## Alliance for I-69 Texas



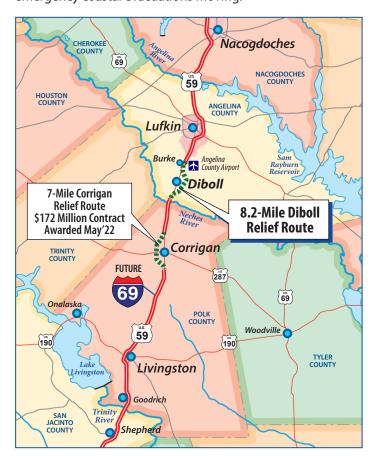
# **Update**

#### Working to Better Connect Texas Communities and Create Economic Opportunities

June 11, 2025

□ TRAFFIC FLOWING AT DIBOLL – The northbound lanes of the 8.2-mile Diboll Relief Route on US 59/Future I-69 were opened to highway traffic in late May. Final connecting elements of the southbound lanes of the interstate standard controlled access freeway are still under construction and should be fully opened to traffic in the Fall. The \$141 million project has been 30 years in the making. An original plan had been environmentally cleared by 1999 but did not move forward during TxDOT's long funding drought. By 2012 it was a priority project recommended by TxDOT's I-69 Advisory Committee and in 2013 the Angelina and Nacogdoches Counties Committee identified it as the top I-69 priority for the region. An environmental reevaluation with revised routing was completed in 2016 and construction began in 2020.

US 59 runs directly through the middle of Diboll and the relief route allows northbound traffic to bypass traffic lights and local traffic. The 7-mile Corrigan Relief Route in Polk County is scheduled for completion next summer. At that point there will be no remaining traffic lights congesting traffic on the I-69 Corridor over the 275 miles from Lufkin to Refugio in South Texas. Bypassing stoplights is a key to keeping freight and emergency coastal evacuations moving.



**TEDERAL FUNDING INITIATIVE** – The I-69 Alliance has joined with the I-14 Coalition and the I-27 Ports-to-Plains Alliance to jointly submit a set of recommendations to the Congress

aimed at boosting federal funding for designated Future Interstates. The recommendations come as







Congress begins the process of crafting a new federal surface transportation authorization bill to replace the 2021 IIJA. Authorization bills in recent decades have not included a federal role and dedicated funding to help complete new interstate highway corridors which would serve as the next generation of the national interstate system. The new policy envisions a specific new formula funding program for Future Interstates on top of existing federal formula funding programs. It is intended to establish a predictable and reliable federal funding source to assist in developing these corridors.

- □ TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION For transportation, the 2025 regular session of the Texas Legislature was a win. The session ended last week with state transportation funding tools fully intact and \$40 billion in appropriations to TxDOT for the FY 2026-2027 biennium. A top priority for the Alliance this session was preservation of all current funding sources and that was the final outcome. All the bills that might have impacted the highway funding status quo died with little fanfare. Even a bill that would have reduced TxDOT flexibility by cutting the number of design-build projects allowed from eight per biennium to two died at a House action deadline.
- 2026 UTP REVEAL The Transportation Commission will get a look at the draft 2026 Unified Transportation Program updated list of future projects in a meeting on Friday, June 20th. The UTP spans the coming 10 years and will include allocation of an estimated \$100 billion in future available funding.
- □ PLANNING RESILIENCE TxDOT and the Freight Advisory Committee will soon complete updates to the state's Freight and Supply Chain Resilience Plan which will ultimately be folded into the 2027 Texas Freight Plan update. The plan helps quantify the vulnerabilities of the state's transportation system and will identify freight resilience projects that should be prioritized. It looks at system hardening, redundancy, response resources and speed in reducing downtime. Plan exhibits show some sections of the existing I-69 System having high resilience.
- □ HIDALGO CONNECTOR A record of decision has been issued identifying the selected route for a new highway that will provide an additional connection between I-69C and I-2 in Hidalgo County. The 22-mile SH 68 project is planned to eventually become a freeway addressing congestion and providing additional evacuation capacity.



## May 2025 Letting

Transportation Commission Meeting

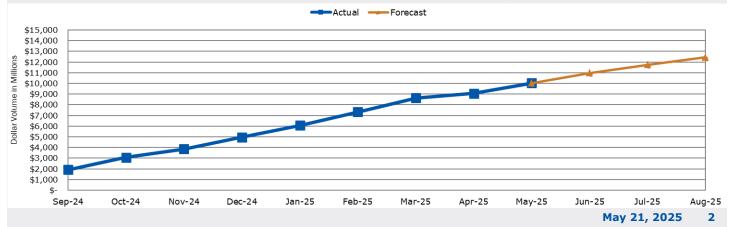
### **Cumulative Letting Dollar Volume in Millions - FY 2025**

Note: Data is estimated and subject to change

Breakdown by Project Type	Target	Projected
Highway Improvement	\$10,800	\$10,637
Routine Maintenance (Statewide & Local Let)	\$900	\$901
Local Government	\$300	\$471
Alternative Delivery	\$0	\$426
Total	\$12,000	\$12,435

	Actual/Projected \$M	Target Projects	Actual/Projected Projects
FY to Date	\$10,029.59	1,514	1,482
Total FY	No Data	2,018	1995

\*Amounts may not sum due to rounding



**STATEWIDE PROJECT LETTINGS** - The Transportation Commission continues an aggressive program of deploying available highway funding. As of May the department had approximately \$60 billion in construction projects under contract across the state. Contracts awarded in May added \$965 million to that total including a \$426 million contract for a segment of I-35 in Austin. Contract awards for the year are targeted to reach more than \$12 billion by the time FY 2025 ends on August 31st.

I-69 projects awarded in FY 2024 and FY 2025 include:

\$342 million	Wharton Relief Route
\$191 million	Kenedy County Project 1
\$53 million	I-69 Brazos River Bridge Protection
\$122 million	Downtown Houston I-69 Drainage
\$126 million	Kenedy County Project 2
\$695 million	I-69 Reconstruction in Houston
\$165 million	I-69C Hidalgo County Project 1
\$62 million	Kenedy County Project 3

## **Commission Meeting Dates**

June 20	(Friday)
July 31	(Thursday)
August 21	(Thursday)
September 25	(Thursday)
October 30	(Thursday)
November 13	(Thursday)
December 16	(Tuesday)

