



Connecting Texas 2050
STATEWIDE LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Fall 2023 Public Meeting Presentation

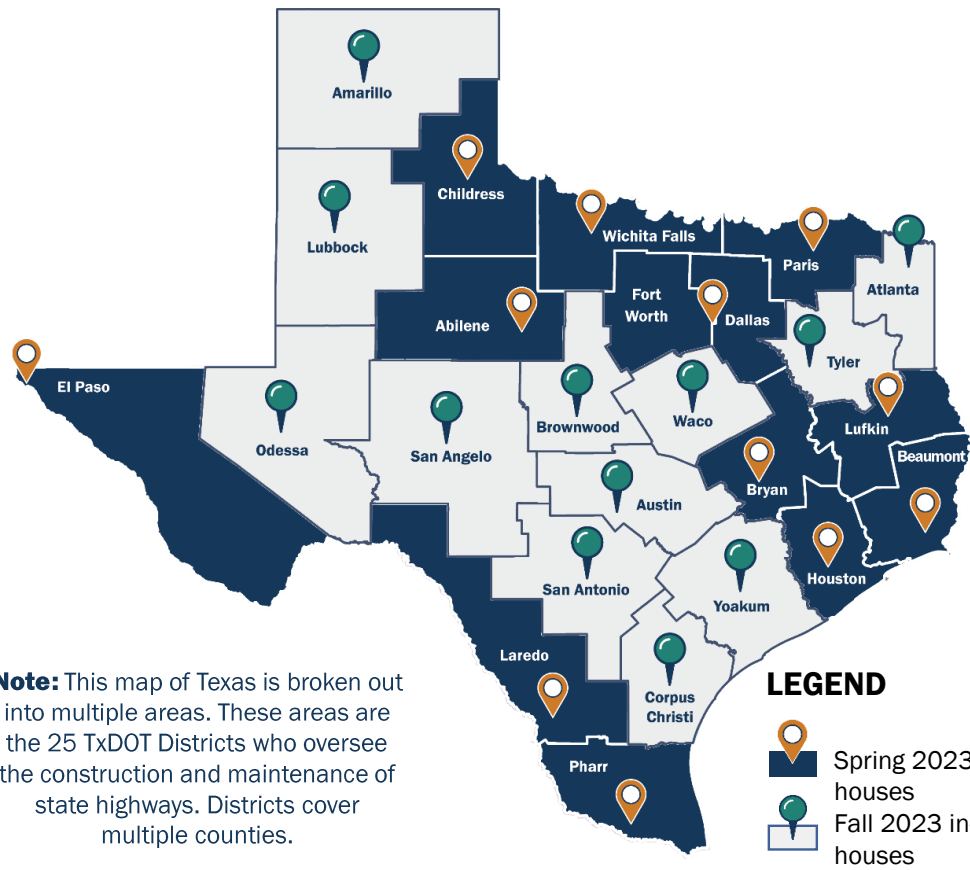
Connecting Texas 2050 – Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan Oct. 17, 2023

The Texas Department of Transportation welcomes you to this virtual public meeting with in-person open houses held across the state.

This presentation will provide information on *Connecting Texas 2050*, the latest update to the Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan.

This is a pre-recorded presentation made available online on Oct. 17, 2023 for the Plan’s second virtual public meeting.

Virtual public meeting with in-person open houses



This virtual public meeting is being held in conjunction with 12 in-person open houses held across the state between Oct. 17, 2023, and Nov. 16, 2023.

The in-person open houses are noted by the location icon. To find the open house closest to you, visit www.ConnectingTexas2050.com.

The same information will be available at both the virtual public meeting and in-person open houses.

This is the second of two series of virtual public meetings with in-person open houses. The twelve areas pictured on this slide with an orange location icon had an in-person open house earlier this year, in the spring.

TxDOT will hold a third and final event series, a statewide virtual public hearing with an in-person option, in the spring of 2024.

Learn about the process to prepare a statewide long-range transportation plan.

Meeting purpose

Help TxDOT prioritize strategies for addressing the state's multimodal transportation needs through 2050.



During this public meeting, TxDOT invites you to learn about the statewide transportation planning process and help TxDOT prioritize strategies for addressing the state's multimodal transportation needs through 2050.

This presentation will provide an overview of *Connecting Texas 2050*, a recap of what we heard during spring 2023 public and partner engagement, and information about how to share your priority strategies for addressing the state's multimodal transportation needs through 2050 with TxDOT.

