A photograph of a rocket launch at dusk. The rocket is ascending vertically, leaving a large, billowing plume of white smoke and fire. The scene is set against a dark, twilight sky. In the foreground, there is a body of water that reflects the light from the launch. The overall mood is dramatic and powerful.

SESSION:

HOW HOUSTON MOVES: A LOCAL'S GUIDE TO TRANSPORTATION UPGRADES IN HOUSTON



**COUNCIL
MEMBER
DAVID
ROBINSON**

AT LARGE, HOUSTON
CITY COUNCIL



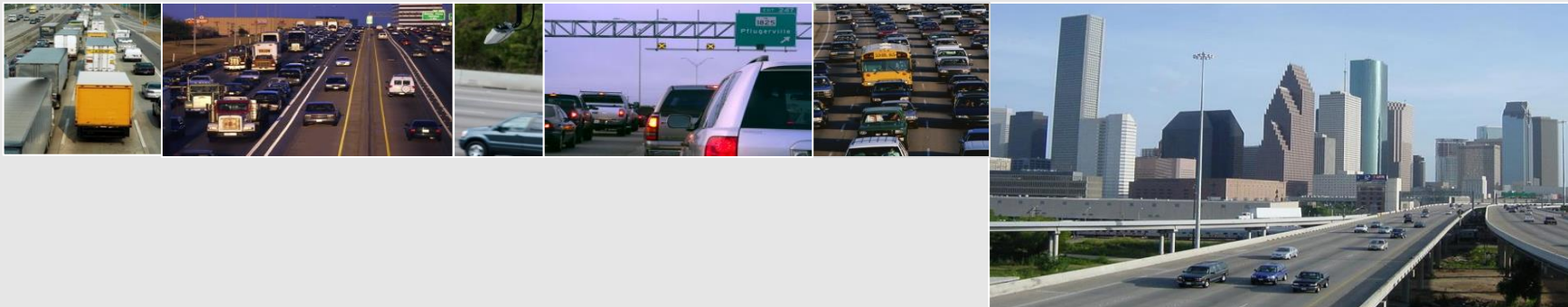
**QUINCY D.
ALLEN**

P.E., DISTRICT
ENGINEER, TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION -
TXDOT



