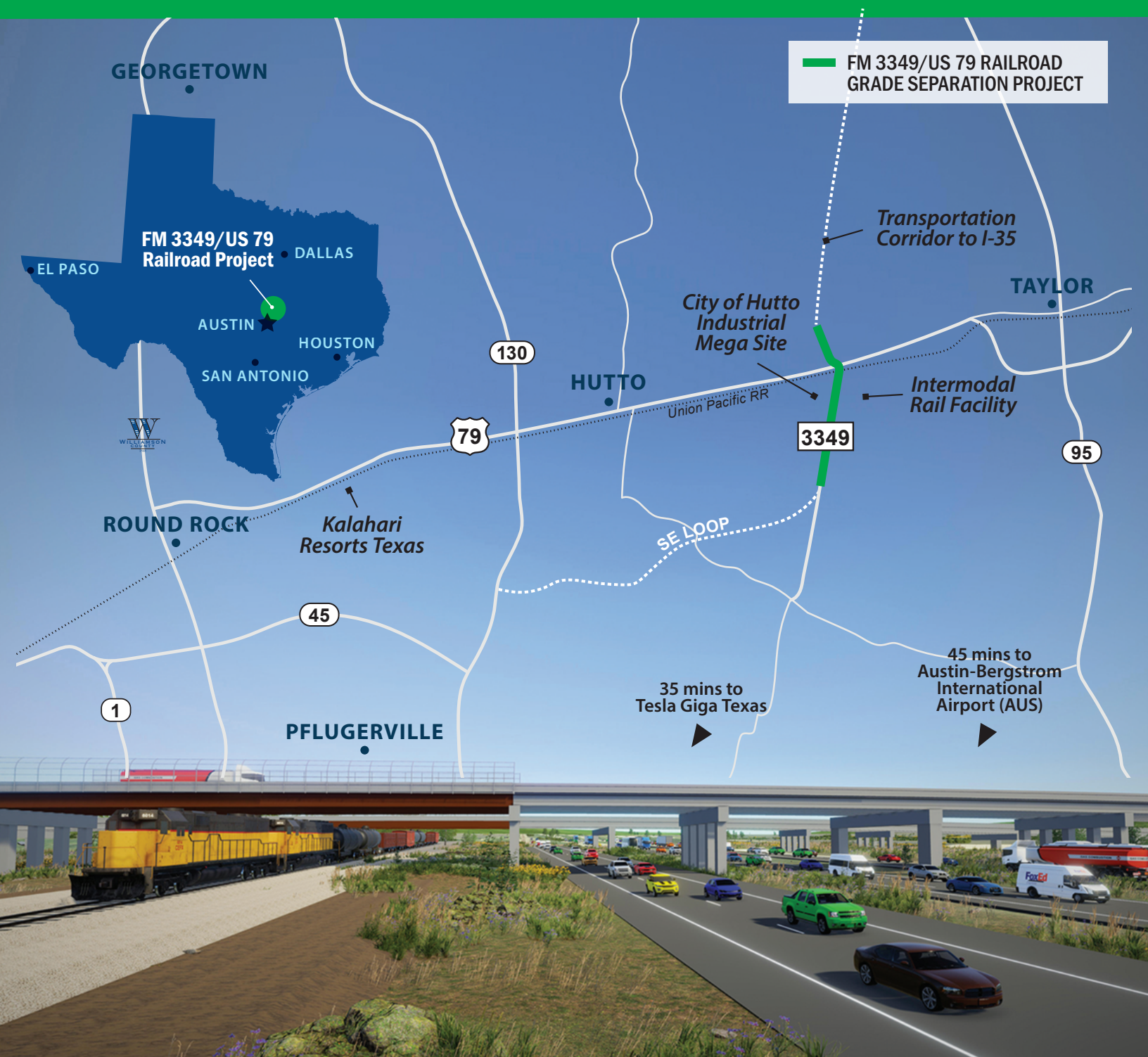


FM 3349/US 79 Railroad Grade Separation Project



The FM 3349/US 79 Railroad Grade Separation Project provides grade separated travel over the busy Union Pacific rail line and provides a safe signalized connection between FM 3349 and US 79. This project is consistent with Williamson County, State of Texas, and federal initiatives to provide facilities for freight accessing the state and national freight networks, provide alternative routes for emergency events, provide grade separations at major railroad crossings, and provide safe and reliable transportation options to economic generators. This project is also a segment of a larger Williamson County transportation corridor, connecting SH 130 with US 79 to I-35.



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Williamson County is requesting \$61 million in matching funds, in addition to the County's commitment and participation, which exceeds \$24.4 million. Williamson County has effectively managed large projects and has the ability to obligate matching funds via sustainable revenue sources. This project will enhance economic opportunity while improving safety and mobility through the construction of a railroad grade separation linking state roadways to economic generators such as the RCR Freight Facility and the City of Hutto Industrial Mega Site.

Williamson County has begun preparing for implementation of the improvements, which have strong local support, while making efforts to align with potential funding opportunities:



The investment is vital to the economy of Central Texas, and aims to provide safe and reliable roadways in an area of rapid population growth, as of 2019 per the U.S. Census:



Building this critical link would assist in the completion of the Southeast Loop connection between SH 130 and US 79. Additionally, the grade separation project is a key element of a larger Williamson County transportation corridor, which extends connectivity from SH 130 to I-35. Both are identified in the Williamson County Long-Range Transportation Plan and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) 2045 Regional Transportation Plan.

Safety & Mobility

- Reduces at grade truck crossing at the heavily travelled Union Pacific rail line.
- Reduces Hutto ISD school bus crossings
- Aligns with local plans to reduce congestion through downtown City of Hutto, a booming city in Williamson County.
- Prioritizes safety for all modes of transportation including bicycles and pedestrians via the future shared-use path.
- To accommodate future population growth, the project includes additional ROW for future expansion as growth continues for transportation and community facilities.
- Reduces barriers to opportunity by upgrading transportation facilities to current American with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

Economic Development

- Railroad grade separation provides access between state roadways and multimodal economic generators, including the RCR Freight Facility and the City of Hutto Industrial Mega site.
- The project provides connectivity between housing in the Cities of Hutto, Taylor and Pflugerville to the new Tesla Gigafactory and Taylor Industrial Rail yard.
- Improves connectivity to key regional business centers and recreational destinations including the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center, a 350-acre site with over 900 hotel rooms and 200,000 square feet of meeting space.