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US 377 Texas Corridor Study - Central Segment Working Group Meeting #3

Meeting Summary

Date: March 27, 2025
Time: 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM CST
Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees: *US 377 Texas Corridor Study Central Segment Working Group*
Judge Shane Britton – Brown County
Daniel Mendoza – Brady Economic Development Corporation
Dana Sons – City of Brownwood
Carolyn Crossland – Comanche County
Margarita Moreno – Private Sector

US 377 Texas Corridor Study TxDOT Districts and Divisions
Jodie Kelly – TxDOT Brownwood District
Megan Dutton – TxDOT Austin District
Joseph Muck – TxDOT Austin District

TxDOT
Cary Karnstadt – TPP
Yvette Flores – TPP
Aslan Zarafshan – TPP
Andrew Canon – TPP
Curtis Jones – TPP
Tim Wright – TPP
Charles Tapp – SRA
Claudia Lagos Galindo – ITBP
Patti Warnasch – Rail

Study Team
Amit Thomas – CDM Smith
Ybette Ochoa – CDM Smith
Maria (Belen) Michelis – CDM Smith
Abril Matysek – CDM Smith
Christopher Nazar – CDM Smith
Ramakanth Soudari – CDM Smith
Carol Anne Starks – CDM Smith
Ryan Roberts – ICF
Gilysa Garcia – ICF
Sangeetha Puthigai – ICF

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Agenda:

1. Welcome/Introductions
2. Safety Minute
3. Study Status Update
4. Implementation Plan Update
5. Break
6. Draft Corridor Study Report Outline
7. Next Steps, Questions, and Closing Remarks

Attachments: Attachment A – Central Segment Working Group Meeting Summary
Attachment B – Central Segment Working Group Meeting #3 Presentation
Attachment C – Mentimeter Results

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Attachment A - Central Segment Working Group Meeting Summary

A. Meeting Notes

*Note: the highlights below include the attendee's name if known.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Cary Karnstadt, Corridor Project Manager with Texas Department of Transportation Planning and Programming Division (TxDOT TPP), welcomed attendees and thanked them for joining. Judge Britton, chair of the Central Working Group, shared opening remarks, thanking participants and the study team for their continued engagement. He noted the importance of this process and expressed hope that the group would develop strong recommendations to share with the state.

Cary completed the Working Group roll call and announced the members who were present. Roll call submissions are included in Mentimeter Results in Attachment C.

II. Safety Minute

Cary shared a brief safety reminder providing safety tips for the summertime once school gets out. He encouraged drivers to watch for children and bicyclists in residential areas, slow down in school zones, obey traffic laws, and minimize distractions to reduce the risk of crashes.

III. Study Status Update

Cary provided a high-level status update, noting that this was the final standalone Central Segment Working Group meeting. The corridor study spans approximately 462 miles, intersects with 32 cities, 15 counties, 14 COGs/MPOs, 7 TxDOT districts, 1 port of entry, and 2 border crossings. The study aims to identify and prioritize multimodal improvements that enhance safety, mobility, and economic opportunity.

The project team has completed technical analyses and outreach activities and is now preparing a corridor implementation plan and final report. The study is anticipated to conclude after a joint closeout meeting early this summer.

IV. Implementation Plan Update

Ybette Ochoa presented the current status of the US 377 Implementation Plan. She reviewed the strategies used to address existing and future corridor needs, including improvements across roadway, bridge, intersection, multimodal, safety, and ITS categories.

Margarite Moreno asked for examples of ITS proposed improvements and their respective locations. Ybette and Chris Nazar explained the various proposed ITS improvements and presented maps highlighting all the proposed improvements, including the locations with ITS improvements.

The study team went on to discuss that while funding has not yet been secured for the proposed improvements, the Implementation Plan will serve as a guide for TxDOT Districts to identify and advance potential projects through the formal development process.

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Mentimeter Question: *Does this implementation plan address the needs of the Central Segment?*

The stakeholders provided their input on Mentimeter and six voted "yes". The study team invited stakeholders to provide additional input as to their vote and reasoning.

V. Break

Cary Karnstadt asked those who just joined the meeting to provide their information in the chat box.

VI. Draft Corridor Study Report Outline

Amit Thomas provided an overview of the structure and content of the draft corridor study report. The report will consist of the following seven chapters:

- **Introduction:** Provides an overview of the US 377 corridor, summarizing the scope of the study, background context, key challenges, and the motivation for initiating this planning effort. This chapter will also highlight active and previous studies and summarize relevant socio-economic trends and corridor characteristics.
- **Vision, Goals, and Objectives:** Defines the overall vision for the corridor and outlines key goals such as improving safety, enhancing mobility and connectivity, and supporting economic growth and trade. Objectives provide measurable steps aligned with these goals and reflect feedback from stakeholders and public outreach.
- **Corridor Characteristics and Importance:** Presents detailed data on existing and projected traffic conditions, freight flows, crash data, infrastructure assets, and the corridor's strategic role in Texas' economy and transportation network. This chapter will also highlight critical connections, such as border crossings and intermodal facilities.
- **Stakeholder Engagement and Public Involvement:** Documents on the methods and outcomes of engagement efforts, including meetings with working groups and the steering committee, binational workshops, public surveys, and local coordination. This chapter captures input received and how it informed the development of recommendations.
- **Study Recommendations and Implementation Plan:** Summarizes the process of identifying and prioritizing improvements, grouped by type (roadway, bridge, multimodal, etc.) and timeframe (short, mid, long term). This section includes a breakdown of proposed projects by segment and highlights the strategic value of each investment.
- **Economic Impacts of Improvements:** Describes anticipated economic benefits of the proposed improvements, including travel time savings, freight efficiency, improved safety, and support for regional industries. It may also provide benefit-cost comparisons or other metrics to illustrate value.
- **Funding Opportunities and Emerging Technologies:** Discusses potential funding sources for future implementation, including federal grants, state programs, and public-private partnerships. It also addresses opportunities to incorporate emerging technologies such as automation, ITS infrastructure, and EV charging networks into corridor planning.

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Mentimeter Question: *Does the draft corridor study report outline address all key areas?*

The stakeholders provided their input on Mentimeter and five voted "yes". The study tean invited stakeholders to provide additional input as to their vote and reasoning.

Open Discussion: *Is there anything we missed that should be included in the draft corridor report outline?*

VII. Closing Remarks

Cary thanked participants for their ongoing input and collaboration. The final joint closeout meeting of the Steering Committee and all Segment Working Groups will take place later in May of 2025 to conclude the study.

Judge Britton provided closing remarks by thanking the study team and attendees for their work and engagement throughout the process.

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Attachment B - Central Segment Working Group Meeting #3 Presentation

US 377 Texas Corridor Study

Central Working Group Meeting #3

To help make this meeting run smoothly:

1. Keep your microphone, phone, and computer muted when you're not speaking.
2. Get acquainted with the chat box and raise-hand feature.
3. Regularly check that your devices remain muted if you're not speaking.
4. If you're unmuted and others can't hear you, please use the chat box to communicate.
5. Please refrain from using AI-generated features, such as automatic transcription or summarization tools, during this meeting to maintain accuracy and confidentiality in discussions.