Toward the end of the presentation, there are instructions on how to submit comments and stay connected with TxDOT's statewide planning team. Whether you are participating virtually or in-person, please take the time to review the material presented throughout the virtual public meeting website or in-person open house and provide your input.

Your input is a crucial part of this process, and TxDOT welcomes you to provide input and comments, and to stay connected with the development of the plan. Your continued participation throughout the planning process is important. Please talk to your neighbors and refer them to TxDOT so they can also make comments and be included in this process.

About *Connecting Texas 2050*



Connecting Texas 2050 is TxDOT's latest update to the statewide long-range transportation plan.

PLANNING HORIZON: 2050

UPDATED: Every **FOUR** years

CONSIDERS: ALL MODES
of transportation

With your help, TxDOT will establish the vision, objectives, performance measures, and strategic recommendations for the state's transportation system through 2050 for all modes.



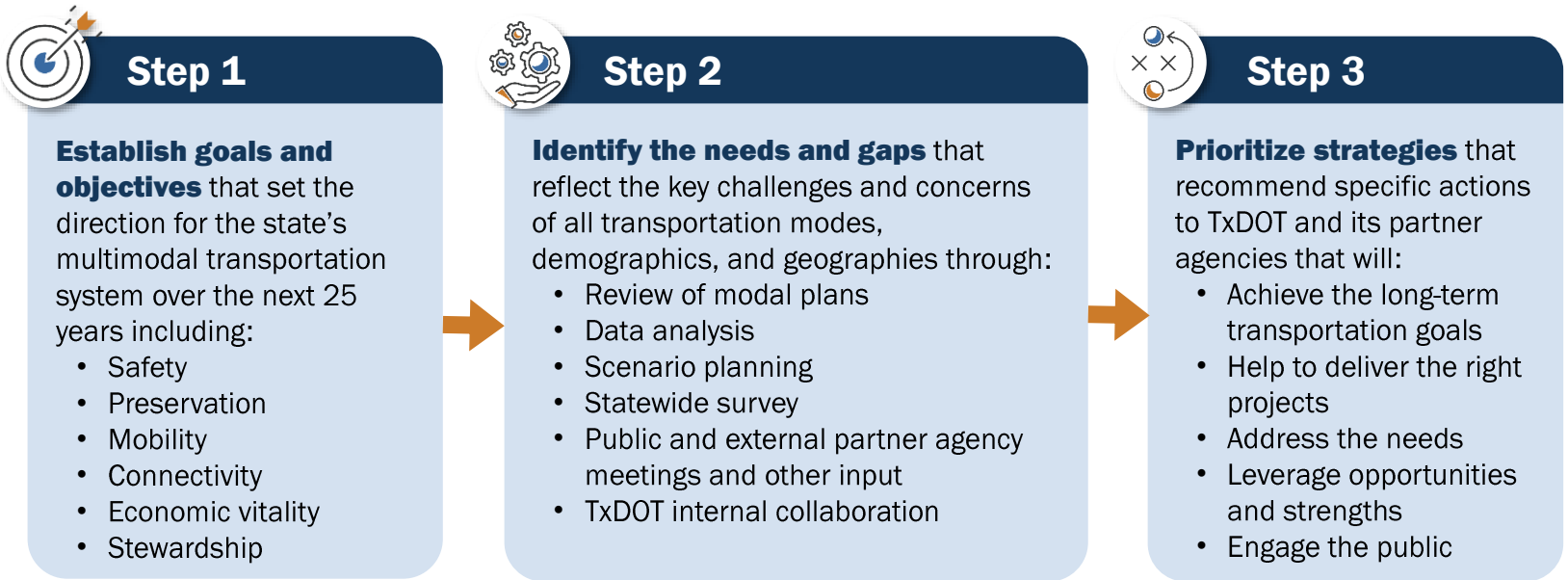
Connecting Texas 2050 is TxDOT's planning effort to update the statewide long-range transportation plan. This plan will consider current and future multimodal transportation choices, and how they integrate as a system to serve Texans and our economy.

The state's multimodal transportation system includes roadways maintained by the state, transit, airports, ports, bicycle and pedestrian paths, rail, and our border crossings. With public input and technical studies, TxDOT will establish the vision, objectives, performance measures, and strategic recommendations to address the safety, reliability, and the resiliency of the state's multimodal transportation system between now and 2050.

