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July 19, 2023

### **I-35 Capital Express Central Project - Overview**

- Limits: US 290 East to SH 71/Ben White Boulevard
- Length: 8 miles
- Project Details:
  - Construct two managed lanes in each direction.
  - Reconstruct ramps, bridges and intersections.
  - Improve frontage roads.
  - Enhance bicycle and pedestrian paths.
  - Accommodate transit routes.
- Estimated construction cost: \$4.5 billion
- Anticipated construction start: Mid-2024



#### **Proposed Deck Plazas**





Preferred Alternative at 6th Street

Preferred Alternative at 6th Street

#### **Proposed Deck Plazas**





Preferred Alternative at 11th Street

Preferred Alternative at 11th Street with deck plaza.

#### **Boulevard Concept**



Modified alternative 3 at 8th Street

Modified alternative 3 at 8th Street with caps/deck plazas

#### **Boulevard Concept**





Modified alternative 3 at 3rd Street

Modified alternative 3 at 3rd Street with caps/deck plazas

### Lady Bird Lake



#### **Single-Point Urban Interchange at Airport Boulevard**





### **Single-Point Urban Interchange at Riverside Drive**



#### **Public Input is Key to the Planning Process**







TOTAL IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL MEETING PARTICIPANTS 23,500+



MEETINGS WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS & LEADERS



ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED IN PUBLIC MEETINGS



AGENCY COORDINATION MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

63



**VOICE MEETINGS** 



PUBLIC MEETINGS WITH A VIRTUAL OPTION

#### **Preferred Alternative = Modified Build Alternative 3**

Modified Build Alternative 3 accomplishes the purpose and need of the project to address congestion, improve mobility, and enhance safety based on the following data:	
Ø	<ul> <li>Fewer right-of-way impacts (compared to Alternative 2):</li> <li>69 commercial/business vs. 131</li> <li>26 residential vs. 145</li> <li>12 vacant lots vs. 15</li> </ul>
Ø	Improved mobility at Riverside Drive due to SPUI feature at the crossing with CapMetro Blue Line.
Ø	Provides more east-west crossings compared to Build Alternative 2 (26 vs. 23).
Ø	Provides walkable boulevard sections along frontage roads through downtown Austin.
Ø	<ul> <li>Allows for more potential local enhancements, including:</li> <li>Eight potential deck plazas (33.9 acres) compared to six deck plazas (14.6 acres) in Build Alternative 2.</li> <li>Easier access to potential deck plaza areas compared to Build Alternative 2 due to the boulevard sections.</li> </ul>

#### **Bike and Pedestrian Facilities**

#### • Shared-use paths:

- o 8 to 10-feet wide
- Running parallel to northbound and southbound I-35 frontage roads
- o Between US 290 East and Woodward Street
- Enhanced bridges:
  - Include 30 feet of buffer space between the SUP and roadway
  - Located at: 41st Street, 38th ½ Street, 32nd Street, MLK Jr. Boulevard, 12th Street, 11th Street, 7th Street, 6th Street, 5th Street and Cesar Chavez Street
- Caps and/or stitches:
  - o Cesar Chavez Street and 8th Street (east side of I-35)
  - Dean Keeton Street and 15th Street (west side of I-35)



Proposed bicycle and pedestrian-only trail at Lady Bird Lake



Enhanced bicycle and pedestrian crossing at 4th Street

#### **Local Enhancement Responsibilities**





# City of Austin



# **University of Texas-Austin**

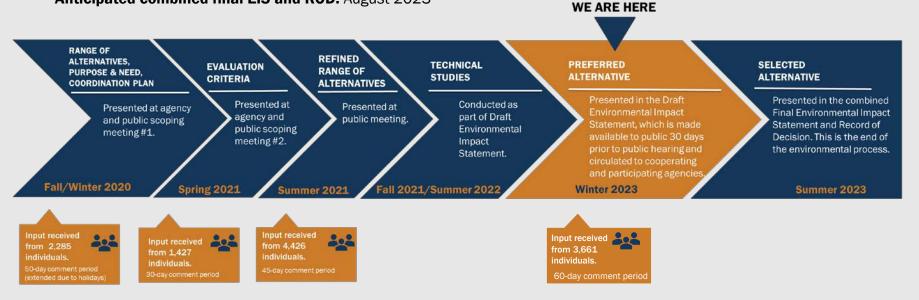
- Fund and construct surface-level enhancements after Capital Express Central construction completion.
- Determine locations for TxDOT to accommodate deck plazas.
- Design surface-level enhancements and obtain necessary permits.
- Review estimates for infrastructure and fire life safety required to support surface-level enhancements.
- Provide conceptual plans to TxDOT with loading requirements.
- Execute an Advanced Funding Agreement (COA)/Donation Agreement (UT) on estimate amended to match bid price at time of construction contract award.
- Fund operations and maintenance.
- Fund the infrastructure and fire suppression requirements included in CapEx Central construction.



- Design the roadway to allow for construction of local enhancements, including eight potential deck plazas (33.9 acres).
- Obtain environmental clearance for the project and separate environmental clearance for deck plaza locations identified by the COA/UT.
- Develop and execute funding agreements. Provide cost estimates for the infrastructure and tunnel life safety systems requirements.
- Construction of infrastructure and fire suppression requirements.

#### **Project Timeline**

- DEIS released: Jan. 5, 2023
- Public Hearing (in-person and virtual options): Feb. 9, 2023
- 60-day comment period: Jan. 5 through March 7, 2023
- Anticipated combined final EIS and ROD: August 2023



### **I-35 Capital Express South and North Projects – Overview**

#### I-35 Capital Express North

- SH 45 North to US 290 (11.5 miles)
- 1 managed lane each direction
- Reconstructing bridges and interchanges
- 5 miles of shared-use path
- \$606 million
- Start March 2023

## **I-35 Capital Express South**

- Ben White Boulevard to SH 45 SE (8 miles)
- 2 managed lanes each direction
- 2 miles of SH I-35 intersection bypass lanes
- Shared-use path
- \$548 million
- Start November 2022





# **THANK YOU**

**Downtown Commission** 

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