You will be asked to sign in after the meeting begins.

Source: US 377/Morris Sheppard Dr, Brownwood

US 377 Texas Corridor Study

Central Working Group Meeting #3

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

March 27, 2025

OPENING REMARKS

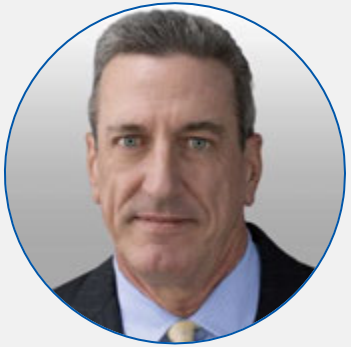
Central Working Group Chair

Honorable Shane Britton

Brown County

Welcome and Introductions

Lorena Echeverria de Misi, P.E.
TxDOT TPP Corridor Planning Branch Manager



Cary Karnstadt
TxDOT TPP Project Manager

Amit Thomas
Consultant
Project Manager

Ybette Ochoa
Consultant
Project Technical Lead

Christopher Nazar
Consultant
Senior Advisor

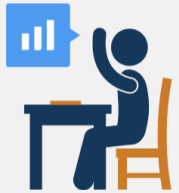
Belen Michelis
Consultant
Public Involvement Lead

Instructions for Providing Input: How to Join Mentimeter

Mentimeter: Roll Call

Please provide your name, title, organization, and favorite spring activity.

Example: Belen Michelis, Public Involvement Specialist, CDM Smith, golfing



HELP
#EndTheStreakTX
End the streak of daily deaths on Texas roadways.

TEXAS US·377

Summer Road Safety Tips

- Watch for Kids & Bicyclists
- Slow Down in School Zone
- Stay Focused
- Share the Road
- Obey Traffic Laws

