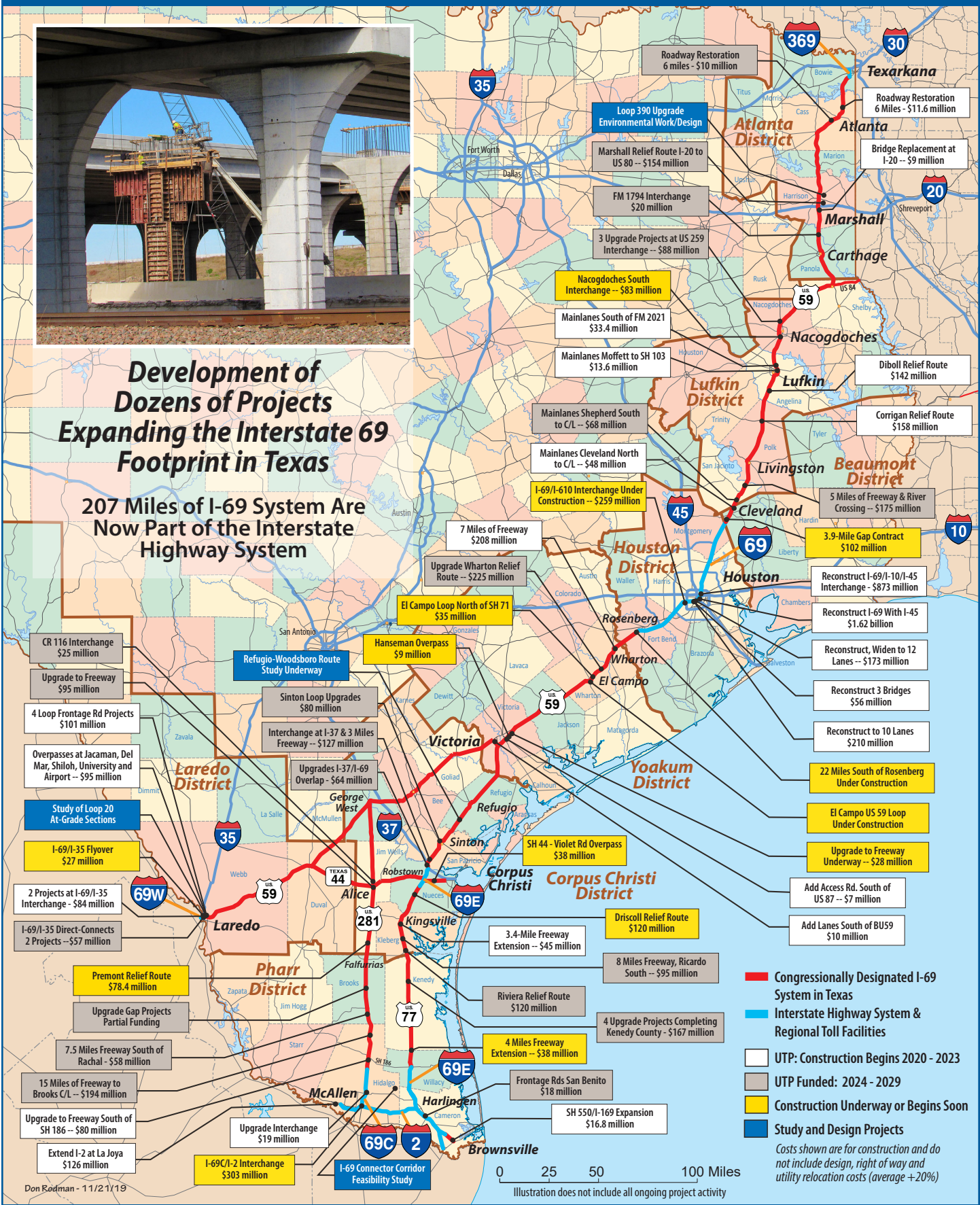


State Sen. Robert Nichols urged I-69 advocates to continue to be persistent, saying, "You have been the model of how to get it done."



Development of Dozens of Projects Expanding the Interstate 69 Footprint in Texas

207 Miles of I-69 System Are Now Part of the Interstate Highway System



Alliance for I-69 Texas

Alliance Contacts: Jennifer Shepard, Alliance Executive Director - (703) 580-4416; Jennifer@jgshepard.com
 Gary Bushell, Gary Bushell, LLP - Austin Representative - (512) 478-6661; gebushell@aol.com
 Larry Meyers, Meyers & Associates - Washington Representative - (202) 484-2773; larry.meyers@meyersandassociates.com
 Don Rodman - Communications - (817) 379-2461; don@therodmanco.com
 Judge Sydney Murphy, Alliance Board Chairman - (936) 327-6813; smurphy@co.polk.tx.us

www.i69TexasAlliance.com

November 2019