

November 8, 2022

## Alliance Annual Meeting

### ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION & SPONSORSHIPS -

There is still time to register for the Alliance Annual Meeting on Friday, November 18th, at the Omni Houston Hotel. Make your Annual Meeting reservation [HERE](#). TxDOT Deputy Executive Director Brandye Hendrickson will be our keynote speaker.



Opportunities are still available for your organization to be an event sponsor. The sponsorship form is [available HERE](#). Thanks to the organizations that have agreed to be sponsors so far: Port of Corpus Christi Authority, Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority, GDJ Engineering, TexAmericas Center and S & B Infrastructure, Ltd.



Premont Relief Route

**NORTHBOUND PREMONT RELIEF ROUTE** – The northbound lanes of the 6.2-mile Premont Relief Route on US 281/I-69C are now open to traffic. Southbound lanes are not yet complete and traffic still must go through Premont where drivers encounter the last traffic light on Future I-69C between US 59 at George West and I-2 in the Rio Grande Valley. Final bridge work is underway and completion is expected in 2023.

**ODEM STUDY** – A TxDOT open house for the US 77/I-69E Odem area relief route study will be held from 4:30-6:30 p.m. November 9th at Odem Junior High. Potential route alternatives are being developed for this high priority highway section.

**NEW ALLIANCE BOARD MEMBER** – Joseph Pace, city manager of Wharton since 2021, is a new member of the Alliance board. He takes the place of David Schroeder who has represented Wharton County organizations on the board for more than a decade.

**REMEMBERING BILLIE JONES** – Billie Jones, a founding member of the Alliance, died October 31st. Jones represented the Wharton Chamber of Commerce on the Alliance board and was a member of the executive committee until her retirement in 2020.



**TxDOT UPDATE** – Recent staff appointments in TxDOT's Transportation Planning and Programming Division (TPP) will impact planning and project selection for I-69. Mildred Litchfield is now deputy director of TPP, taking the place of retiring Roger Beall. Lorena Echeverria De Missi is the new corridor planning branch manager and Juan Flores is director of freight, international trade and connectivity.

**LAREDO DISTRICT** - Epigmenio Gonzalez has been appointed as the TxDOT Laredo District Engineer, replacing David Salazar who is now district engineer for the Fort Worth District. Carl Johnson, previously the Fort Worth district engineer, now oversees all TxDOT districts statewide.



**RIO GRANDE VALLEY CELEBRATION** – October 28th was a great day for celebrating additions to the I-69 System in Cameron, Willacy and Kenedy Counties. This photo shows those participating in the addition of 5.6 miles to I-69E/US 77 beside the new overpass at the Kenedy-Willacy County Line. The interstate is now complete across all of Cameron and Willacy Counties. The second celebration of the day was for a 2.5 mile section of I-169 in Cameron County, an event delayed for two years by Covid concerns. I-169 is a 10 mile spur of the I-69 System which leads to the Port of Brownsville. See more photos from the celebration day on Page 2.

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## I-69E and I-169 Sign Unveiling Events - October 28, 2022



(Clockwise from top left) I-69E unveiling by Cameron County Commissioner David Garza and Pharr District Engineer Pedro Alvarez; TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams and Garza help lead I-69E event; (l-r) Cameron RMA Executive Director Pete Sepulveda, Garza, Alliance Chairman and Polk County Judge Sydney Murphy, Alliance Executive Director Jennifer Shepard and Williams; Judge Murphy thanks I-69 supporters for their successful persistence; Cameron County celebration participants; Cameron County Judge Eddie Trevino, Williams and Alvarez unveil I-169 sign at FM 1847 overpass.