**SANJAY
RAMABHADRAN
(RAM)**

P.E., METRO BOARD
MEMBER

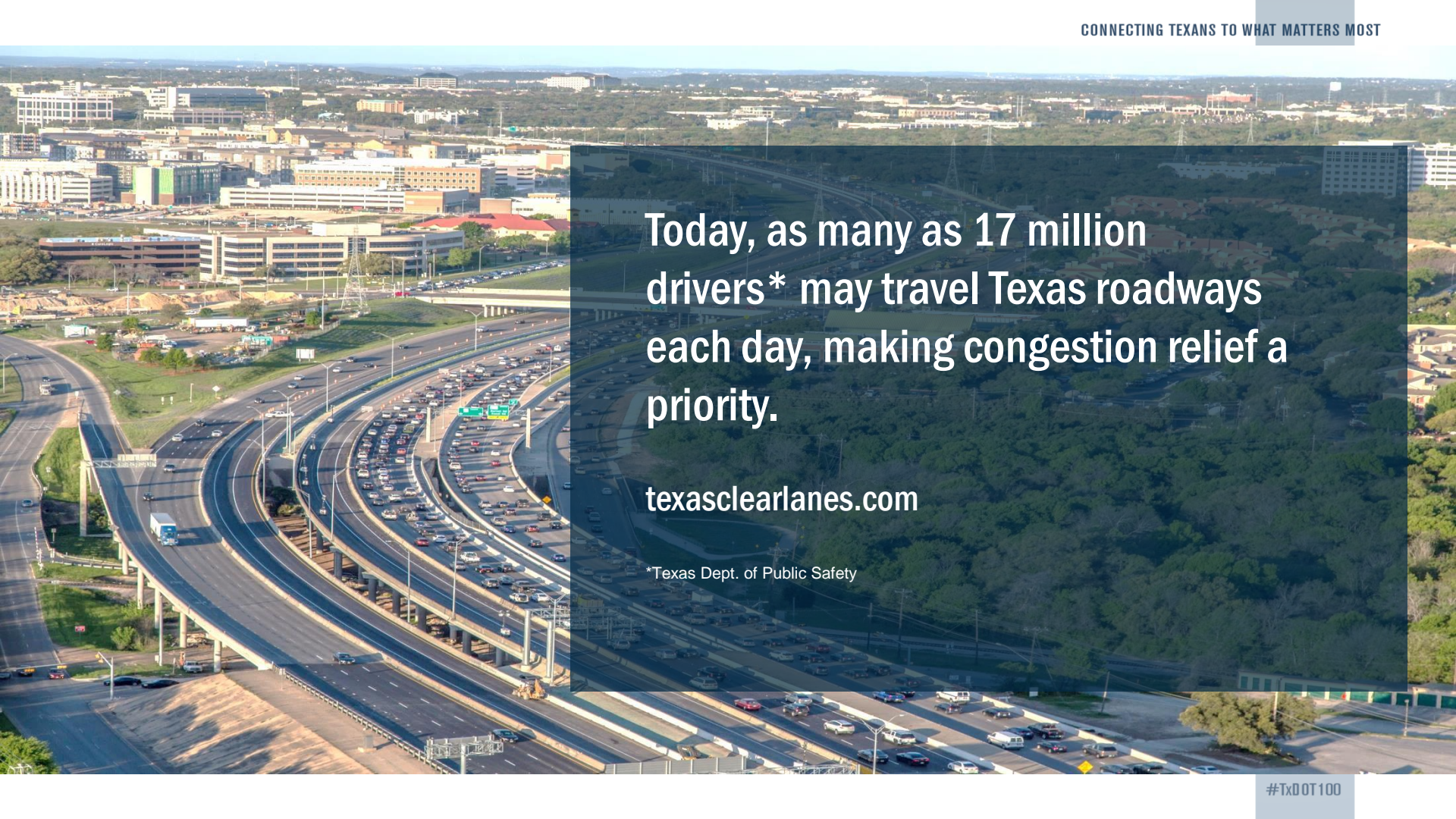


Tourism Summit 2019

Quincy Allen, P.E.

Houston District Engineer


April 2019



Today, as many as 17 million drivers* may travel Texas roadways each day, making congestion relief a priority.

[texasclearlanes.com](https://www.texasclearlanes.com)

*Texas Dept. of Public Safety



Mission: Through collaboration and leadership, we deliver a safe, reliable and integrated transportation system that enables the movement of people and goods.

LBJ Express in Dallas

#TxDOT100

HOUSTON DISTRICT

- Plans, designs, builds, operates and maintains the state transportation system in **six** counties: Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Montgomery and Waller.
- Encompasses **5,856** square miles.
- Serves approximately **5.8 million** people.
- Approximately **5.1 million** registered vehicles.
- Current FTE count is appropriately **1,200**.
- **Seven** area offices and **nine** maintenance sections.
- Operation of the **Galveston/Port Bolivar Ferry** Service



HOUSTON DISTRICT FUN FACTS*

- HOU maintains and operates a total of 10,567 lane miles of pavement.
 - Cover the distance from Los Angeles to New York and back, twice. [2462 miles each way]
- Motorists in our region drive approximately 173 million miles per day.
 - Motorists in the HOU drive enough miles to get to sun and back every day. (*Sun = 93 million mi from earth*)
- Of that 173 million, there are more than 10 million vehicle miles of daily truck traffic on the Houston District system.
 - The HOU carries enough daily truck traffic to go all the way around the earth 401 times. (*circumference of the earth = 24,900 miles*)



Working With Others to Improve Our Mobility



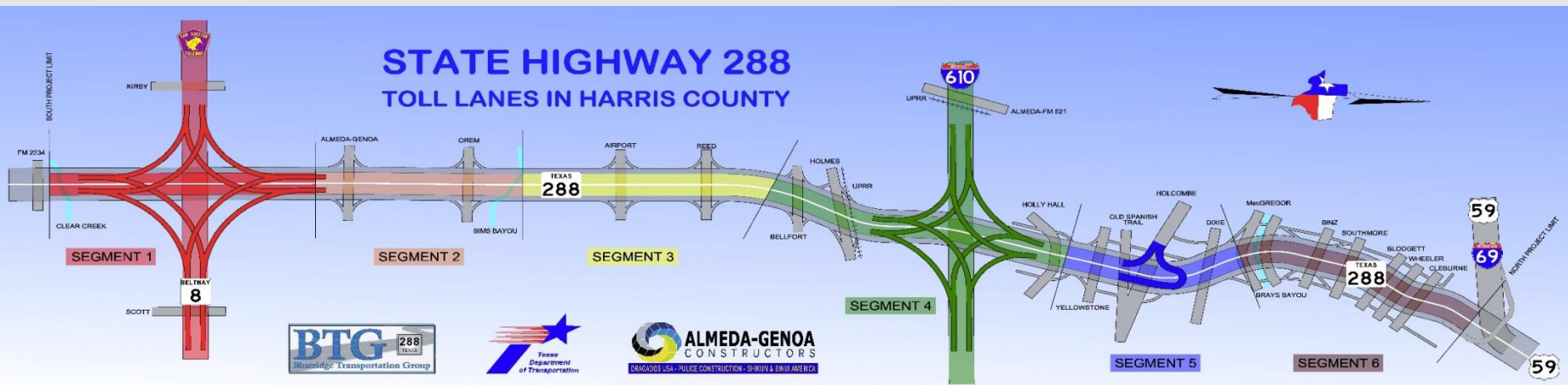
HOUSTON TRANSTAR

- State of Texas (TxDOT)
- Harris County
- City of Houston
- Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County
- Houston TranStar Benefits
 - Houston TranStar has saved motorists nearly \$2.8 billion in lower travel time costs between 1997-2010.
 - Real-Time Traffic Map gives an instant view of current traffic conditions, 24/7 at www.houstontranstar.org.
 - Provide incident management support to other agencies.