TxDOT's Transportation Planning and Programming Division leads the update to the plan every four years per federal and state requirements.

The statewide long-range transportation plan is the cornerstone multimodal transportation planning document at TxDOT.

Developing *Connecting Texas 2050*



In the spring of 2023, TxDOT heard from thousands of Texans and nearly 200 transportation partner representatives through collaboration designed to identify the needs and gaps in the Texas multimodal transportation system. Learn more about what we heard on the next two slides.



This slide details the process TxDOT is using to develop *Connecting Texas 2050*.

First, TxDOT established the Plan’s goals and objectives. These goals and objectives will set the direction for the state’s multimodal transportation system over the next 25 years.

Then, TxDOT identified the needs and gaps that reflect the key challenges and concerns of all transportation modes, demographics, and geographies. The process used to identify needs and gaps was extensive and utilized many different sources, including coordination with the public and external partners in the spring of 2023, which we’ll talk more about on the next slide.

To complete *Connecting Texas 2050*, TxDOT will prioritize strategies that recommend specific actions to TxDOT and its partner agencies to address the needs identified, and we need your help. TxDOT is again meeting with the public and external partners in the fall of 2023 through this virtual public meeting and series of in-person open houses across the state.



Collaboration with our partners and the public

TxDOT conducted extensive outreach with external partner agencies and the public in 2023 to identify the needs and gaps that reflect the key challenges and concerns of all transportation modes, demographics, and geographies.

Outreach activities included:



External partner agency meetings in **13** districts attended by **162** individuals representing:

- Local urban and rural transit agencies
- Metropolitan planning organizations
- Academic institutions
- Tolling authorities
- Counties and cities
- Airports
- Tribes
- Regional mobility authorities



Over **20** internal stakeholder collaboration meetings attended by local district and division representatives across the state.



4,562 participants in a statewide, statistically valid survey; participants submitted **5,141** comments.



2,802 participants in online and in-person public meetings, providing **670** responses across multiple methods including a comment form, an interactive comment wall, and an online survey.



Connecting Texas 2050 webpages on TxDOT.gov received over **11,000** visitors.



Over **9,000** interested Texans were reached by email updates.



Reached more than **100,000** followers through social media posts and **10,000** through digital advertising.



Hundreds watched the **Connecting Texas 2050** presentation on TxDOT's YouTube channel.

As mentioned, TxDOT collaborated with our transportation partners and the public in the spring of 2023 and beyond to identify the needs and gaps that reflect the key challenges and concerns of all transportation modes, demographics, and geographies. Nearly 3,000 members of the public participated and over 4,000 contributed to a statewide survey.

Partner agency meetings held in 13 districts were attended by over 150 individuals representing local urban and rural transit agencies, metropolitan planning organizations, counties and cities, airports, tribes, and regional mobility authorities.

What we heard from Texans statewide



Public meetings

Thousands shared their priorities through public meetings (online and in-person). Priorities included:

- Safety
- Maintenance of existing infrastructure
- Enhancing the quality of life of Texas residents
- Multimodal accommodation of increased freight traffic
- Alternative modes and public transportation options, such as intercity bus and rail services
- Consideration for environmental justice, socioeconomic equity, and public health in the planning process

