

# FORT WORTH DISTRICT PARTNERS



## MAINTAIN a safe system

As one of its goals, TxDOT is encouraging Texans to focus their attention on the road and put down their cell phones while driving.

Traffic crashes reported with cell phone use as a contributing factor:

**1,141 total crashes in Tarrant County resulting in 308 injuries since 2007**

**Over 6 million crashes nationwide caused by distracted driving since 2007**

April 2012

### **\$2 Billion in Additional Funding**

TxDOT is in early discussions with the state's metropolitan planning organizations (MPO) to develop a collaborative process in anticipation of additional funding. TxDOT expects to leverage up to \$2 billion over the next two years to facilitate construction on some of the state's high priority projects. This announcement came in February after several months of analyzing federal funding opportunities, scrubbing project budgets and embracing best practices in money management. Working directly with the state's MPOs and local communities, TxDOT will prioritize the state's most-needed projects.

### **I-20 Passenger Rail Study Begins**

In February, TxDOT and Amtrak announced the start of a passenger rail study along I-20 from Dallas/Fort Worth to the Arkansas and Louisiana borders. TxDOT has received \$265,000 in federal funds for the study through the East Texas Corridor Council, which promotes economic development in East Texas, northwest Louisiana and southwest Arkansas. Results of the study are expected at the end of the year.

 [txdot.gov](http://txdot.gov) • rail plan

### **SH 360**

The new SH 360 southbound frontage road from Randol Mill Road to Abram Street was

opened March 17, removing the previous discontinuous bottleneck. The northbound frontage road was opened in January.

 [keep360moving.org](http://keep360moving.org)

### **Weatherford Western Loop**

Parker County and Weatherford officials recently celebrated the grand opening of the Ric Williamson Memorial Highway's first phase from FM 51 to FM 920. The highway is part of a five-phase \$45 million project that will connect FM 51 with I-20. The project was included in an \$80 million transportation bond package approved by county voters in 2008.

 [parkercountytransportationbond.com](http://parkercountytransportationbond.com)

### **DFW Connector Honor**

DFW Connector Project Manager Sam Swan was honored on Feb. 15 by the White House as a "Champion of Change" for his work in fostering innovations on the \$1.1 billion project. A 28-year TxDOT veteran, Swan and 10 others from different sectors were recognized for improving the nation's infrastructure. The project is several months ahead of schedule due in part to field and technology innovations.

 [dfwconnector.com](http://dfwconnector.com)

# PARTNERS *in construction*

## AWARDED PROJECTS

	Hwy	Limits	Type of Work	Estimate (millions)	Bid (millions)	Over/Underrun (%)
MAR	FM 2738	FM 917 to US 67, Johnson County	Add shoulders	\$2.5	\$3.0	+19.1
	FM 51	Western Loop to US 180, Weatherford	Pavement overlay and repairs	\$0.9	\$0.8	-9.3

## PROJECTED PROJECTS

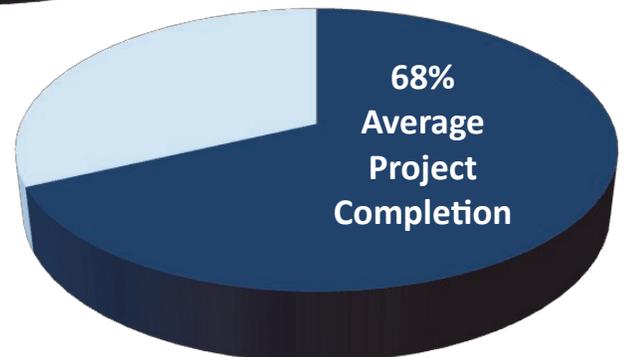
	Hwy	Limits	Type of Work	Estimate (millions)
APR	Business 67	US 67 to Pendell St, Johnson County	Pavement overlay and repairs	\$2.1
	Spur 312	At Western Loop, Weatherford	Traffic signal	\$0.2
	Old Airport Rd	At Burgess Creek, Parker County	Bridge replacement	\$1.4
MAY	SH 199	FM 730 to FM 51, Parker County	Pavement overlay and repairs	\$6.6
	FM 1187	I-20 to Oak St, Aledo	Widen from 2 to 4 lanes	\$12.5
	US 180	At Western Loop, Weatherford	Construct intersection	\$1.5
	US 67	At County Rd 209, Alvarado	Traffic signal	\$0.1
	FM 2738	At Mountain Creek, Johnson County	Bridge replacement	\$1.4