ACTIVE HIGH-PRIORITY PROJECTS

SH 288 PROJECT OVERVIEW



TxDOT Project:

- Limits: SH 288 Toll Lanes in **Harris County**, 10.3 miles from the Harris/Brazoria County Line to US59/I-69
- Project scope includes:
 - A toll **concession**, under a CDA for a 52 year term
 - 4 tolled lanes (2 each direction) within existing SH 288 median
 - 2 tolled direct connectors to Holcombe Boulevard near the Texas Medical Center (inbound and outbound)
 - **Innovative ATC**: Reconstruction of all 8 direct connectors at I-610 with added access to toll lanes
 - Addition of 8 new tolled direct connectors at Beltway 8
 - Developer to operate and maintain facility from ROW to ROW, including general purpose/free lanes

I-610/I-69 INTERCHANGE (WEST LOOP)

▪ Interchange Reconstruction

- Construct five new direct connectors
- Construct access ramps
- Realign Post Oak Boulevard
- Reconstruct the I-610 main lane bridge

▪ Corridor Selected by MPO as Local Priority

▪ Purpose & Need

- Congestion relief
- Increase safety
- Improve operational efficiency

Current Status

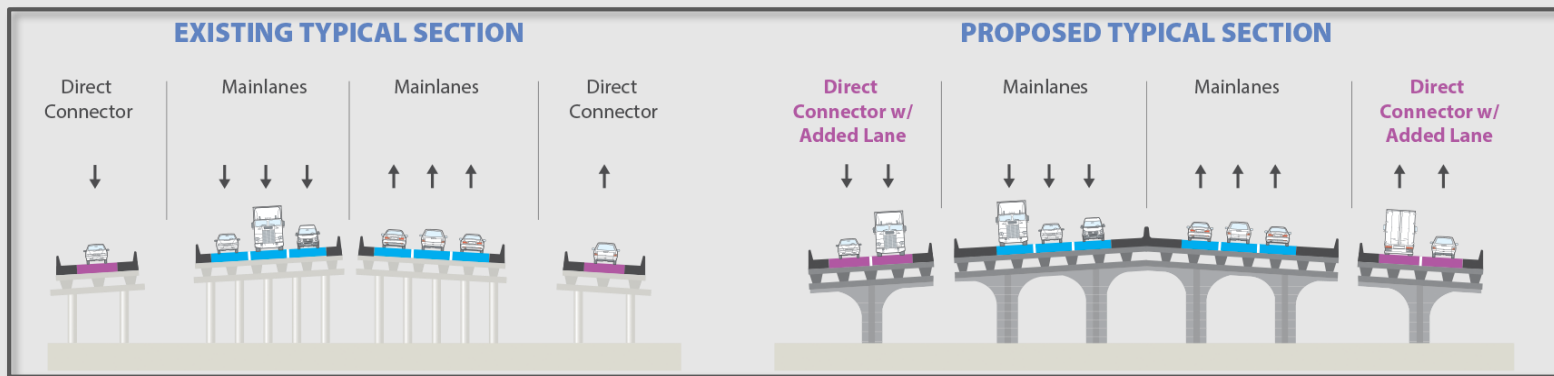
- Let August 2017
 - Estimated completion Spring 2021
- Low Bid \$259 Million
- Project Ground breaking November 2017,
 - Utility and Storm Sewer work underway
 - Major construction begins Spring 2018



