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March 1, 2024

Burnet County
220 S Pierce St, Rm 1
Burnet, TX 78611

Dear Property Owner:

The Texas Department of Transportation is hosting a virtual public meeting for the US 281 at SH 71 Interchange in Burnet County, Texas.

The meeting will be posted online beginning **Thursday, March 28, 2024, by 5 p.m. through April 12, 2024**. To attend the meeting, visit www.txdot.gov, keyword search "US 281 at SH 71 Interchange."

An in-person option is also available on **Thursday, March 28, 2024, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.** at the **Marble Falls High School Commons Area** located at **2101 Mustang Dr., Marble Falls, Texas 78654**.

TxDOT is conducting a study for proposed safety and mobility improvements, including bicycle and pedestrian connectivity at the US 281 at SH 71 interchange. The proposed project would construct a new interchange at US 281 at SH 71.

Most of US 281 functions as a local thoroughfare, commuter highway and freight corridor. In many cases, it is the sole access to subdivisions, businesses and schools.

Proposed project improvements include:

- Replacing the current cloverleaf interchange with an innovative interchange
- Adding elevated structures to improve mobility through the interchange
- Adding frontage roads to separate high-speed through traffic from local traffic
- Adding shared-use paths to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians

The public meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to review project information and updates, and comment on proposed improvements.

The schematic and environmental process is anticipated to take 12-18 months and will include additional opportunities for public involvement.

OUR VALUES: People • Accountability • Trust • Honesty
OUR MISSION: Connecting You With Texas

An Equal Opportunity Employer

March 1, 2024

If you would like additional information on the project or have any questions, please contact me at (512) 715-5701 or by email at Joe.Muck@txdot.gov.

Sincerely,



Joseph Muck, P.E.
Burnet Assistant Area Engineer

cc: Akila Thamizharasan, P.E., Advance Project Development Director, Austin District, TxDOT
Heather Ashley-Nguyen, P.E., Transportation Planning & Development Director, Austin District, TxDOT
Megan Dutton, P.E., Project Manager, Austin District, TxDOT
Scott Ford, Environmental Supervisor, Austin District, TxDOT
Bradley Wheelis, Southwest Communications Director, Austin District, TxDOT

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated Dec. 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

FACT SHEET

Project CSJ: 0252-02-058

Project Details

Current Conditions:

TxDOT is conducting a study for proposed safety and mobility improvements, including bicycle and pedestrian connectivity at the US 281 at SH 71 interchange. The current interchange uses loop ramps to accommodate left-turning movements. This creates short weaving movement between loop ramps, concentrates potential conflict points, and smaller radius curves have low design speed and are not efficient for trucks. The proposed project would construct a new interchange at US 281 at SH 71. Most of US 281 functions as both a local thoroughfare, commuter highway and freight corridor.

The Texas Freight Mobility Plan 2018 identifies US 281 as a key highway corridor being used by the agricultural industry in Texas. SH 71 is the main route from Austin into the Hill Country and towards the Highland Lakes region in Burnet County. This interchange is integral to the mobility of freight and commuters, and provides access to popular travel destinations in Central Texas. Upgrades to this intersection will help improve safety and mobility.

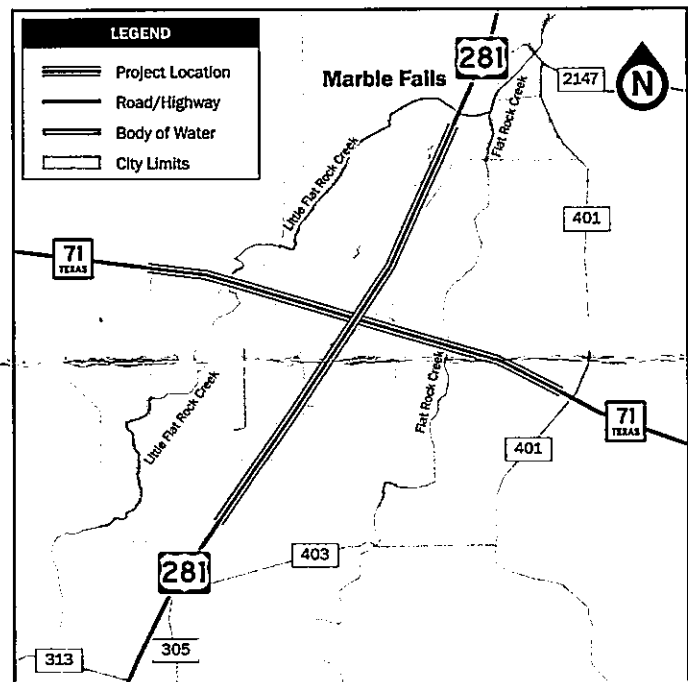
Proposed Project Improvements:

