

Project Fact Sheet

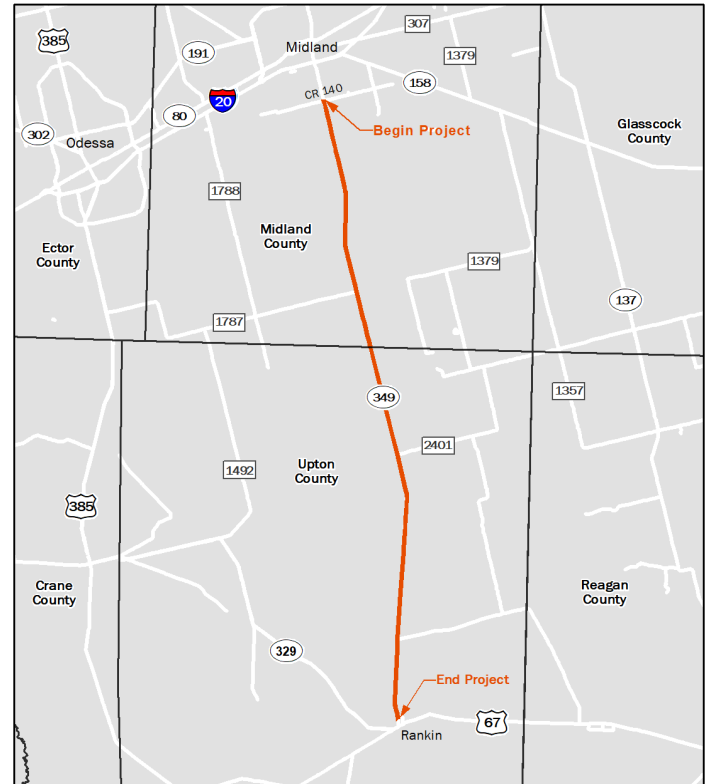
The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Odessa District is proposing to widen SH 349 from CR 140 in Midland to Spur 576 in Rankin in Midland and Upton counties, Texas. The proposed project is needed to accommodate increased freight and energy truck traffic volumes due to growing oil and gas production, to address safety concerns, and to address aging roadway infrastructure.

Project Purpose

The project's purpose is to improve mobility and safety and upgrade the roadway to meet current design standards.

As the roadway design and route location are developed, TxDOT will consider the following:

- **Traffic:** From 2015 to 2019, traffic volumes along SH 349 have increased by 30 percent. Traffic volumes are anticipated to increase by another 45 percent by 2038.
- **Population Growth:** The City of Midland had an 87 percent increase in population between 1970 and 2010. This trend is anticipated to continue until 2070 at least. Growth in the area will continue to impact the existing transportation network with increasing traffic volumes.
- **Oil and Gas Activity:** A portion of the SH 349 corridor has one of the highest oversized/overweight truck traffic volumes among Permian Basin roadways, averaging 34 trips daily. Over 30 percent of existing traffic on SH 349 consists of trucks transporting sand, water, crude oil, and other materials used in energy sector production.
- **Safety:** The crash rate for this corridor has increased by 102 percent since 2015 and is higher than the statewide average for rural state highways. The number of fatalities along the corridor are about 20 times above the statewide average, and the suspected serious injury crashes are 4.5 times more than the statewide average.



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The SH 349 corridor, from CR 140 in Midland to Spur 576 in Rankin, is about 50 miles in length. The proposed improvements to SH 349 would include widening to a four-lane divided highway, with two lanes in each direction, with a center median and turn-lanes throughout the entire length of the rural portion of the project.

PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Identify a long-term solution that:
 - ✓ Improves mobility and connectivity
 - ✓ Reduces congestion
 - ✓ Address safety concerns
 - ✓ Sustainable design preserves roadbed
 - ✓ Minimizes impacts to the community and the natural environment
- Receive and consider public input

PROPOSED DESIGN CONCEPT

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

This is the proposed design concept, or typical section, that TxDOT is currently considering. It features two lanes in each direction with a proposed right-of-way (ROW) width of approximately 220 feet.

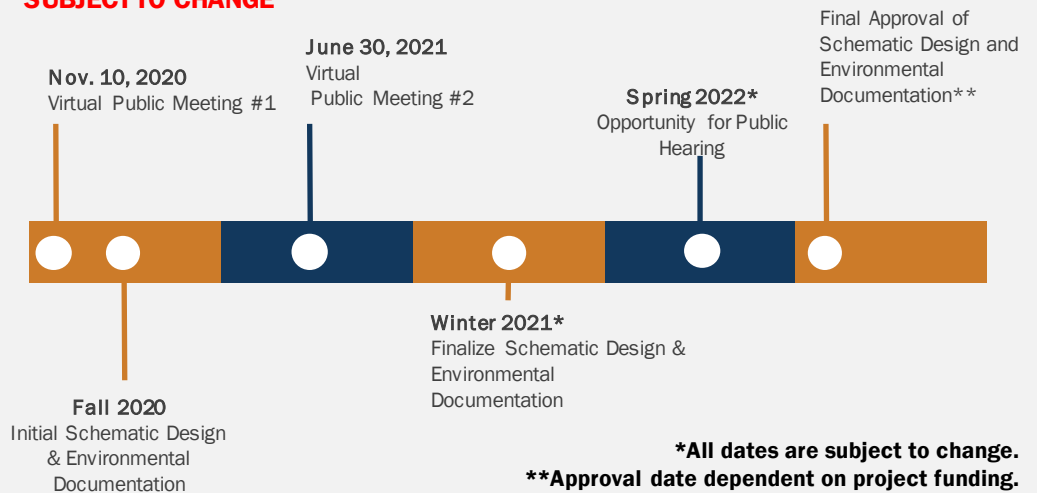


**Proposed right of way would be 220 feet
with four travel lanes**

No final decisions have been made regarding the design or right-of-way footprint.

PROJECT MILESTONES

SUBJECT TO CHANGE



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 December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

**GIVE
US
YOUR
INPUT**

HOW TO COMMENT

**Visit www.TxDOT.gov
Keyword search: "SH 349 Public Meeting"**



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