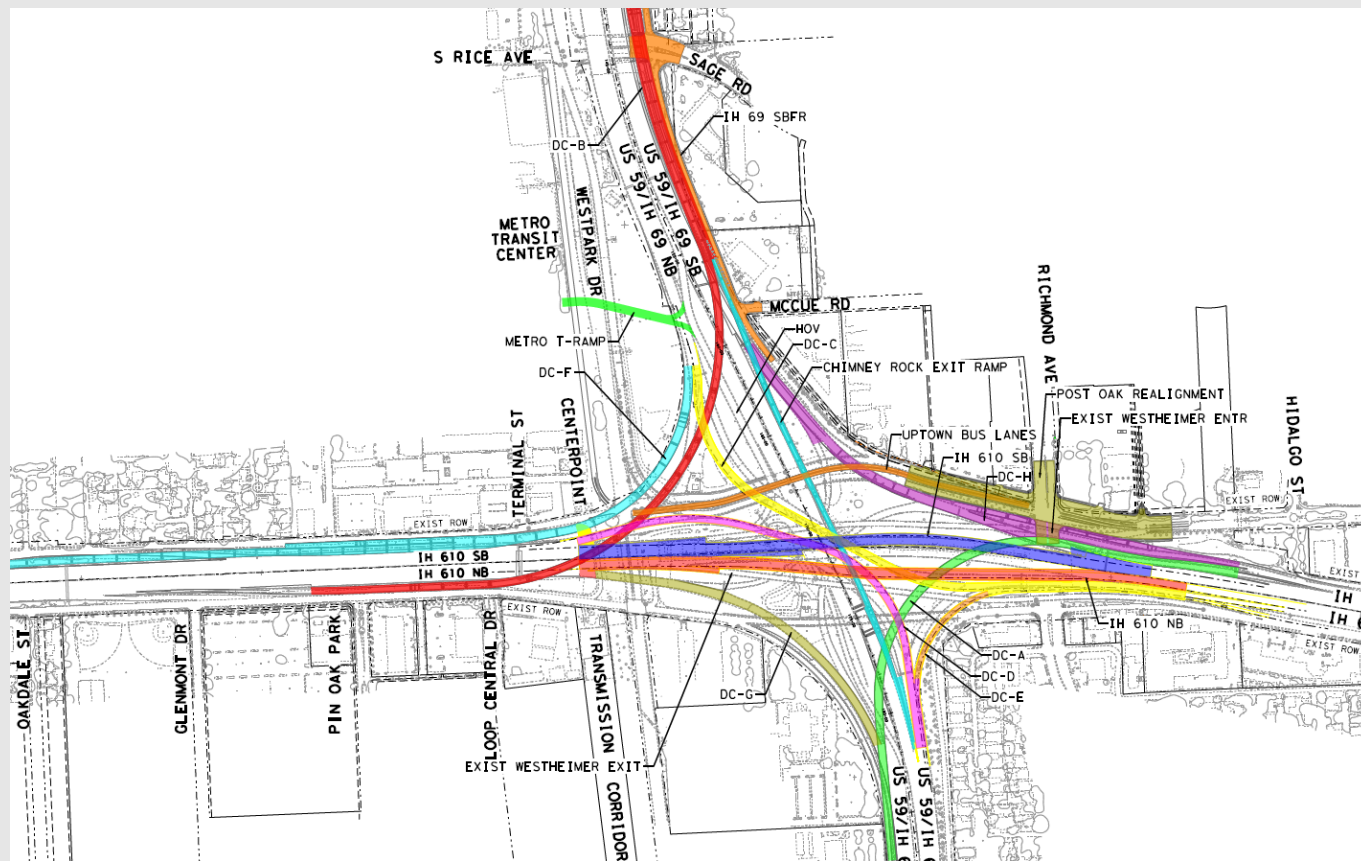
**#1 MOST
CONGESTED IN 2017***

PROJECT DETAILS

- Reconstructs one-lane connectors to two-lane connectors
- Upgrades interchange to current design standards
- Adds shoulders on I-610 West Loop main lane bridge
- Increases vertical clearances
- Increases sight distances
- Adds detention ponds
- Eliminates major weaving



OVERALL PROJECT SCHEMATIC



LEGEND

- I-610 SB to I-69 NB
- I-610 NB to I-69 SB
- I-69 NB to I-610 NB
- I-69 SB to I-610 SB
- I-69 SB to I-610 NB
- I-69 NB to I-610 SB
- I-610 NB TO I-69 NB
- I-610 SB TO I-69 SB
- I-610 NB, MAIN LANES
- I-610 SB, MAIN LANES
- METRO T-RAMP
- UPTOWN BUS LANES
- CHIMNEY ROCK, EXIT RAMP
- I-69 SB FREEWAY
- POST OAK RECONSTRUCTION

US 290 PROGRAM

- Reconstruction & widening of 38 miles
- ✓ 250,000 vehicles a day, 3 segments on 100 Most Congested list
- ✓ TxDOT proceeding with additional general purpose lanes & single HOV/HOT lane configuration
- 13 active projects
- \$1.1B under construction
- Achieved substantial completion w/mainlanes in final configuration the end of 2018
- TxDOT sole owner, operator and maintainer of facility