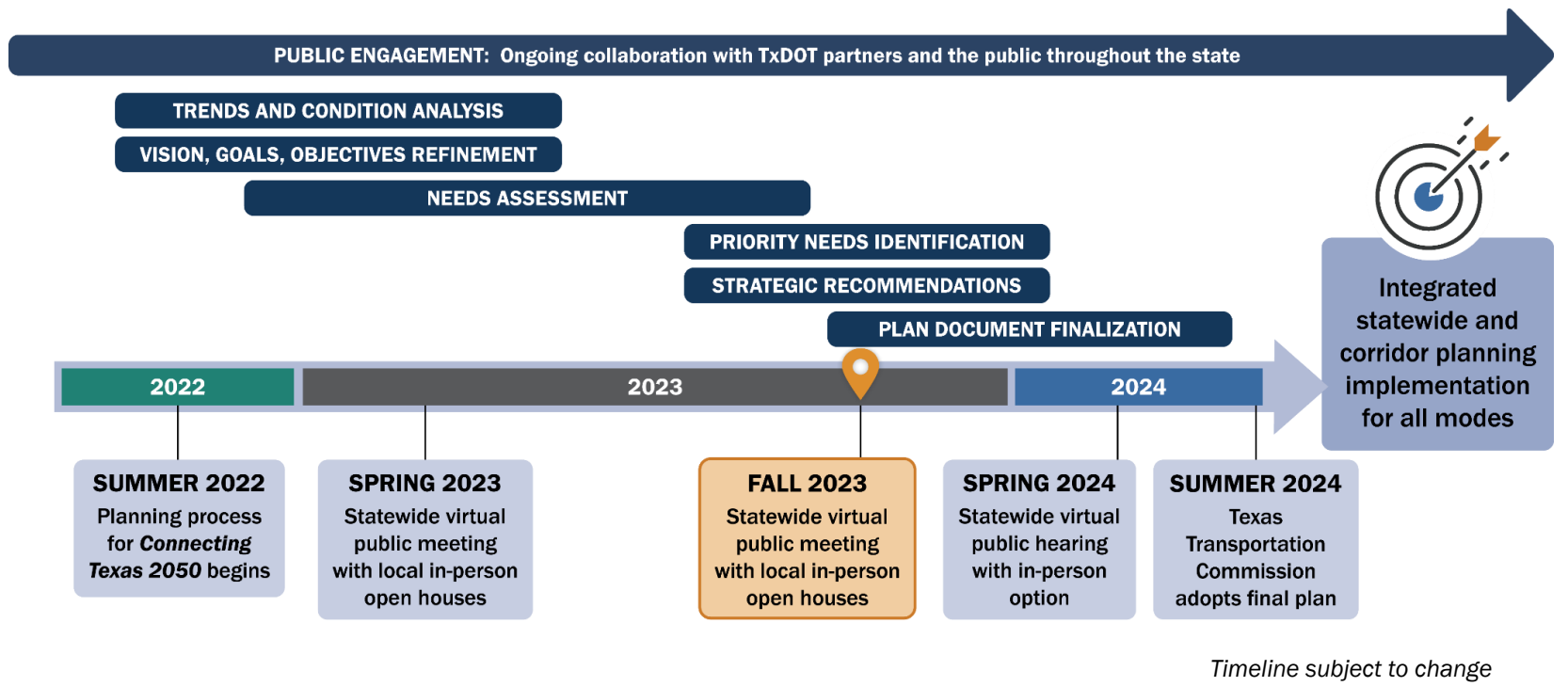


Public meetings, spring 2023



Thousands of members of the public shared their priorities through a survey and public meetings held both virtually and in-person. Top priorities included safety; maintenance; enhancing the quality of life for all Texas residents; alternative modes of travel and public transportation options; accommodation of increased freight traffic; and consideration for environmental justice, and socioeconomic equity and public health in the planning process.

Timeline



With the potential impact from those considerations, it is crucial that we be thorough and timely in delivering this plan.

This is a snapshot of the timeline to develop *Connecting Texas 2050*. In the summer of 2022, TxDOT launched the process to update the statewide long-range transportation plan and named this iteration of the plan *Connecting Texas 2050*. After the launch, TxDOT began the effort to analyze trends and existing conditions and evaluate how future scenarios can impact the transportation system. In late 2022, TxDOT began work on identifying objectives that reinforce TxDOT’s strategic goals and began identifying potential future needs. In the spring of 2023, TxDOT conducted the first series of agency, stakeholder, and public meetings that will gain input on potential future scenarios, goals and objectives, and future needs.

Following this first series of meetings, TxDOT worked to assess potential future needs and strategic recommendations. The current series of meetings discusses those elements of the planning process.

Following this series, TxDOT will document, evaluate, and address public input; collect and analyze any additional data; and will draft *Connecting Texas 2050*, TxDOT’s latest update to the statewide long-range transportation plan.

The *Connecting Texas 2050* plan will be presented at a statewide public hearing in the spring of 2024 and then submitted to the Texas Transportation Commission for adoption following consideration of public feedback and any resulting revisions. The plan will result in integrated statewide and corridor planning implementation for all modes. This ultimately helps TxDOT deliver the right projects.

Throughout this process, TxDOT will have public engagement opportunities including surveys and other events. To stay up to date on TxDOT’s progress, visit us online and sign up for updates by going to www.ConnectingTexas2050.com.

Share your priorities

Visit www.ConnectingTexas2050.com to access the virtual open house between Oct. 17 and Dec. 22, 2023 to share your priorities.