Agenda

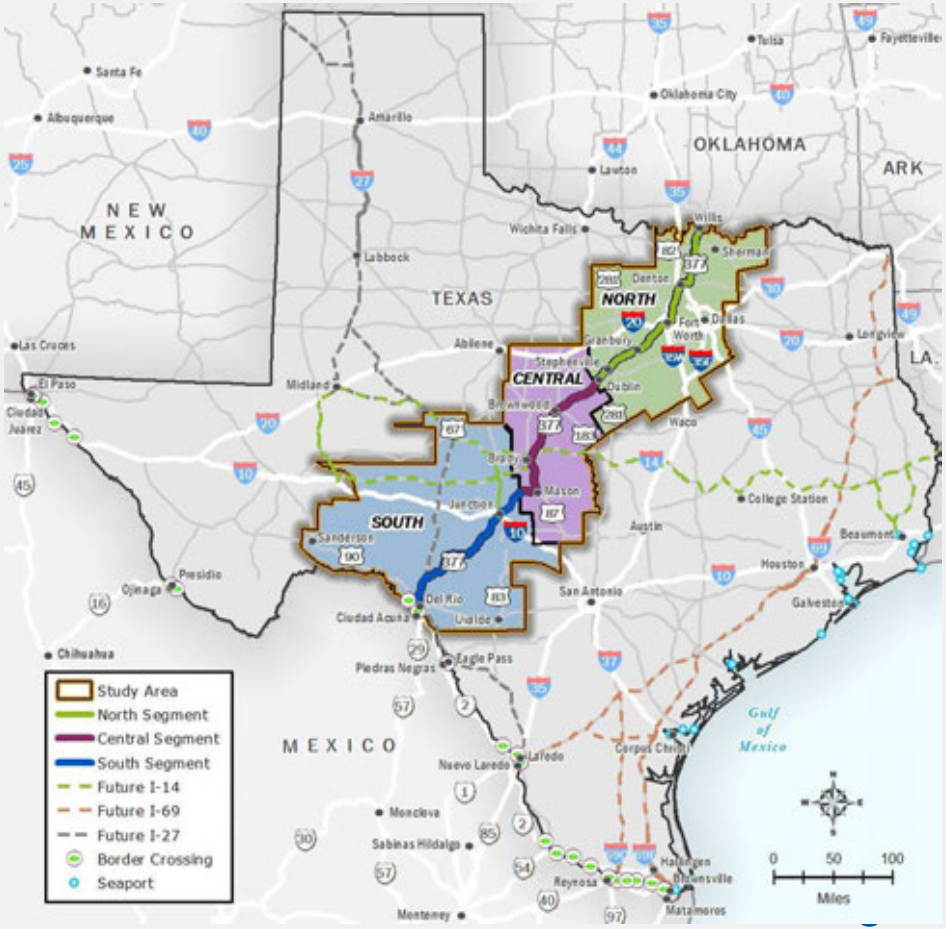
01 | Study Status Update

02 | Implementation Plan Update

03 | Break

04 | Draft Corridor Study Report Outline

05 | Next Steps, Questions, and Closing Remarks



Source: TxDOT Open Data Portal, 2024

Source: US 377/8th St, Brownwood

Study Status Update

US 377 Texas Corridor Study

US 377 Corridor General Characteristics

Approximately 462 miles

32 Cities/Towns

15 Counties

Total of 44 counties in the overall study area

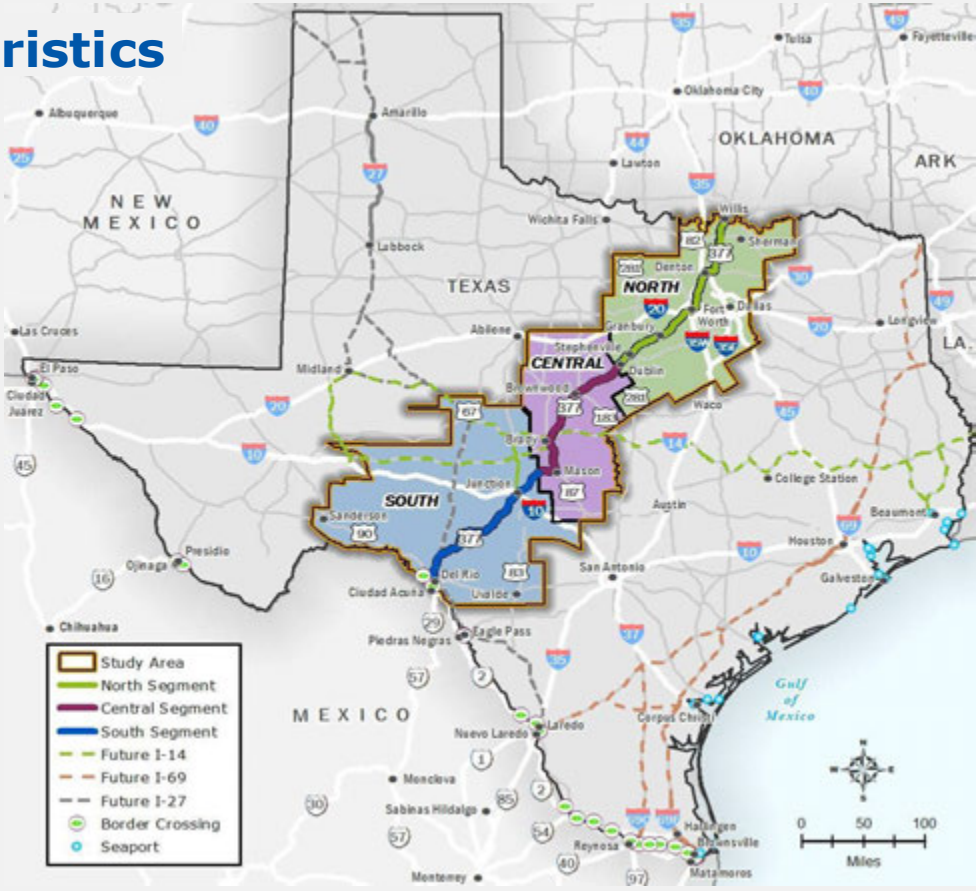
14 COGs & MPOs

7 TxDOT Districts

4 RTPOs

1 Port of Entry

2 Border Crossings



COG: Council Of Governments
MPO: Metropolitan Planning Organization
RTPO: Rural Transportation Planning Organization

Source: TxDOT Open Data Portal, 2024

US 377 Corridor Study Purpose and Components

Purpose: To identify multimodal transportation needs and prioritize improvements to enhance safety, mobility, connectivity, and system continuity along the study corridor and to support economic opportunity in the region.

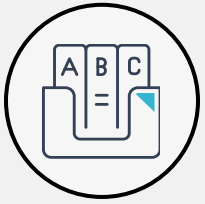
Review existing conditions and identify needs

Identify and prioritize improvements

Engage broad range of corridor stakeholders

Estimate preliminary costs by improvement

Conduct multimodal analysis



Develop corridor implementation plan and report

US 377 Study Process and Development Timeline

2024 2025

Milestone	Review Existing and Future Conditions	Assess Needs	Identify Improvements	Prioritize Improvements	Develop Implementation Plan
Analyzed Through:	✓ Existing conditions ✓ Improvements ✓ Statewide & National initiatives	✓ Forecasts & modeling ✓ Hotspots constraints ✓ Identify gaps & issues	✓ Location studies ✓ Conceptual solutions ✓ Costs & funding	✓ Short-, mid-, long-term ✓ Economic analysis ✓ Prioritization matrix	✓ **Planning Process** ✓ **Outcomes** ✓ **Draft Strategy Plan**

Stakeholder Engagement

Kick-Off
- ✓ TxDOT District/ Division Kick-Off

Round One
- ✓ Steering Committee
- ✓ Segment Working Groups
- ✓ Binational Workshop

Round Two
- ✓ Public Survey
- ✓ TxDOT coordination
- ✓ Segment Working Groups
- ✓ Steering Committee

Round Three
- • TxDOT coordination
- • **Segment Working Groups**
- • Binational Workshop
- • Steering Committee

Close Out
- • Steering Committee/ Segment Working Group
- • TxDOT District/ Division Close Out

US 377 Texas Corridor Study Workshops

Round 2 (Prioritization Workshop)	Location	Date
Central Segment	Texas 4-H Conference Center	January 23, 2025
South Segment	Edwards County Courthouse	January 28, 2025
North Segment	Lake Granbury Conference Center	February 4, 2025
Steering Committee	Virtual	February 20, 2025

Implementation Plan Update

US 377 Texas Corridor Study

March 27, 2025

Proposed Improvement Strategies

STUDIES

Improvements to support data-driven decision-making through studies and analysis

SAFETY

Improvements to reduce the number of fatal and serious injury crashes

MULTIMODAL

All transportation modes to move people and goods

ROADWAY

Improvements to enhance capacity, efficiency, and connectivity

BRIDGE

Enhance resilience and capacity with modernized design

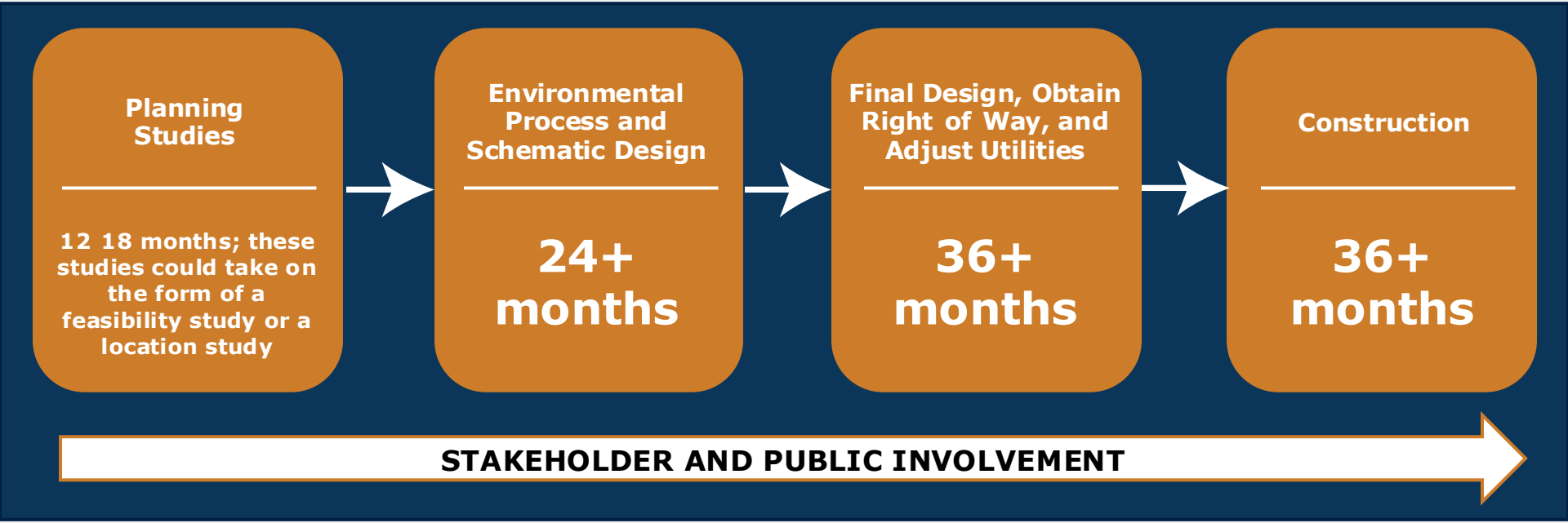
INTERSECTION

Optimize flow and safety and improving accessibility

TECHNOLOGY

Intelligent connected infrastructure that uses emerging and innovative concepts

Typical Project Development Process



* *Advancements from step to step is contingent upon the outcome of the previous step and the availability of funding.*
* *Dependent on the scope, the study recommendations could be broken into several projects that extend over a longer period of time.*