### \$161 M PROPOSED LETTING



### FY 2012 CONSTRUCTION\*



### TOTAL CONTRACTS \$653 M

\*does not include CDAs, Chisholm Trail or pass-throughs

**A**fter 18 months of construction, the North Tarrant Express (NTE) is 22 percent complete and on target to open to traffic by 2015.

All 399 parcels of right of way have been acquired and nearly 100 percent of the corridor is under construction. To date, NTE Mobility Partners has moved 920,000 cubic yards of dirt, tied 6.9 million pounds of rebar, laid 50,000 linear feet of permanent pipe, laid 40,000 tons of asphalt, and poured 40,000 cubic yards of concrete. The contractor has spent \$480 million to date.

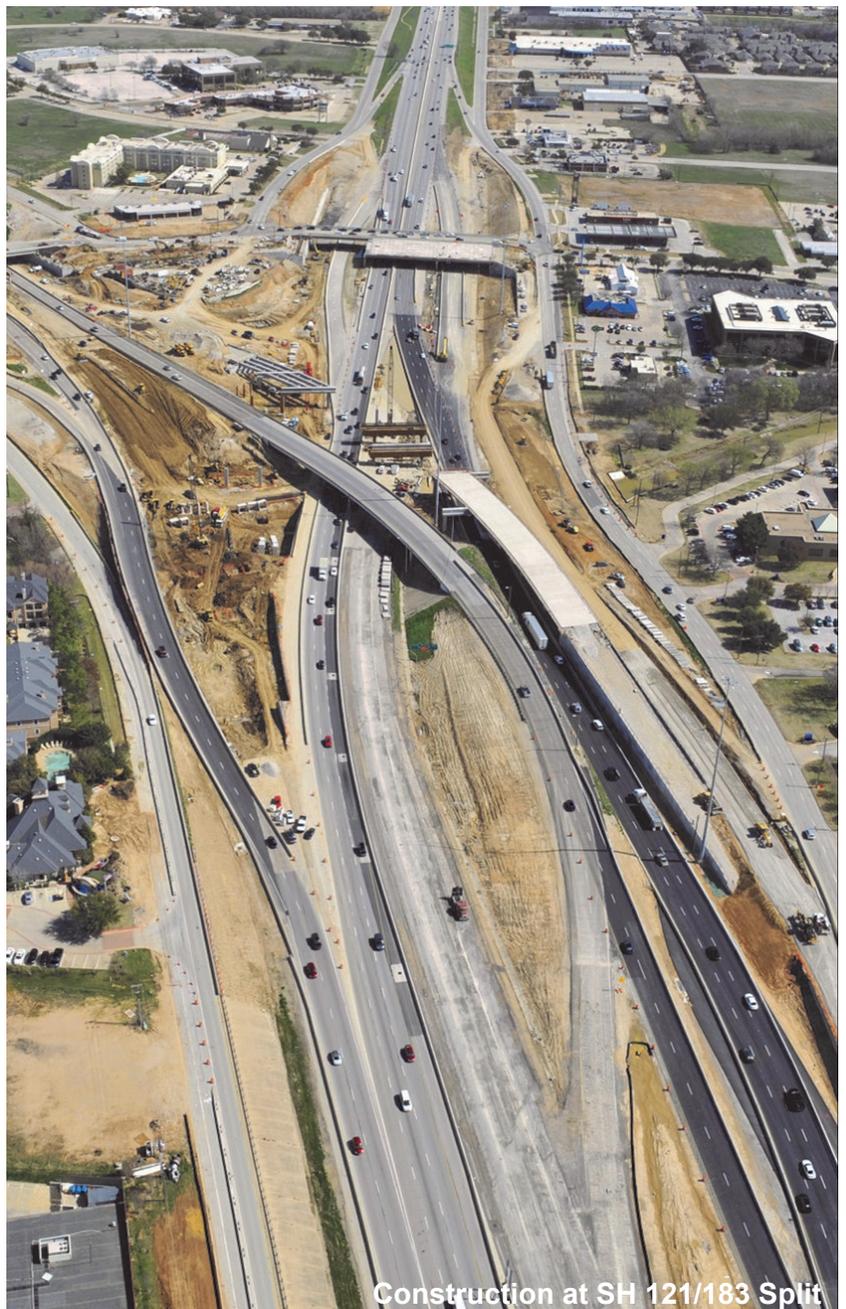
Having totaled over 1.1 million man-hours, the project is currently employing 900 workers. At this time, the NTE is contracted with 100 disadvantaged business enterprises.