Connecting Texas 2050
Fall 2023
Virtual Public Meeting

Meeting Stations Public Survey Submit Comments Next Steps Exit the Meeting

Fall 2023 virtual public meeting

Welcome!

Welcome to the fall 2023 virtual public meeting for *Connecting Texas 2050*, the latest update of TxDOT's Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan (SLRTP). The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public with the opportunity to learn about the process to prepare a statewide long-range transportation plan and to help TxDOT prioritize strategies for addressing the state's transportation needs through 2050.

Please begin by viewing the introductory video below and browsing through our informational exhibits. Links to download accessible PDFs of the exhibits in English or Spanish will be provided below each exhibit gallery. Later on, you will have the opportunity to complete our public survey and to submit comments on *Connecting Texas 2050*.

[Connecting Texas 2050 introduction video](#)

English Español



The needs and gaps identified through the outreach process and other data analysis components are included in *Connecting Texas 2050*. In addition, *Connecting Texas 2050* will identify strategies that TxDOT or partner agencies could deploy to address the needs and gaps identified in the plan. Resources are a consideration, and there are often many different strategies that could be used to address a particular need or gap.

So, through this virtual public meeting and in-person open houses across the state, TxDOT is again asking for your vision of the future of transportation. This time, TxDOT is asking for your help to prioritize potential strategies that would address the multimodal needs and gaps identified in *Connecting Texas 2050*. Please be sure to visit the interactive survey included in this virtual public meeting or attend one of our in-person open houses to weigh in with your priorities.

In addition to the interactive survey, you can complete to indicate your priority strategies, the plan's website contains all materials presented in the virtual public meeting and in-person open houses, including this presentation in both English and Spanish, exhibits, and a comment form. You may review the materials at your convenience on the website or by downloading the files.

Visit the project webpage at www.ConnectingTexas2050.com or you can access the webpage by scanning this QR code with your electronic device. If you need technical assistance, please contact the team at (512) 271-2025. All of the same materials are available at the in-person open houses.

How to comment

To be included in the public involvement summary, comments must be received or postmarked by Friday, Dec. 22, 2023.



Submit a comment by e-mail to:
ConnectingTexas2050@txdot.gov



Submit a comment and/or survey online
Access links to the online interactive survey and comment form by visiting www.ConnectingTexas2050.com



Submit a comment by mail to:
TxDOT TPP Connecting Texas 2050
Statewide Planning Branch Manager
P.O. Box 149217, Austin, TX 78714-9217



Submit a comment form and/or survey in person at an open house



Your feedback is an important part of TxDOT's planning process.

You can submit a written comment via email to ConnectingTexas2050@txdot.gov. You may also submit your comments online and fill out our online survey. Access both the online comment form and the online survey at www.ConnectingTexas2050.com. Additionally, you may submit comments via postal mail to: TxDOT TPP, *Connecting Texas 2050*, Statewide Planning Branch Manager, P.O. Box 149217, Austin, TX 78714-9217. At the in-person open house, you can submit your comments on the provided forms and you can fill out a physical copy of the survey.

To be included in the public involvement summary, all comments must be postmarked or received by Friday, Dec. 22, 2023.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding *Connecting Texas 2050* or the virtual public meeting or in-person open houses, please contact TxDOT's Statewide Planning Branch Manager at ConnectingTexas2050@txdot.gov or (512) 271-2025.

Next steps

01

Document, evaluate, and address public input.

02

Collect and analyze additional data.

03

Develop draft Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan.

04

Encourage and request additional public input in the future.



Learn more and sign up for updates

www.ConnectingTexas2050.com



Once the fall 2023 public meeting series is completed, TxDOT will document, evaluate, and address public input; collect and analyze any additional data; and develop the draft Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan. Please stay involved and provide any additional public input throughout the remainder of the planning process.

As mentioned earlier, TxDOT will hold a statewide virtual public hearing with in-person option in the spring of 2024. At this event, TxDOT will present information about the draft Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan and the public will have the opportunity to make comments about the Plan.

Please use the QR code on the screen to learn more and sign up for future updates.

Thank you for your participation!

Please remember to submit your comments by Friday, Dec. 22, 2023.



Thank you for participating in this public meeting. Please remember to submit comments by Friday, Dec. 22, 2023.

Thank you for your commitment to Texas and your participation in *Connecting Texas 2050*. This concludes the presentation.