Central Working Group Meeting #2: Summary

County: Brown, McCulloch, Comanche

City: Brownwood, Brady, Comanche

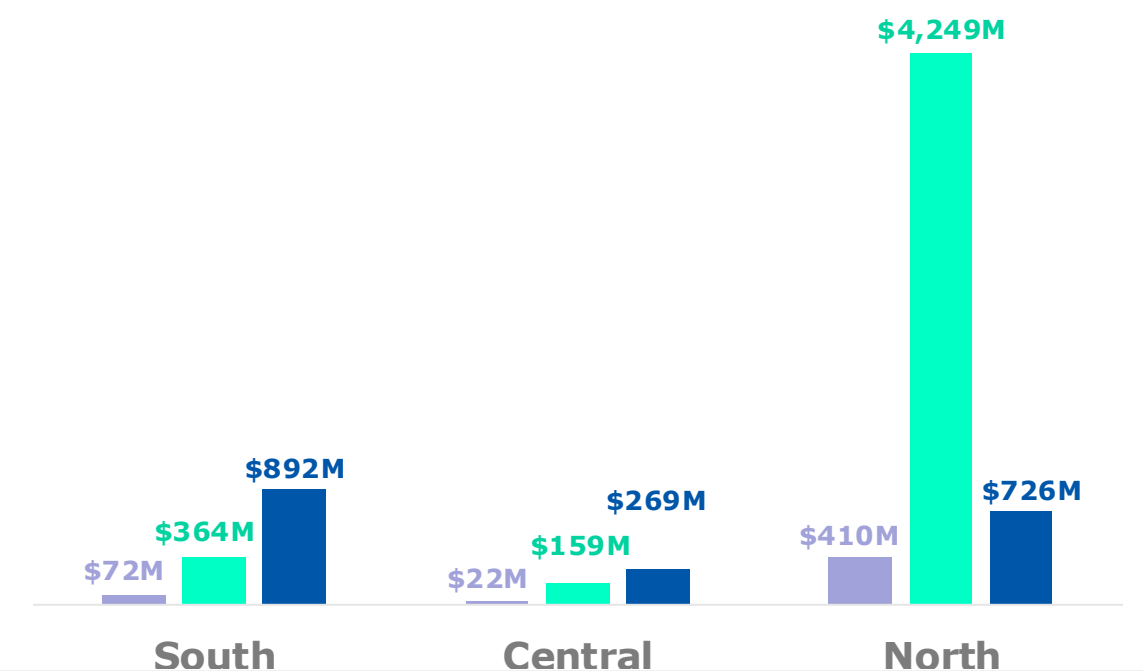
Stakeholder Attendees: 6
TxDOT Attendees: 6
TxDOT District:
Brownwood, Austin

Economic Development:
Brady Economic Development
Brownwood Chamber of Commerce
McCulloch County Chamber of Commerce

Key themes and considerations:

Safety Improvements	The Brady-to-Brownwood stretch prioritized over Brady-to-Mason due to safety concerns
Feasibility of Timing for Implementation	Potential issues with acquisition of Right-of-Way
	Necessary coordination with rail for addressing at-grade crossings

Current Investments, Ongoing District Development Projects and US 377 Corridor Study Proposed Improvements



Current Investments Funded in 2025 UTP

Ongoing District Development Projects

US 377 Corridor Study Proposed Improvements

Source: TxDOT Connect, US 377 TX Corridor Study

**US 377 Corridor Study Costs in 2025 dollars*

US 377 Corridor Study Proposed Improvements Overview

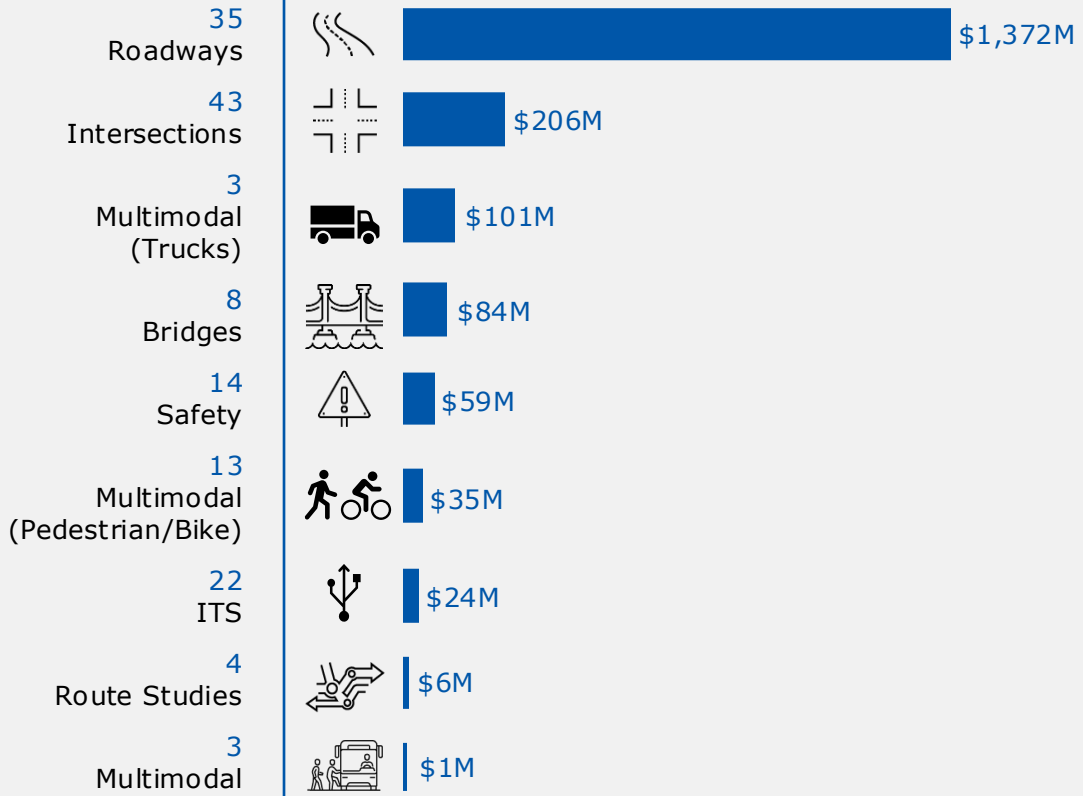
145

Total Improvements

$1.9B

Total Improvement Construction Cost

Short Term	Mid Term	Long Term
$131M	$346M	$1,411M



These improvements are in addition to the 2025 UTP and Ongoing District Development Projects

