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Welcome to the Pharr District Rural Transportation Improvement Program Virtual Public Meeting for the 2027-2030 program! My name is Ray Pedraza and I'm the Public Information Officer. We are here today to go over the projects to be included in the upcoming 2027-2030 Rural TIP.

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Agenda

01 Safety Minute	06 Projects by County
02 Pharr District and its boundaries	07 Funding
03 The Rural Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	08 Next Steps
04 How the Rural TIP Impacts You	
05 How Projects are Selected for the Rural TIP	

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Script:

Today we will go over the counties in Pharr District and all the roads under the district’s care. We will also review the basics of what is the Rural TIP and why is it important for you to be here with us today. We will explain how the projects included in the program are selected and classified in order to make the most of the program.

Once you understand all of this, you will have the opportunity to review all the projects the Pharr District has included in the 2027–2030 program. Both the big and the small supporting projects.

We will also go over funding, answering questions on “where does the money to pay for these projects come from? and how it gets distributed?”. Lastly, we will outline all the options you have to comment on these projects and their priority.



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Drive like a Texan is all about saving lives. It's a reminder for everyone in Texas to treat each other with a little bit of the kindness, respect, and neighborly spirit we're famous for, especially on the road. By showing courtesy and care behind the wheel the same way we would in person, we can make our roads safer for all.

Kind

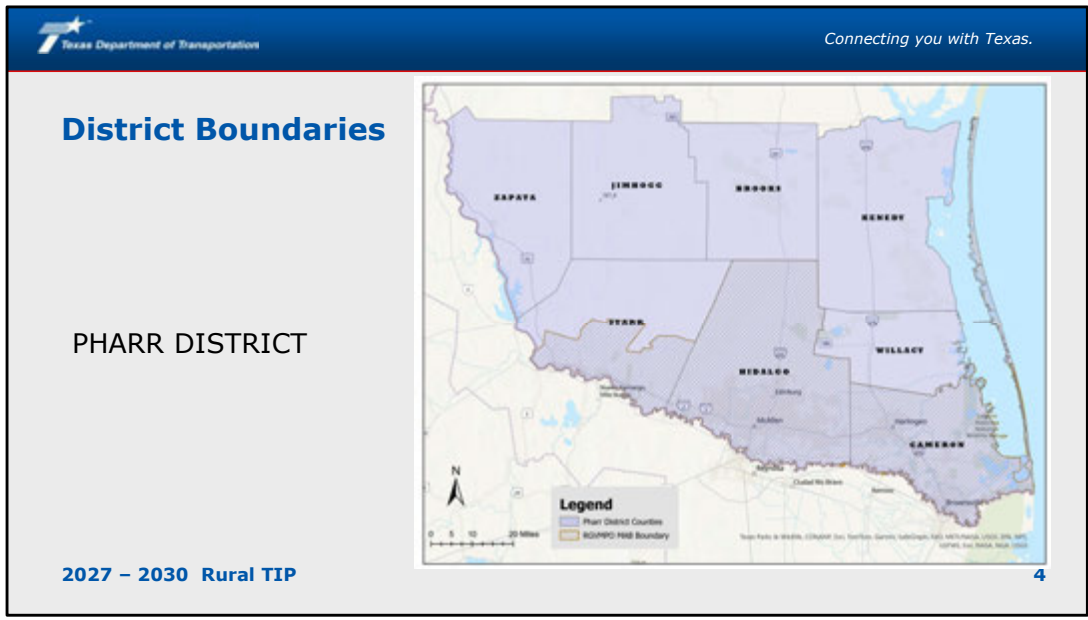
It's that simple. Treat others the way you want to be treated. Say thanks by giving a small wave, or just a friendly nod.

Courteous

Courtesy isn't just about being polite in person. Show respect by letting others merge, giving plenty of space, and practicing patience on the road. Small actions save lives.

Safe

The most important part of any journey is arriving safely. Not only do you keep yourself safe, but you also help protect every driver, passenger, biker, and pedestrian sharing the road.



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The Pharr District includes all the 8 counties shown in the map: Zapata, Jim Hogg, Brooks, Kenedy, Starr, Hidalgo, Willacy and Cameron County. The Rural TIP boundary includes the counties of Zapata, Jim Hogg, Brooks, Kenedy, Willacy and a portion of Starr County. Projects under the 2027-2030 Rural TIP are located in *Zapata County*.

Rural Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

THE RURAL TIP
 includes both grouped & individually listed projects that include added-capacity & regionally significant projects to be funded outside of MPO boundary, and within a TxDOT district during the next four years, including those eligible for federal funding.