1964



2009

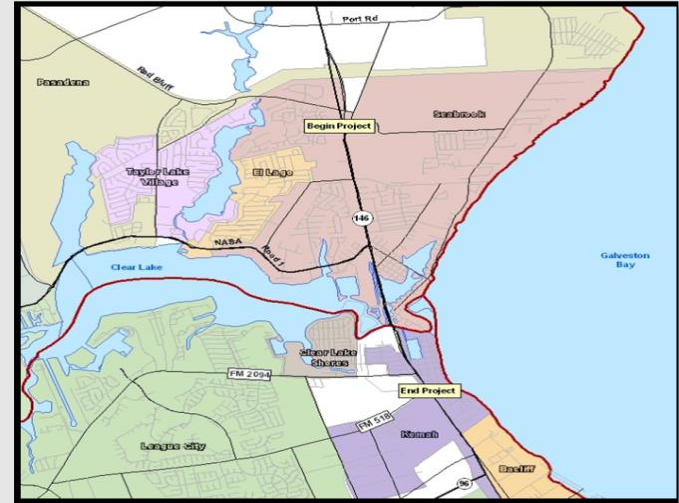


2017 - Current



SH 146 FROM RED BLUFF IN SEABROOK TO FM 518 IN KEMAH

- Reconstruct & widen from a 6- lane to a 12-lane facility including:
 - Grade separations at major intersections
 - Access roads in selected locations
 - Express lanes over Clear Creek
 - Bike Path on the west side & sidewalk on the east side
- Approx. 34 acres of Right-of-Way Needed
 - **Successfully negotiated with UPRR**
 - 90 Parcel of ROW (2 residential and 72 businesses)
- **Recently Let May 2018**
 - 36-48 month construction
- Estimated Cost \$180 Million

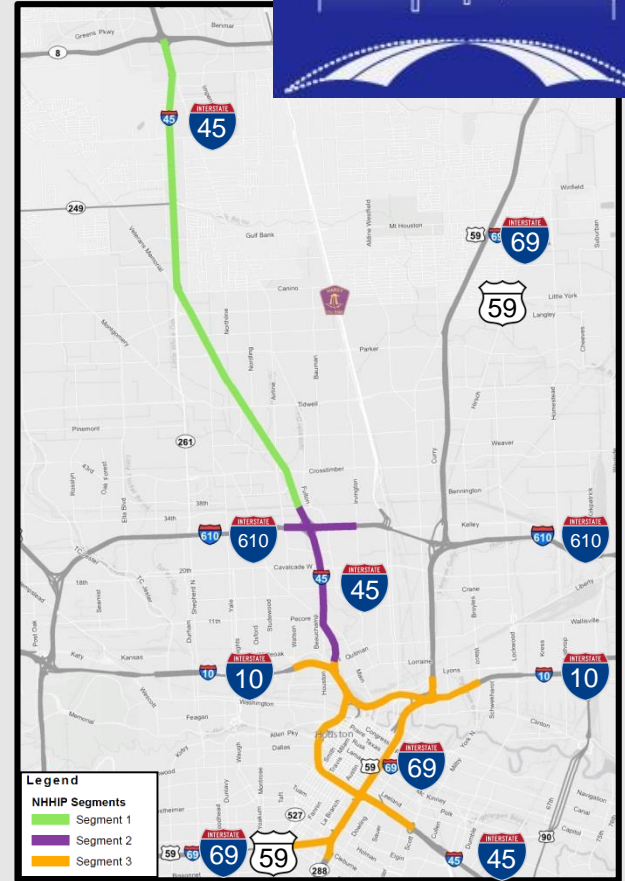


TRANSFORMING HOUSTON TRANSPORTATION

**NORTH HOUSTON HIGHWAY
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

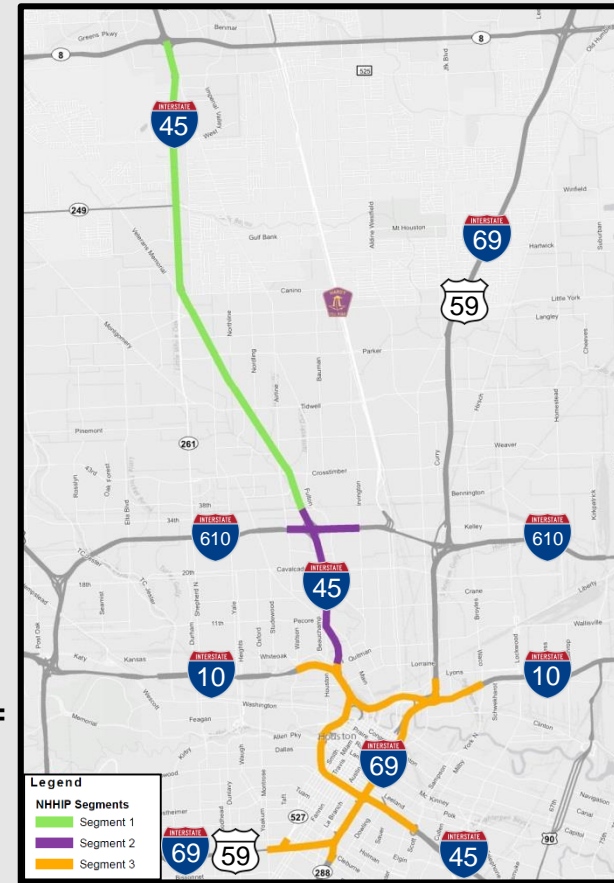
NHHIP: THE CHALLENGE

- 2005: Major Investment Study (MIS) to address projected growth and identified freeway and transit-oriented development opportunities along the corridor
- 2011: determined that a big fix was needed for downtown freeway system (1-45/I-10/I-69) versus piecemeal projects
- Goal: provide a **safer facility** with **additional capacity** for projected demand by **incorporating transit opportunities**, travel demand strategies, and **flexible operations**
 - Extensive outreach/partnering program with community stakeholders, the City of Houston, Harris County, and Downtown-area Management Districts (250+ meetings)