Notes: Costs are in 2025 dollars
**Numbers may not add up due to rounding*

US 377 Central Segment Proposed Implementation Plan Overview

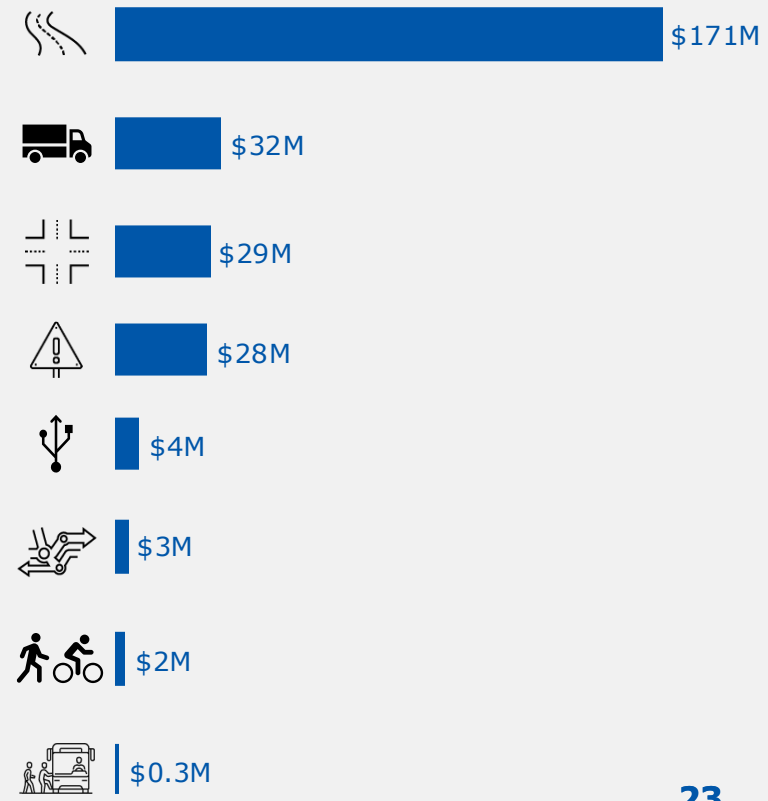
46

Total Improvements

$269M

Total Improvement Cost

Short Term	Mid Term	Long Term
$71M	$36M	$163M



*Numbers may not add up due to rounding

Improvement Projects by Timeframe and Cost by Segment

Segment	Short-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term	Total
North	$41M	$230M	$456M	$726M
Central	**$71M**	**$36M**	**$163M**	**$269M**
South	$20M	$80M	$792M	$892M
Total	$129M	$346M	$1,411M	$1,888M

Central Segment Totals by Project Type and Timeframe

	Short-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term	Total
Roadway	1	3	5	9
Intersection	9	4	6	19
Multimodal	2	-	2	4
Safety	-	-	7	7
ITS	1	2	2	5
Route Study	1	-	1	2
Total	14	9	23	46

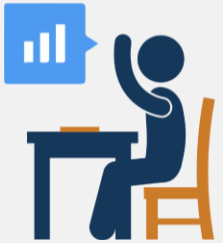
Central Segment Cost Totals by Project Type and Timeframe

	Short-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term	Total
Roadway	$60M (35%)	$30M (38%)	$80M (47%)	$171M
Intersection	$5M (18%)	$4M (21%)	$19M (67%)	$29M
Multimodal	$2M (5%)		$32M (95%)	$34M
Safety			$28M (100%)	$28M
ITS	$1M (25%)	$2M (50%)	$1M (25%)	$4M
Route Study	$2M (50%)		$2M (50%)	$3M

*Numbers may not add up due to rounding

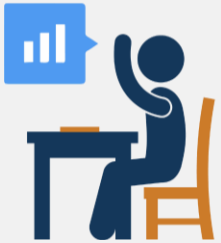
Mentimeter: Proposed Implementation Plan

Does this implementation plan address the needs of the Central Segment?



Discussion: Proposed Implementation Plan

Is there anything we missed to fully address the needs of the Central Segment?



10 Minute Break

Ronald Reagan Memorial Highway, Tarrant County

5 Minute Break

Ronald Reagan Memorial Highway, Tarrant County

1 Minute Break

Ronald Reagan Memorial Highway, Tarrant County

Source: US 377/8th St, Brownwood

Draft Corridor Study Report Outline

US 377 Texas Corridor Study

US 377 Texas Corridor Study – Draft Report Structure

CHAPTER 1 Introduction

CHAPTER 2 Vision, Goals, and Objectives

CHAPTER 3 Corridor Characteristics and Importance of US 377

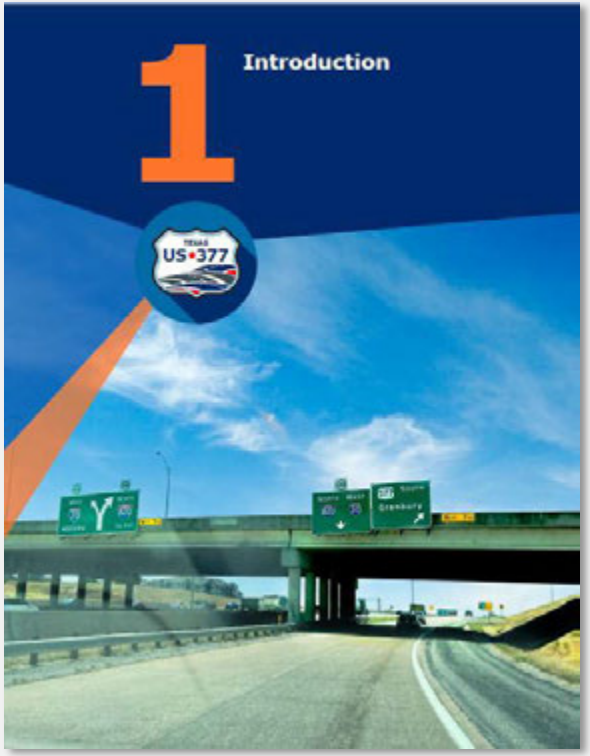
CHAPTER 4 Stakeholder Engagement and Public Involvement

CHAPTER 5 Study Recommendations and Implementation Plan

CHAPTER 6 Economic Impacts of Improvements along the US 377 Texas Corridor

CHAPTER 7 Funding Opportunities and Emerging Technologies

Chapter 1: Introduction



- Study Background
- Summary of Previous Plans & Studies
- Active Projects along the US 377 Texas Corridor
- US 377 Texas Corridor Socioeconomic Statistics and Trends
- Major Industries and Freight Supported by US 377 Texas Corridor

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter Purpose

- Study Background
- Summary of Previous Plans & Studies
- Active Projects along the US 377 Corridor
- US 377 Corridor Socioeconomic Statistics and Trends
- Major Industries and Freight Supported by US 377 Texas Corridor

