

January 17, 2025

■ **I-69 DAY IN AUSTIN** – Our I-69 Austin Day for 2025 will be February 27th. Alliance members and I-69 supporters are encouraged to join in this opportunity to meet with state legislative leaders and lawmakers to discuss the importance of I-69, progress to-date and the opportunities for action to support further I-69 development. Event sponsorships are available. Sponsors and/or participants can register using the form available at www.i69TexasAlliance.com ([HERE](#)).



■ **FOLLOWING THE LEGISLATURE** – The 2025 legislative session started with a bang Jan. 14th with the election of Speaker Dustin Burrows of Lubbock. In this year's session the I-69 Alliance is focused on protecting existing state funding sources for transportation. This includes continuation of the policy of no diversions from the State Highway Fund. We will be working with other transportation advocates to highlight the expanding highway funding gap resulting from a growing state population, commercial expansion, international trade, aging roads and bridges, and persistent inflation. The highway construction cost index increased by 7.3% over the past year, eroding the buying power of revenues coming into the Highway Fund.

New legislators from districts on the I-69 route include: Senators Adam Hinojosa of Corpus Christi and Molly Cook of Houston; and House Members Joanne Shofner of Nacogdoches, Janis Holt of Silsbee, Matt Morgan of Houston, A. J. Louderback of Victoria, Denise Villalobos of Corpus Christi, Don McLaughlin of Uvalde and Lauren Simmons of Houston.

■ **HOUSTON DISTRICT ENGINEER** – Glenn Allbritton is the new DE for the TxDOT Houston District. He takes over from the retiring Eliza Paul. Allbritton was previously DE for the Abilene District and has 26 years of experience with the department. He helped manage TxDOT recovery efforts in the Houston area following Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Beryl. The Houston District includes 86 miles of I-69 crossing Montgomery, Harris and Fort Bend Counties.



Allbritton

■ **TOP 100** – The annual list of the top 100 most congested road segments in Texas is out and four are on the I-69 Corridor. Numbers 5, 6 and 30 are sections of I-69 in downtown and southwest Houston. Number 41 is the segment of I-2 just west of I-69C in McAllen and Pharr. While discussing the Texas Clear Lanes program in December,

Transportation Commission Chairman Bruce Bugg noted that congestion is a problem in rural area as well as large cities and that TxDOT is prioritizing those roadways as well as metro gridlock.

■ **2025 I-69 DC FLY-IN DATES** – Please save the dates and plan to be part of the Alliance delegation meeting with Members of Congress and federal highway officials during this year's I-69 DC Fly-In on March 12-13.

■ **MARSHALL RELIEF ROUTE** – The City of Marshall has been granted a \$16 million State Infrastructure Bank low-interest loan to pay for relocation of city water and wastewater utilities associated with upcoming construction of the Interstate 369/I-20 project. TxDOT recently issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the preferred alternative alignment of the relief route that will be built on the east side of Marshall.

■ **ODEM RELIEF ROUTE** – TxDOT will hold a public meeting Jan. 30th at Odem Junior High and online to provide an update on the environmental study underway to evaluate I-69E route alternatives between I-37 and Sinton in San Patricio County. A 2023 route planning study identified three route options covering this 10-mile section of US 77. I-69E runs concurrently with I-37 across the Nueces River and the Odem project will include a new I-69 interchange with I-37 north of the river bridges which are now being replaced.

■ **RGV I-69 CONNECTOR** – TxDOT will conduct scoping meetings Jan. 21 in Edinburg and Jan. 23 in Santa Rosa on the proposed highway connector between I-69 Central in Edinburg and I-69 East on the north side of Harlingen. This new freeway parallel to I-2 will cover about 25 miles and is in the environmental review and final route selection stage.



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Projected Revenues for FY 2026-2027 Biennium

Highway funding projections are included in the state's official Biennial Revenue Estimate (BRE) which Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar delivered to the Legislature on Jan. 13.

The BRE covers the two years starting Sept. 1, 2025, and projects modest growth in the amounts expected to flow to the State Highway Fund (SHF) during the biennial budget period.

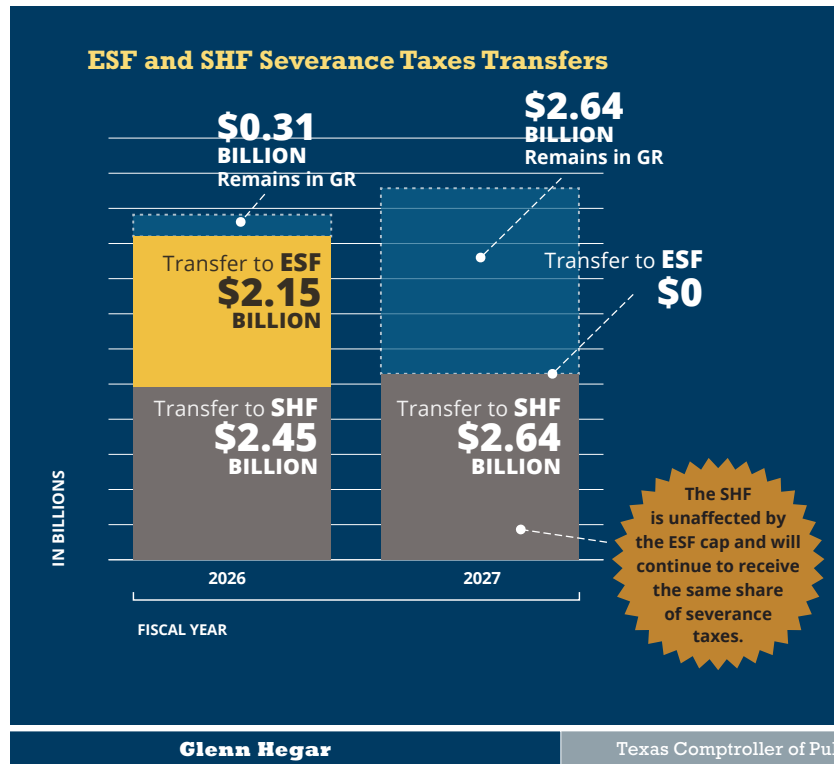
That includes \$5.1 billion in oil and gas severance tax revenues dedicated to highways by voters in Prop. 1 approved in 2014. Severance tax revenues are shared between the Highway Fund and the Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF-Rainy Day Fund). The expected revenues in this category are shown in the adjacent chart from the Comptroller's Office.

The Comptroller projects that tax collections on crude oil will be strong in the coming biennium but slightly below the record levels in 2022 and 2024.

The revenue estimate also includes \$2.5 billion each year for highways coming from dedicated sales tax revenue, an allocation approved by voters in Prop. 7 back in 2015.

Other highway fund projections include \$5.8 billion in state motor fuel tax revenues and approximately \$1.33 billion in motor vehicle sales tax revenue.

TxDOT's baseline funding request for FY 2026-27 covering all aspects of department operations is \$40.9 billion including an anticipated \$12 billion in federal funds.



Membership Opportunity

The Alliance is a membership-based organization. We are able to support the significant advancements on I-69 due to the financial support of members. We invite companies to participate in this effort as Alliance associate members. Please consider joining. Scan this QR code for more membership information.



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GET MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.i69texasalliance.com/NewsUpdates/AssociateMembersWelcome.html>

NEW MAILING ADDRESS – The Alliance for I-69 Texas has a new mailing address: 101 N. Shoreline, Suite 500, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401.



Alliance for I-69 Texas

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