It can include projects for :

A Rural TIP project is anticipated to be funded within the next four years.

It shows regional agreement (community-region-state) on the need of a project.

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The Rural Transportation Improvement Program is a list of local projects to be funded in a TxDOT District over the next 4 years. This means that all projects included in the list are expected to be underway within 4 years following its approval. These are the changes you can expect to go to contract in the near future!

It is multimodal; which means that it can include projects relating to highways, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit services, and freight projects as well as the preliminary studies used to define those projects.

Rural TIP is meant to show regional agreement on the need and priority of a transportation project, so all parties involved can be sure they are making the best investment for the community. It is also expected to be consistent with the projects and objectives included in the regional Long Range Transportation Plans, to ensure that all agencies are working towards the same goal.

The Rural TIP is a part of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and because the program rules are established by Federal law, no project can receive federal funding unless it is listed in the Rural TIP!

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How the Rural TIP Impacts You

The Rural TIP process includes opportunities to provide input on the priority of major projects that are listed on it.

Local and small projects around your community dealing with safety and access also get funding through the Rural TIP, for example:

- Road expansions
- Sidewalks
- Bike lanes
- Pavement repair or maintenance
- New or improved signals
- Turning lanes

By participating today, you are providing input in two (2) projects in Zapata County!

You know your community best!
Tell us what project should come first and why

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It is important for you to participate because funding secured by this process is intended to address your communities’ most immediate needs. By providing comments on the priority of the projects included, you are helping us identify regional priorities. By reviewing the entire program in a single meeting you are: 1) having a regional impact, 2) helping us be more effective with your money, and 3) ensuring that we are investing where we should.

How Projects are Selected for the Rural TIP

Projects are identified and selected by evaluating existing and future needs based on:

current conditions and projections, statewide and regional plans, public input regarding transportation priorities

^ This would be you, right now!