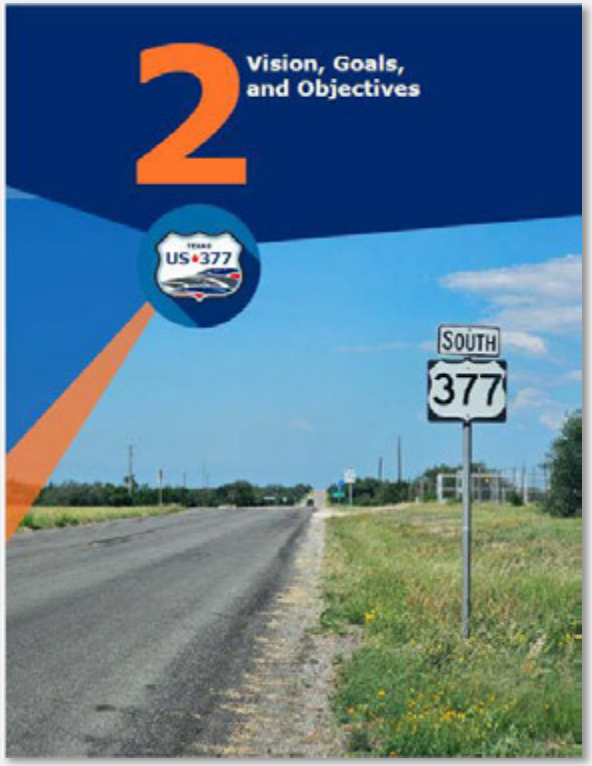
Key Message

- Key transportation corridor in Texas and nationally
- TxDOT is committed to corridor improvements
- Ongoing and completed studies

Supporting Messages

- US 377 passes through 32 cities, 44 counties, 1 port of entry and 2 border crossings
- $504M (51 projects) is funded in the 2025 UTP
- 12 projects are under ongoing project development

Chapter 2: Vision, Goals, and Objectives



- Study Vision
- Study Goals
- Study Objectives
- Stakeholder Groups

Chapter 2: Vision, Goals, and Objectives

Chapter Purpose

- Vision
- Goals
- Objectives
- Stakeholder Groups

Key Message

- **Study Purpose:** Identify multimodal transportation needs and prioritize improvements to enhance safety, mobility, connectivity, and system continuity along the study corridor and to support economic opportunity in the region

- **Study Vision:** Provide a safe, efficient, and connected multimodal corridor that supports economic growth, international trade, freight and passenger movement, regional mobility, infrastructure maintenance, and integration of advancements in technology to serve future transportation needs.

Goals

- Improve safety
- Support economic growth, freight, and international trade
- Reduce congestion and improve mobility
- Enhance corridor connectivity
- Invest in asset preservation

Chapter 3: Corridor Characteristics of US 377

- Safety Statistics
- Existing and Forecasted Traffic Conditions
- Existing Infrastructure
- Economic Growth and Freight
- International Cross Border Trade

Chapter 3: Corridor Characteristics of US 377

Chapter Purpose

- Safety Statistics
- Existing and Forecasted Traffic Conditions
- Existing Infrastructure
- Economic Growth and Freight
- International Cross Border Trade

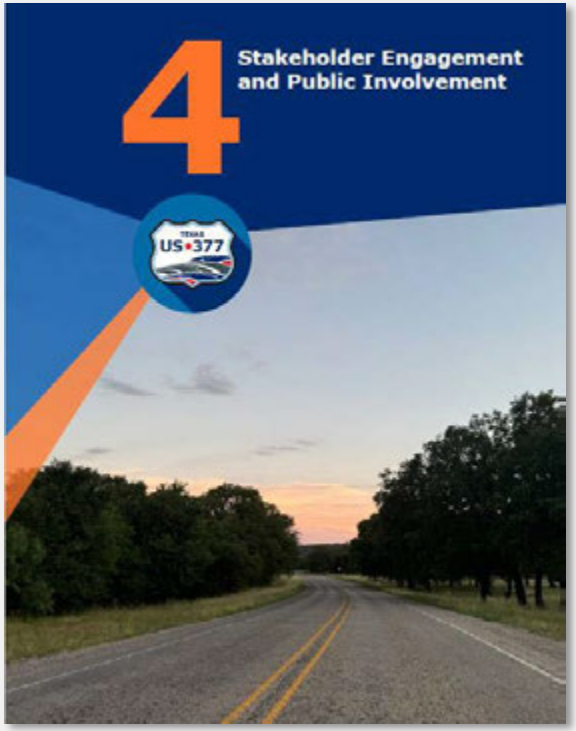
Key Message

- Safety concerns
- Current and projected level of service (LOS)
- Bike, pedestrian, and truck facilities
- Tonnage flow
- Existing environmental constraints

Supporting Messages

- Speed-related is the primary cause of crashes
- 38% growth in daily traffic between 2022 and 2050
- Freight and international trade

Chapter 4: Stakeholder Engagement and Public Involvement



- Stakeholder Engagement and Public Involvement Approach
- Needs and Improvements Identified through Stakeholder Meetings
- Summary of Findings from Stakeholder Engagement Efforts
- Public Survey

Chapter 4: Stakeholder Engagement and Public Involvement

Chapter Purpose

- Stakeholder Engagement and Public Involvement Approach
- Needs and Projects Identified through Stakeholder Meetings
- Summary of Findings from Public Involvement Efforts
- Public Survey

Key Message

- Stakeholders engaged throughout process
- Feedback from Steering Committee, Segment Working Groups, Binational partners, TxDOT Districts and Divisions, and public representatives shaped the plan's development

Supporting Messages

- 13 stakeholder meetings were held
- 2 Binational Workshops
- 3,200+ survey responses
- Feedback to develop improvements

Chapter 5: Study Recommendations and Implementation Plan

- Current and Planned TxDOT Projects
- Proposed Improvement Identification Process
- US 377 Implementation Plan

Chapter 5: Study Recommendations and Implementation Plan

Chapter Purpose

- Current and Planned TxDOT Projects
- Proposed Improvement Identification Process
- US 377 Implementation Plan

Key Message

- Outline current and proposed TxDOT projects
- Developed project prioritization framework
- Identified short-, mid- and long-term improvements

Supporting Messages

- 144 proposed improvement projects, $1.7B estimated cost
- Projects/Programs by segment:
  - North: Roadway, Intersection, Multimodal, Bridge, Safety, ITS, and Route Studies
  - Central: Roadway, Intersection, Multimodal, Safety, ITS, and Route Studies
  - South: Roadway, Intersection, Multimodal, Bridge, Safety, and ITS