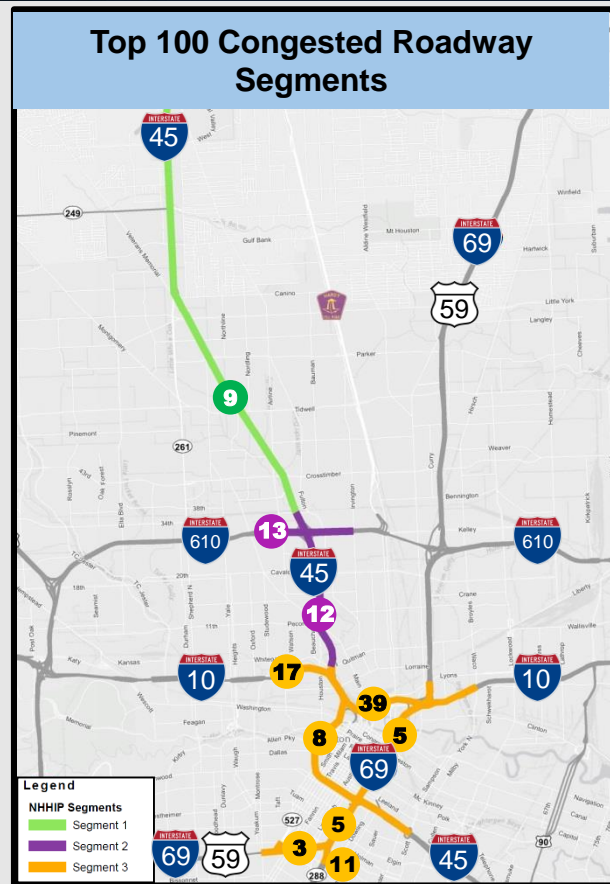
PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- Project divided into 3 Segments
 - **Segment 1:** Beltway 8 to I-610 (9 mi)
 - **Segment 2:** I-610 to I-10 (3 mi)
 - **Segment 3:** Downtown Loop System (12.3 mi)
- Goal: provide a safer facility with additional capacity for projected demand by incorporating transit opportunities, travel demand strategies, and flexible operations
- One “Proposed Recommended Alternative” per segment = single corridor end to end (24 mi total)



NEED AND PURPOSE FOR PROPOSED PROJECT

- Need for Proposed Project
 - Population and employment increases
 - Manage projected traffic growth
 - Bring to current design and safety standards
 - Move traffic efficiently, including evacuation events
- Purpose of Proposed Project
 - Manage congestion
 - Enhance safety
 - Provide expanded transit and carpool opportunities with 2-way, 24/7 operations
 - Improve mobility and operational efficiency
- NHHIP has 9 of the Top 40 Most Congested Roadways in Texas



BENEFITS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

- **+24 mph = 55 mph free flow speed***

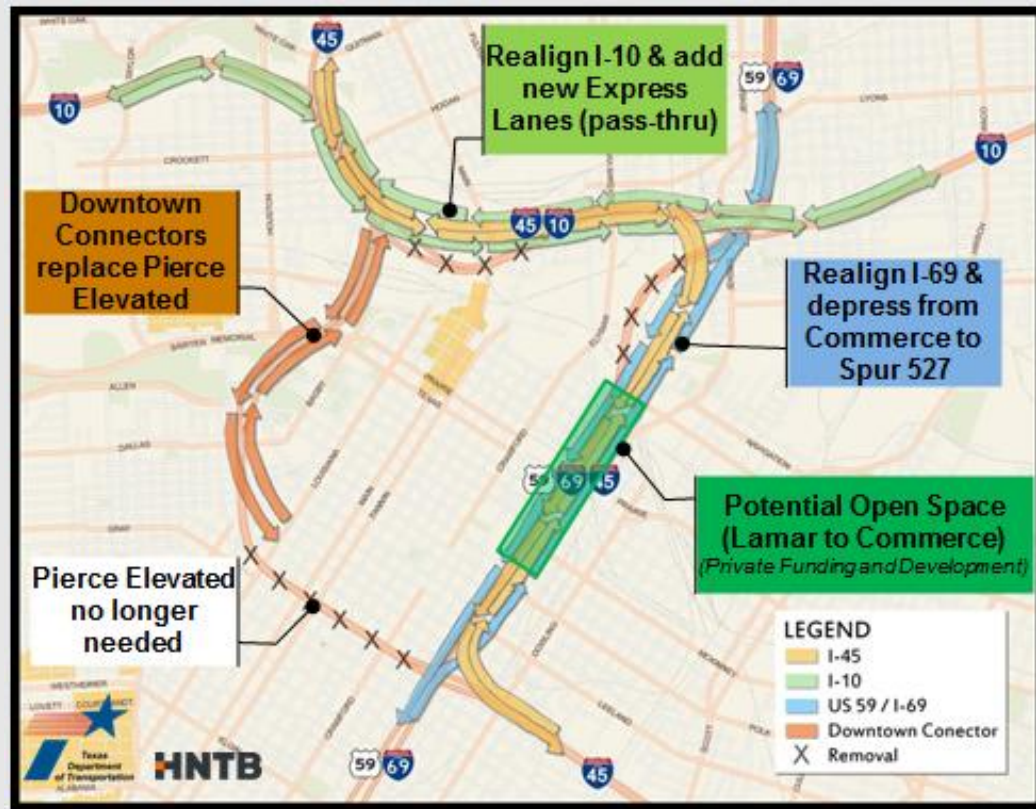
(Year 2040 AM Peak)