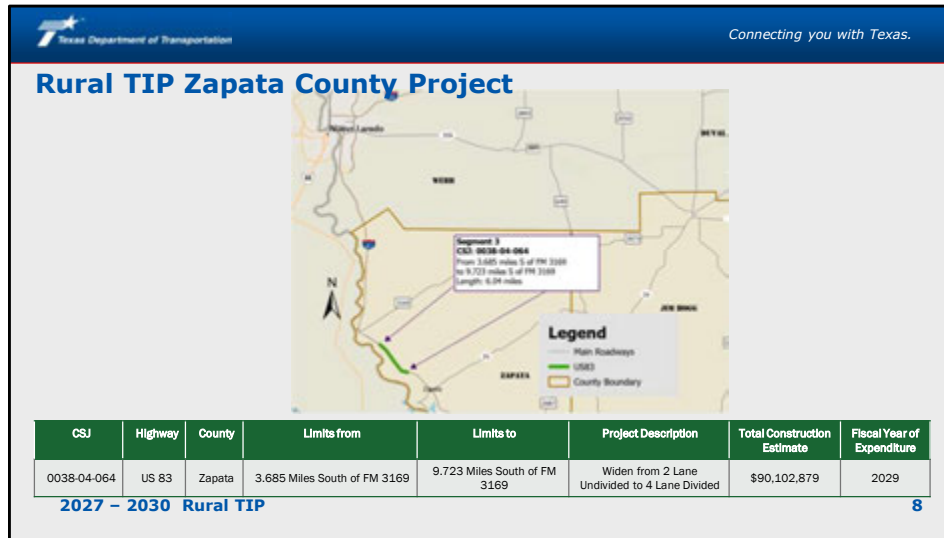


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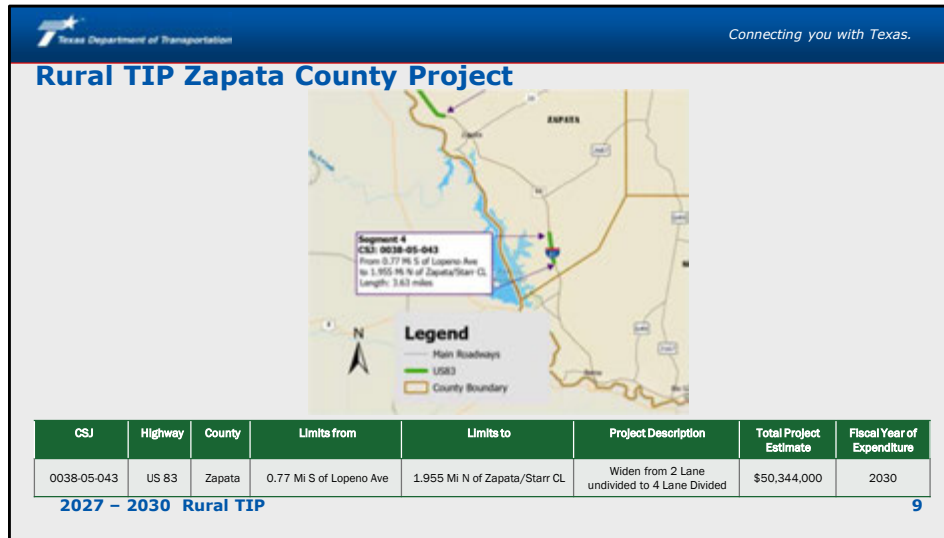
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Rural Transportation Organizations, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and local governments are responsible for selecting projects within their boundaries. TxDOT, through the District office, is responsible for selecting all projects related to the state transportation system and other national roadways. This includes Interstates, State and US Highways but most importantly this can also include the Farm-to-Market and Ranch-to-Market roads you use every day. The projects you will review today should respond to local needs! It is our responsibility to provide you with the opportunity to provide input on which projects should be advanced.



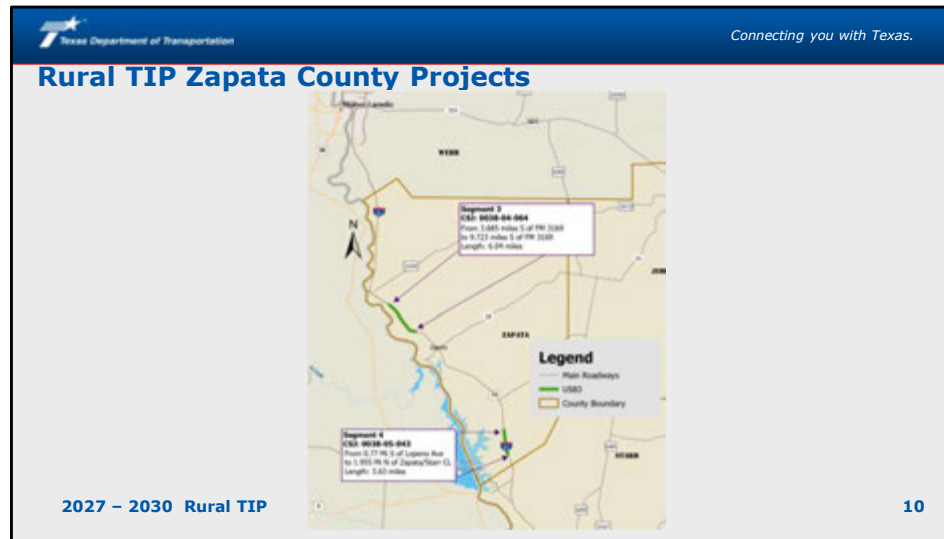
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This map shows Segment 3 of US 83 in Zapata County from 3.685 Miles South of FM 3169 to 9.723 Miles South of FM 3169 scheduled for Fiscal Year 2029 of the **2027–2030** Rural TIP. TxDOT will be widening from a 2 lane undivided to 4 lanes divided with a Total Construction Estimate in the amount of \$90,102,879.



Script:

This map shows Segment 4 of US 83 in Zapata County from 0.77 Miles South of Lopeno Ave to 1.955 Miles North of Zapata/Starr County Line and it is scheduled for Fiscal Year 2030 of the **2027–2030** Rural TIP. TxDOT will be widening from a 2 lane undivided to a 4 lane divided with a Total Construction Estimate in the amount of \$50,344,000.



Script:

This map shows both Segment 3 and Segment 4 of US 83 programmed in fiscal years 2029 and 2030 of the **2027–2030** Rural TIP for Zapata County. The map gives you a better idea as to where these projects are located in Zapata County.

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Rural TIP Zapata County Projects


CSJ	Highway	County	Limits from	Limits to	Project Description	Total Construction Estimate	Fiscal Year of Expenditure
0038-04-064	US 83	Zapata	3.685 Miles South of FM 3169	9.723 Miles South of FM 3169	Widen from 2 Lane Undivided to 4 Lane Divided	\$90,102,879	2029
0038-05-043	US 83	Zapata	0.77 Miles South of Lopeno Ave	1.955 Miles North of Zapata/Starr County	Widen from 2 lane undivided to 4 Lane Divided	\$50,344,000	2030

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The table shows the details of the Segment 3 and Segment 4 projects on US 83 included in the **2027–2030** Rural TIP for Zapata County. The total construction estimate of both projects is \$140,446,879.



