

PROJECT FACT SHEET: LOOP 286 IMPROVEMENTS

November 2023 | Paris District



The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing roadway and operational improvements to two segments of Loop 286 around Paris, Texas. TxDOT started studying long-term improvements to Loop 286 in 2018 before selecting two short-term projects, the Northeast Loop and Southeast Loop, to be further developed as a continuation of the project.

PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of the long- and short-term projects is to enhance safety, increase regional mobility, improve traffic operations, and address roadway deficiencies. The proposed short-term improvements can potentially reduce the crash volume by 43% in the project areas.



NORTHEAST LOOP PROJECT

The Northeast Loop project, which is a continuation of TxDOT's 2010 Pine Mill Road intersection project, begins at Stillhouse Road and extends to Pine Mill Road. The Northeast Loop project would expand the roadway from two lanes in either direction to two high-speed, non-stop main lanes and two low-speed, controlled-access frontage roads in either direction. It will also add an overpass at North Collegiate Drive, improve safety with lighting, improve drainage, and add paths for bicycles and pedestrians.

SOUTHEAST LOOP PROJECT

The Southeast Loop project begins at Farm to Market (FM) 1497 and extends to FM 905. The Southeast Loop project will expand the roadway from two lanes in either direction to a five-lane design with two lanes of traffic in either direction and a wide center lane dedicated to left turns, as well as add a shared-use path and improve the intersection of South Collegiate Drive near Paris High School. Funding for this project has not yet been identified.

LONG-TERM IMPROVEMENTS

The proposed long-term project encompasses the entire Loop around Paris, which is a length of 15.5 miles. Funding for the entire long-term project has not yet been identified. Proposed improvements include adding additional lanes and sidewalks/wide paths for bicycles and pedestrians; separating high and low speed traffic with mainlanes and frontage roads on the northern section of the Loop; and improving safety through lighting and signage, traffic flow through turn lanes and signal timing, drainage, and access for existing and future developments.

For additional information, please visit: www.Loop286.com



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PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT TO DATE

Three public meetings have been hosted about the Northeast and Southeast Loop projects to date:

- **April 25, 2019 In-Person Public Meeting** – 39 attendees, 10 comments, and 73 survey responses
- **July 16, 2020 Virtual Public Meeting** – 245 presentation views, 10 comments, and 62 survey responses
- **July 26, 2022 In-Person and Virtual Public Meeting** – 60 attendees, 116 presentation views, 25 comments, and 343 unique views to virtual public meeting engagement platform

PROJECT UPDATES SINCE JULY 2022

In response to public involvement and feedback received from property owners to date, the project team updated the following components of project design:

- **Modified ramp design at FM 195** – To address public comments on the original entrance ramp design, the project team analyzed other options and relocated four ramps to provide more efficient and direct access to locations along the Northeast Loop. Minor right-of-way modifications are required to accommodate this design change.
- **Modified design for FM 195 and Collegiate Drive intersections** – These cross streets were widened at the Loop, with their construction limits extended, to accommodate future roadway widening projects and improve traffic flow through the intersections.
- **Modified driveway designs** – The project team heard from several property owners about how the project design would impact access to their property and worked to refine driveway locations and design to address their concerns.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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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 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and TxDOT.

PROJECT TIMELINE



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