Chapter 6: Economic Impacts of Improvements

- Economic Impacts of the Proposed Improvements:
  - Benefits
  - Costs

Chapter 6: Economic Impacts of Improvements

Chapter Purpose

- Economic Impacts of the Proposed Improvements

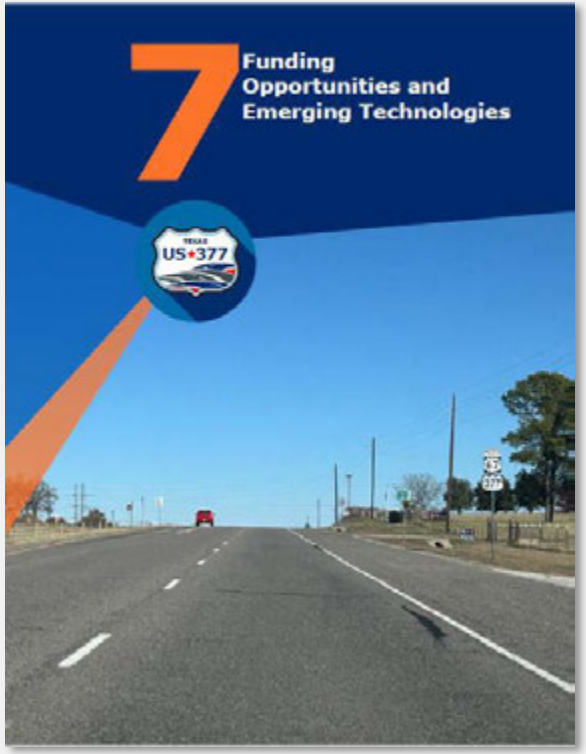
Key Message

- Proposed improvements that impact travel time and safety

Supporting Messages

- Support key project investments to strengthen the corridor's vital role in facilitating goods, services, and international commerce:
  - Economic growth
  - Freight
  - International trade

Chapter 7: Funding Opportunities and Emerging Technologies



- Funding Opportunities
- Technological Impacts

Chapter 7: Funding Opportunities and Emerging Technologies

Chapter Purpose

- Funding Opportunities
- Technological Impacts

Key Message

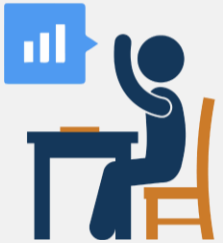
- Funding forecast: 2025 UTP, potential grants and federal funding
- Emerging technologies: automation, fiber connectivity, and EV expansion

Supporting Messages

- Freight shipping technology advances
- Growing demand for emerging technologies
- Enhancements for connectivity and traffic management

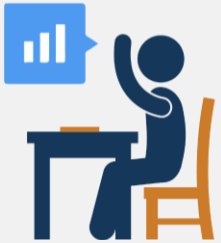
Mentimeter: Draft Corridor Study Report Outline

Does the draft corridor study report outline address all key areas?



Discussion: Draft Corridor Study Report Outline

Is there anything we missed that should be included in the draft corridor report outline?

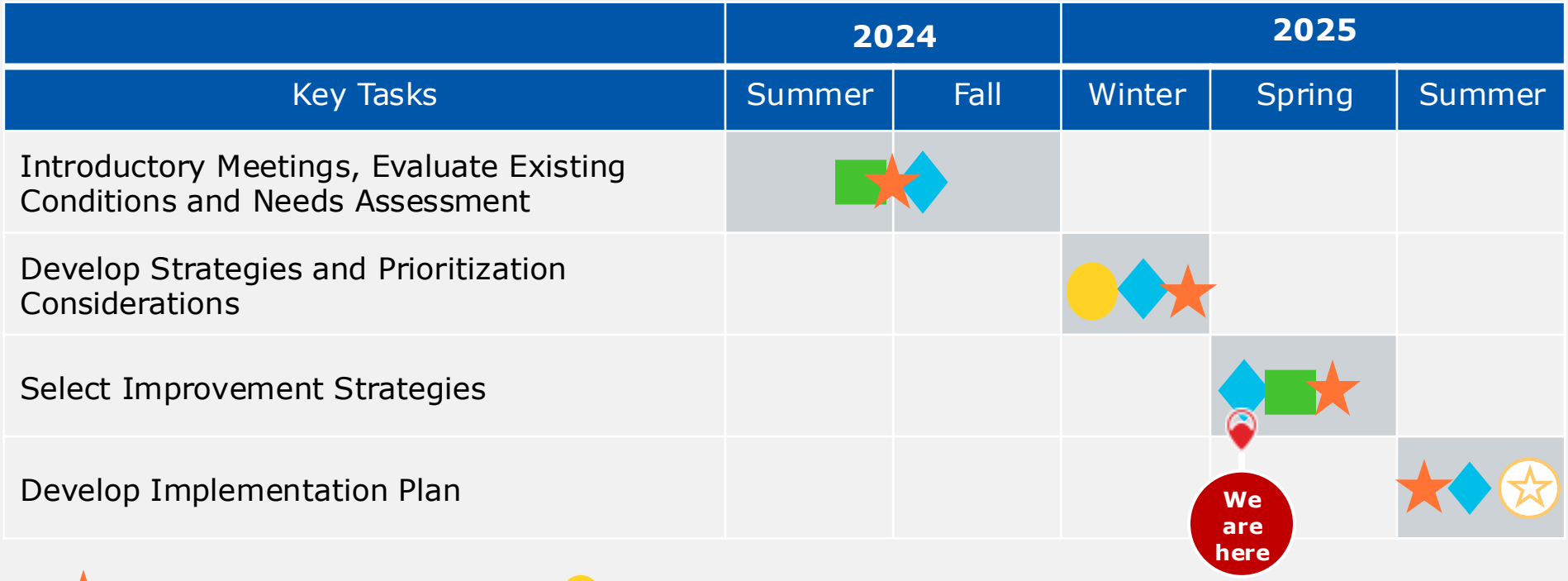


Source: US 377/8th St, Brownwood

Next Steps, Questions, and Closing Remarks

US 377 Texas Corridor Study

US 377 Study Schedule



Source: US 377/8th St, Brownwood

Questions

US 377 Texas Corridor Study

Study Team Contact Information

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CLOSING REMARKS

Central Working Group Chair

Honorable Shane Britton

Brown County

Source: Google Images

MEETING ADJOURNED

Thank You!

6230 E. Stassney Lane| Austin, Texas 78744
512.463.8588
txdot.gov

Attachment C - Mentimeter Results

US 377 Texas Corridor Study Central Work Group Meeting #3

Roll Call

Please provide your name, title, organization, and favorite spring activity.

Emily Crawford, City Manager, Brownwood, gardening

Shane Britton, Brown County Judge Favorite spring activity is anything related to Texas Longhorn sports.