- Replacing the current cloverleaf interchange with an innovative interchange
- Adding elevated structures to improve mobility through the interchange
- Adding frontage roads to separate high-speed through traffic from local traffic
- Adding shared-use paths to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians

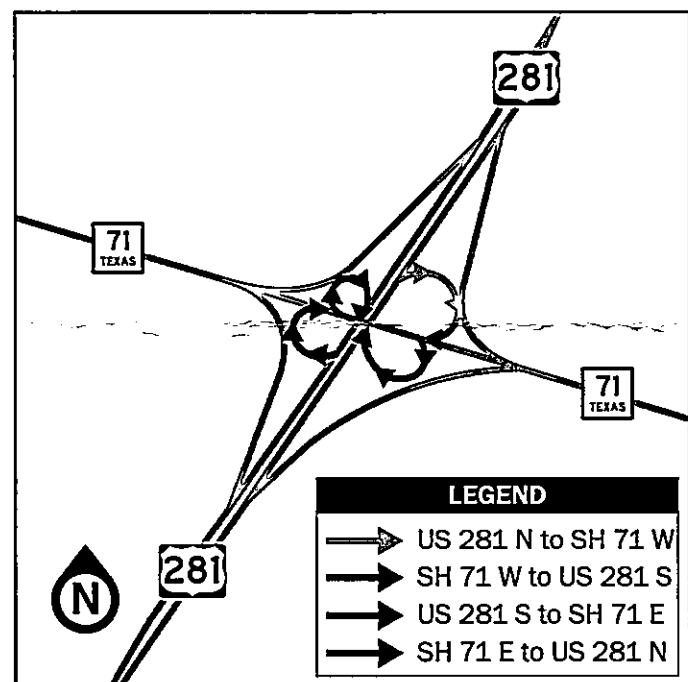
Project Timeline:

The environmental study is anticipated to take 12-18 months and will complete in 2025. Construction is estimated to begin in 2029.

Project Location Map



Current Interchange



The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated Dec. 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

Questions or Comments  512-715-5701  Joe.Muck@txdot.gov  www.txdot.gov and search "US 281 at SH 71 Interchange"

March 2024

INTERCAMBIO DE LA US 281 EN LA SH 71

Distrito de Austin

HOJA INFORMATIVA

Proyecto CSJ: 0252-02-058

Detalles del proyecto

Condiciones Actuales:

TxDOT está llevando a cabo un estudio para las mejoras propuestas de seguridad y movilidad, incluida la conectividad para bicicletas y peatones en el intercambio de la US 281 en la SH 71. El intercambio actual utiliza rampas circulares o de bucle para acomodar los movimientos de giro a la izquierda. Esto crea un movimiento corto en rampas circulares o de bucle la cual concentra puntos de conflicto potenciales, además las curvas de radio más pequeñas tienen una velocidad de diseño baja y no son eficientes para los camiones. El proyecto propuesto construiría un nuevo intercambio de la US 281 en la SH 71. La mayor parte de la US 281 funciona como una vía local, una autopista para viajeros y un corredor de carga.

The Texas Freight Mobility Plan 2018 identifica a la US 281 como un corredor vial clave utilizado por la industria agrícola en Texas. La SH 71 es la ruta principal desde Austin hacia el Hill Country y hacia la región de Highland Lakes en el condado de Burnet. Este intercambio es parte integral de la movilidad de carga y viajeros, y brinda acceso a destinos de viaje populares en el centro de Texas. Las mejoras en esta intersección ayudarán a mejorar la seguridad y la movilidad.