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Funding

The Rural TIP is a fiscally constrained list of projects that functions as a budgeting tool for our district.

Funds can come from:

- **Federal Government**
 - **Majority through** the Federal Highway and Transit Administrations
- **State**
 - **Majority through** TxDOT's Unified Transportation Program funding categories
- **Region**
- **Local**

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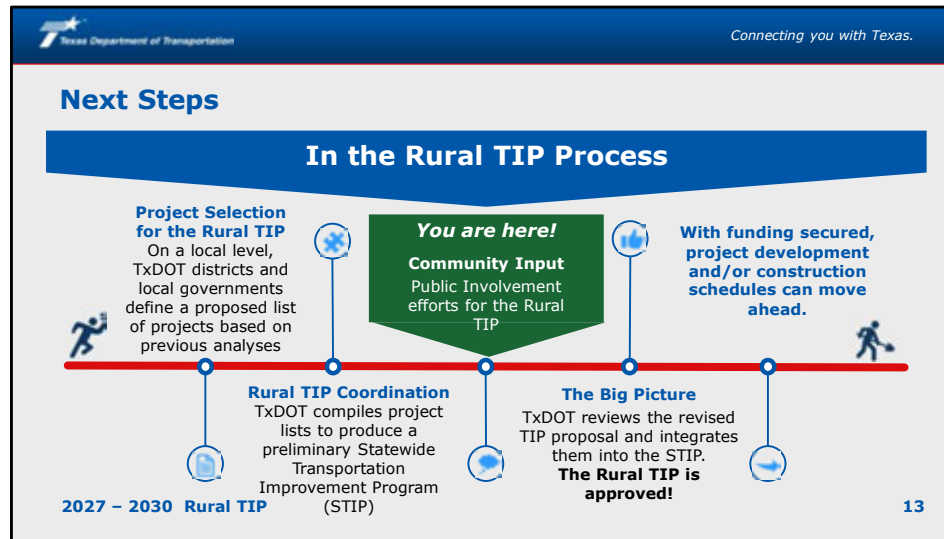
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The Rural TIP functions as a budget list for the District. Therefore, it is fiscally constrained. Like the budget of a household, the Rural TIP has to be realistic about the amount of money available to cover all the needs. Frequently we identify more improvements than we have money to implement. This means prioritizing according to those items that are most necessary.

We've discussed the list but where is the money coming from? Funds can come from multiple sources:

- 1) The Federal Government, through the establishment of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), the federal government allocates these funds through the processes established by the Federal Highway and Transit Administrations.
- 2) TxDOT, like the Federal Government also allocates a section of our budget for these projects through the Unified Transportation Program's 12 funding categories.
- 3) Region – regional entities will also allocate funding to certain transportation projects.

And 4) the local governments. Once the need has been identified and the amount of federal monies has been defined, the Rural TIP helps local governments assess the funding requirements to match those of the federal & state government and their capacity to meet them.



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The timeline above illustrates the Rural TIP process and where we are right now. Once comments have been collected and considered, if necessary, the Pharr District can provide a revised Rural TIP for approval and integration into the Statewide document. The Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is an accumulation of all 24 district’s Rural TIPs, and the 24 Metropolitan Planning Organization’s TIPs, and additional Statewide Programs, for example: Texas Park and Wildlife Program, Federal Land, Tribal Projects, Statewide Transit, etc. The timeline above shows where the Rural TIP process fits into this larger effort. Once the STIP is approved by the Federal government everyone’s projects are considered approved.

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Next Steps (Continued)

How to provide comments:

- 1. Mail a comment to:**

Texas Department of Transportation
Pharr District, Attn: Rural TIP
Dora E. Robles, P.E.
600 W. IH-2
Pharr, TX 78577
- 2. Or email a comment to:**

Dora.Robles@txdot.gov, Attention: Rural TIP

Remember to submit your comments by **April 6, 2026** to be included in the official summary of this meeting.

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Now that you are familiar with the Program, we want to hear what you think. Go ahead and fill a comment card and mail it to us at the address on the screen.

You can also email your comments to: Dora.Robles@txdot.gov

Comments must be postmarked or otherwise received by April 6, 2026. Please make sure to send your comments before that date.

If after today, you would like more information or have any other questions feel free to reach out to the TxDOT Pharr District.

Remember that you can share the link to the virtual meeting if you wish to discuss this information with your friends or family! Just remind them to make sure they send the comment card before April 6, 2026, or email comments to the email on the screen. Thank you for your time and drive safely!