Dana Sons, Director of IT, City of Brownwood, just being outdoors

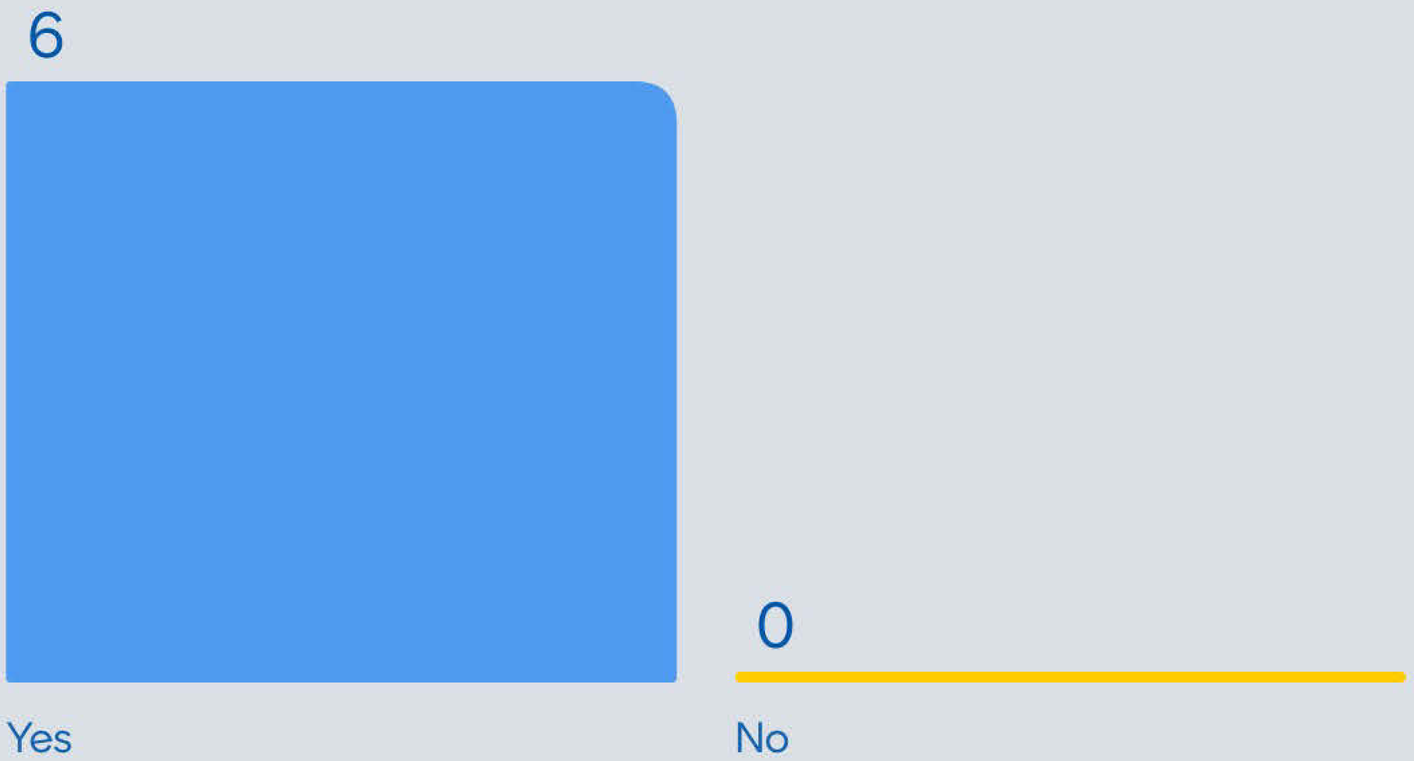
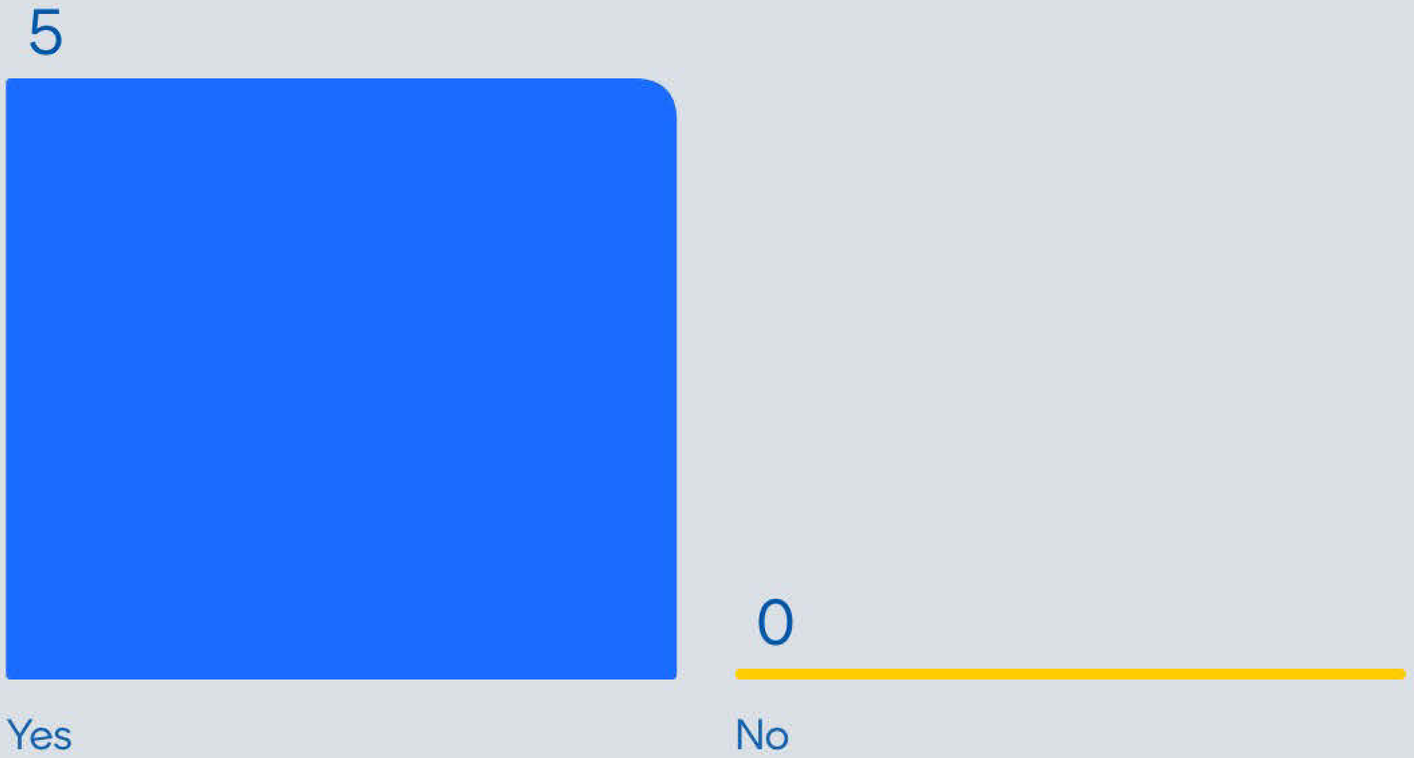
Megan Dutton, APD Director, TxDOT Austin District, running

Frank Trull, McCulloch County Judge, outdoor activities

Neil Carrol, Comanche County

Jodie Kelly, Planner, TxDOT Being outside

Does this implementation plan address the needs of the Central Segment?



Does the draft corridor study report outline address all key areas?