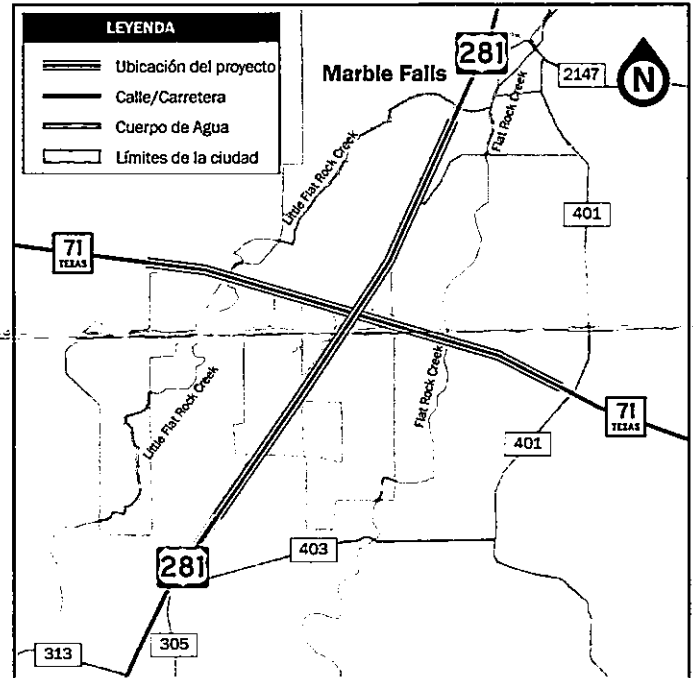
Mejoras Propuestas en el Proyecto:

- Sustitución del actual intercambiador de trébol por un intercambiador innovador
- Adición de estructuras elevadas para mejorar la movilidad a través del intercambiador
- Adición de carreteras secundarias para separar el tráfico de alta velocidad del tráfico local
- Agregar caminos de uso compartido para acomodar a ciclistas y peatones acomodadoras

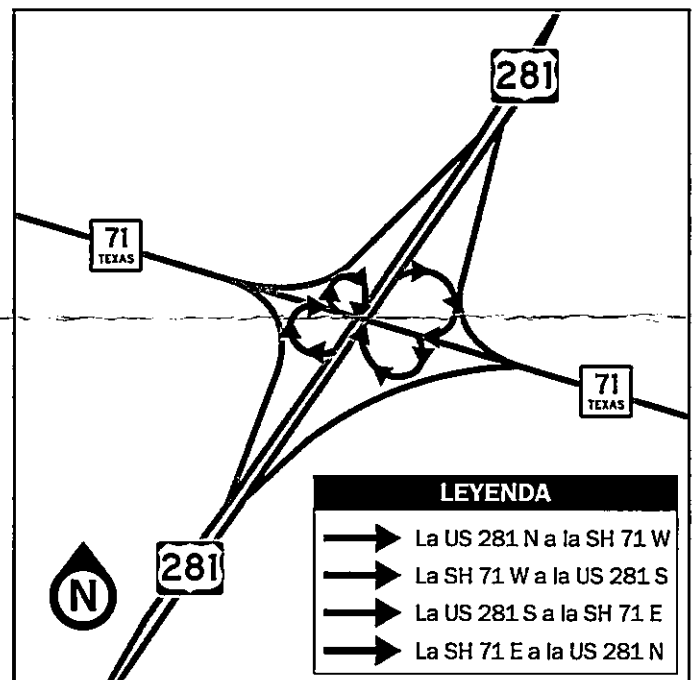
Cronograma del Proyecto:

Se prevé que el estudio ambiental dure entre 12 y 18 meses y se completará en 2025. Se estima que la construcción comience en 2029.

Mapa de Ubicación del Proyecto



Intercambio Actual



La revisión ambiental, la consulta y otras acciones requeridas por las leyes ambientales federales aplicables para este proyecto están siendo, o han sido, llevadas a cabo por TxDOT de conformidad con 23 U.S.C. 327 y el Memorando de Entendimiento de fecha 9 de diciembre de 2019, y ejecutadas por FHWA TxDOT.

Preguntas o Comentarios ☎ 512-715-5701 ✉ Joe.Muck@txdot.gov 🌐 www.txdot.gov y busque "US 281 at SH 71 Interchange"

Marzo 2024