- **50% reduction in delay during peak hour around downtown***

- **Region-wide reduction in delay and increase to average speeds***

**Potential major air quality improvement for the region – positive overall impacts*

The Impact!



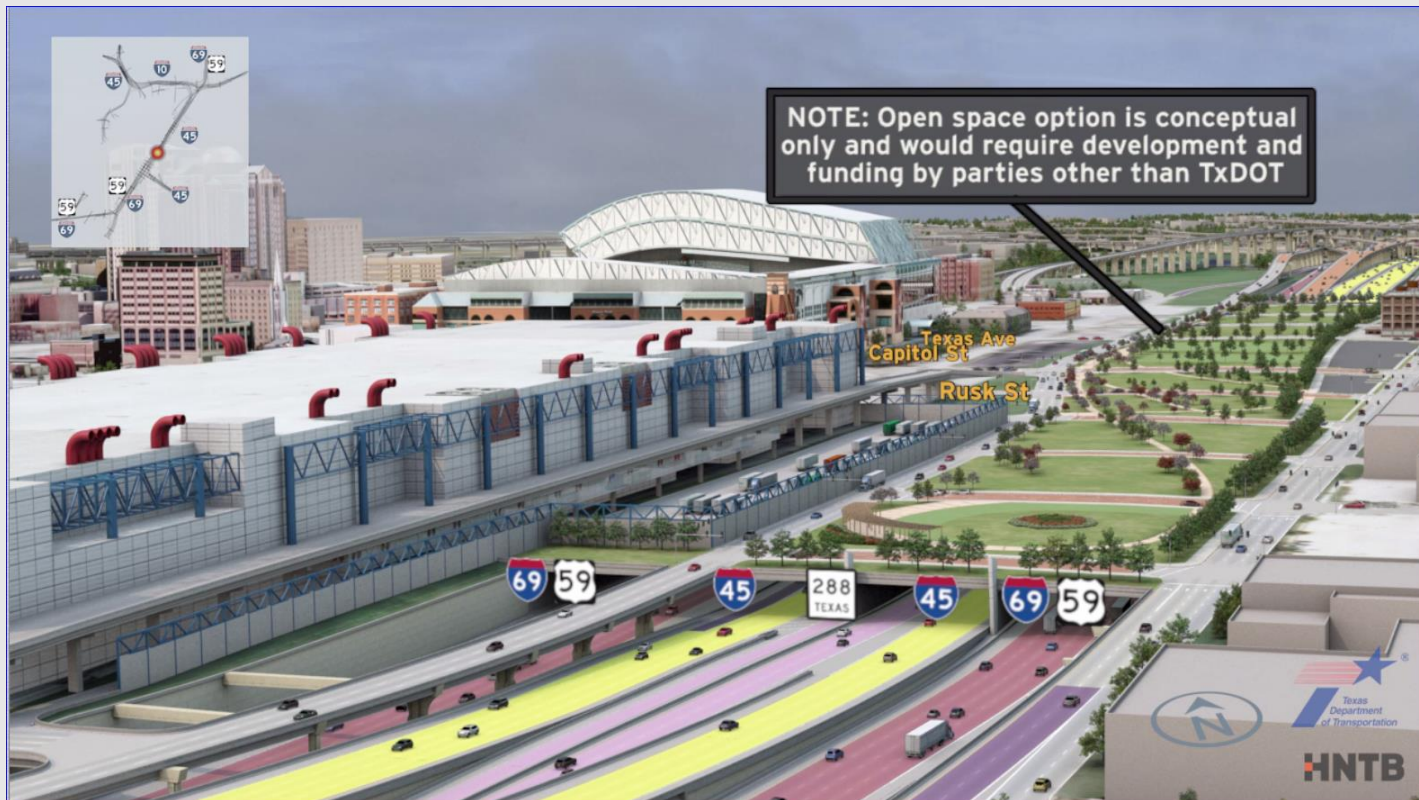
PRELIMINARY-SUBJECT TO CHANGE

POTENTIAL GREEN SPACE BEHIND THE GRB

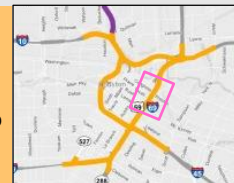
Segment 1

Segment 2

Segment 3



Segment 3

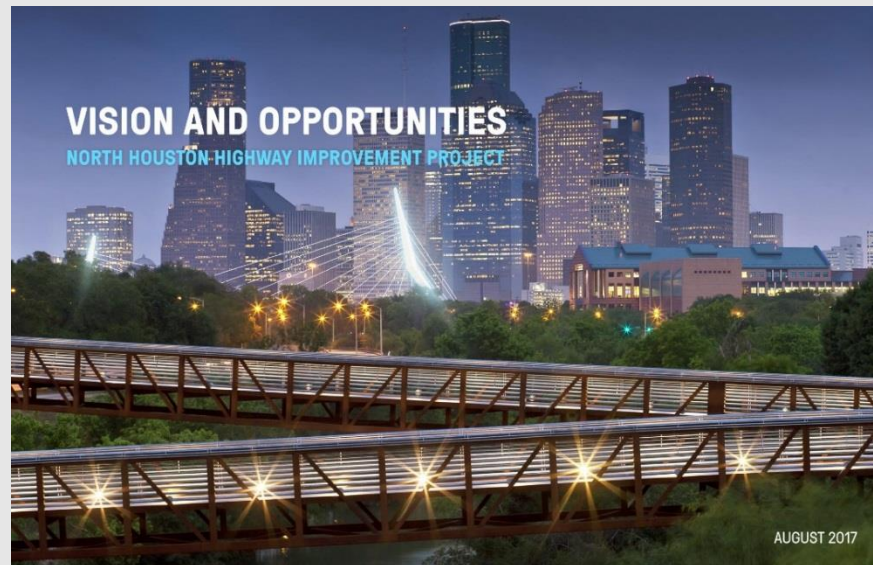
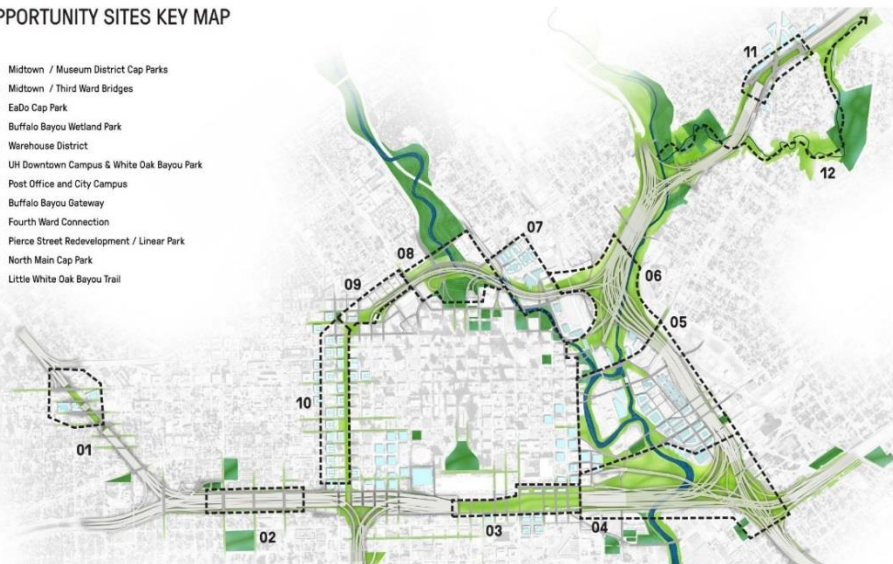


NHHIP: NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Central Houston, Inc.
studying economic benefits of
the planned NHHIP project

OPPORTUNITY SITES KEY MAP

- 01 Midtown / Museum District Cap Parks
- 02 Midtown / Third Ward Bridges
- 03 EaDo Cap Park
- 04 Buffalo Bayou Wetland Park
- 05 Warehouse District
- 06 UH Downtown Campus & White Oak Bayou Park
- 07 Post Office and City Campus
- 08 Buffalo Bayou Gateway
- 09 Fourth Ward Connection
- 10 Pierce Street Redevelopment / Linear Park
- 11 North Main Cap Park
- 12 Little White Oak Bayou Trail



Potential economic
development opportunities
ranging from \$5-9B

North Houston Highway Improvement Project

Houston District Resources & Questions

Quincy Allen, P.E.

TxDOT Houston District Engineer

713-802-5001

Raquelle Lewis

TxDOT Houston District PIO

713-802-5071 or email: raquelle.lewis@txdot.gov

For More Information:

Contact TxDOT-Houston District Public Information Office by email at HOU-PIOwebmail@TxDOT.gov or call 713-802-5076.

Follow us on Twitter: @TxDOTHoustonPIO