Some of the major project highlights so far include the demolition and reconstruction of the Murphy Drive and Westpark Way bridges, and major work on the managed lane direct connectors from I-35W to I-820. In the coming months, construction activity will increase with work getting under way at the Northeast Interchange and major utility work on the western segment of the project. Bridge work will continue with the demolition and reconstruction of the Hurstview Drive bridge.

By May, a new pedestrian bridge and new westbound frontage road near Hurstview Drive are scheduled to open. A project open house and ceremonial pedestrian bridge walk are tentatively scheduled for late April/early May.

The NTE project team continues to work closely with the six corridor cities (Fort Worth, Haltom City, North Richland Hills, Bedford, Hurst and Euless), Tarrant County, and the HEB Chamber and Northeast Tarrant Chamber to keep residents, businesses and city/county staff informed about construction activities and upcoming closures.

 [northtarrantexpress.com](http://northtarrantexpress.com)



Construction at SH 121/183 Split



Tarrant . Johnson

Parker . Wise . Hood

Erath . Palo Pinto

Jack . Somervell



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 [txdot.gov](http://txdot.gov) • Fort Worth



# Don't Barrel Through Work Zones!

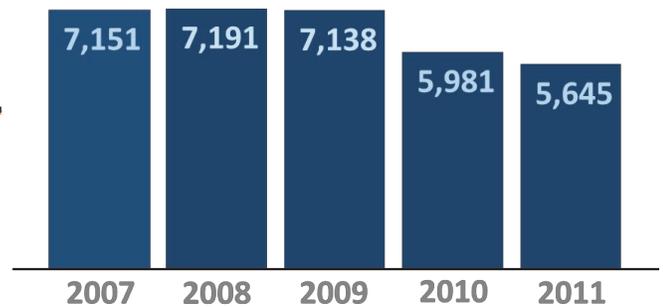
## Drive Smart to Arrive Alive

National Work Zone Awareness Week is April 23-27. During this time, TxDOT reminds motorists that there can be **more than 1,000 Texas highway work zones in operation during the summer months.** With so much construction, motorists have to stay alert. In 2010, 100 people were killed in Texas highway construction and maintenance zones.

The two leading causes of work zone crashes were excessive speed and the failure to remain alert while driving. **About 60 percent of those crashes were related to alcohol, drugs or distracted driving.** Forty-five percent of all work zone fatalities for 2010 were 35 years old or younger.



Distracted Driver Crashes in Tarrant County



-  **Slow Down:** Always follow posted work zone speed limits. Speeding is one of the major causes of work zone crashes. Remember, traffic fines double in work zones.
-  **Pay Attention:** Workers may only be a few feet away from passing vehicles.
-  **Be Patient:** Delays from highway construction can be frustrating, but it only takes a few extra minutes to slow down for a work zone.
-  **Plan Ahead:** Leave a few minutes early to reach your destination on time.

 [txdot.gov](http://txdot.gov) • work zones

## FEDERAL *update*

The SAFETEA-LU bill, which expired on Sept. 30, 2009, is currently operating under its ninth extension through June 30, 2012. The extension funds the next three months of FY 2012 under the original bill's apportionment. To keep up with the status of the federal transportation bill, visit these sites regularly.

 [transportation.org](http://transportation.org)

 [transportation.nationaljournal.com](http://transportation.nationaljournal.com)

 [trans2group.com](http://trans2group.com)

 [innobriefs.com](http://innobriefs.com)