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Welcome to the Wichita Falls District Rural Improvement Program Public meeting for the 2025-2028 program! My name is Ben Coker and I'm a Planner for TxDOT's Wichita Falls District. We are here today to go over the projects to be included in the upcoming 2025-2028 Rural TIP.

Agenda

- 1 Safety Minute
- 2 Wichita Falls District & its boundaries
- 3 The Rural Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- 4 How the Rural TIP Impacts You
- 5 How Projects are Selected for the Rural TIP
- 6 Projects by County
- 7 Funding
- 8 Next Steps

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

Once you have an understanding this process, you will have the opportunity to review all of the projects the Wichita Falls District has included in the 2025-2028 program. Both the big projects and the small supporting projects.

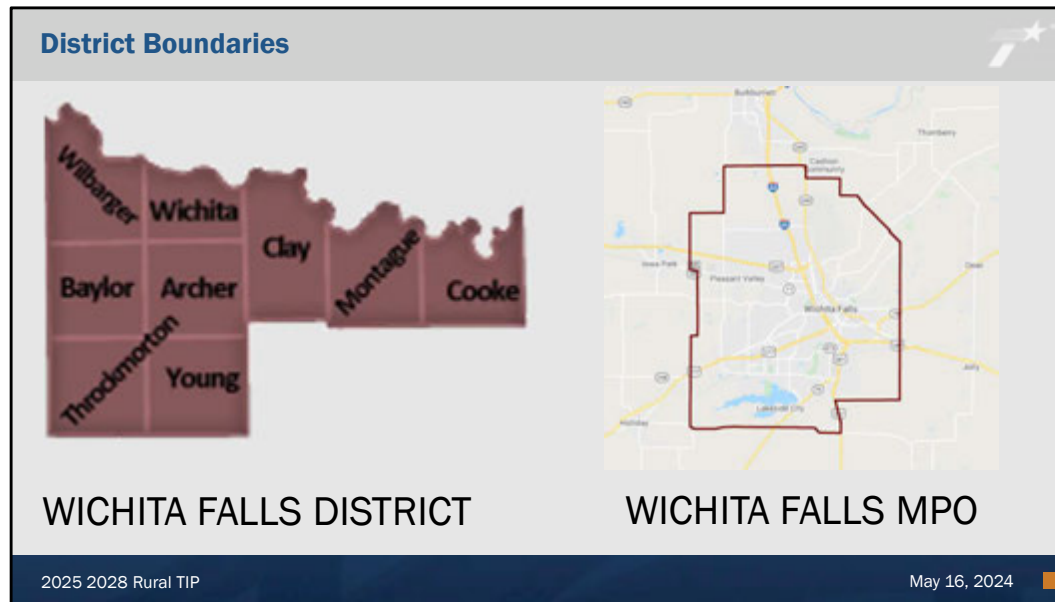
We will also go over funding, answering questions on “where does the money to pay for these projects come from and how is that money distributed?”.

Lastly, we will outline all of the options you have to comment on these projects and their priority.



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We appreciate you taking time from your schedule to be here today. We are pleased to offer this meeting virtually again this year, but I would like to take a brief moment to remind everyone about the importance of eliminating distractions while you are behind the wheel. Distracted driving continues to be a problem in Texas and data still indicates that drivers are not changing their behaviors. So TxDOT wants to raise awareness on the dangers of distracted driving by encouraging Texans to put away their cellphones while behind the wheel and help Texas End the streak of daily deaths on our roadways.



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The Wichita Falls District includes all of the counties shown in the map. Projects included in the 2025-2028 Rural Transportation Improvement Plan are located in Archer, Baylor, Clay, Cooke, Montague, Throckmorton, Wichita, Wilbarger, and Young counties.


Now for a little background on the Wichita Falls District: On the left side of this slide there is a map that shows the 9 counties included in the Wichita Falls District. Projects included in the 2025-2028 Rural TIP are located in these 9 counties.

On the right side of this slide there is a map that shows the boundary of the Wichita Falls Metropolitan Planning Organization or MPO. Later in the presentation, We'll discuss the role that the MPO plays in the TIP process.

Rural Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

THE RURAL TIP
is list of all added capacity and regionally significant projects to be funded 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 4 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 that will 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). Because the program rules are established by Federal law, no project can receive federal funding unless it is listed in the Rural TIP!

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 for 72 projects!

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!



2025 2028 Rural TIP

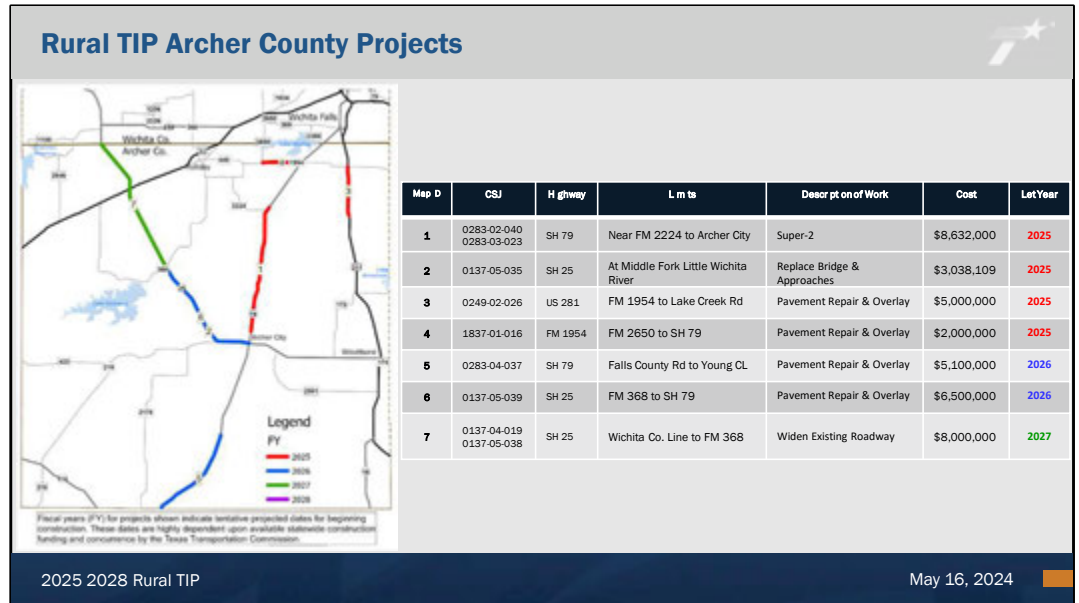
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Rural Transportation Organizations, Metropolitan Planning Organizations and local governments are responsible for selecting projects within their boundaries

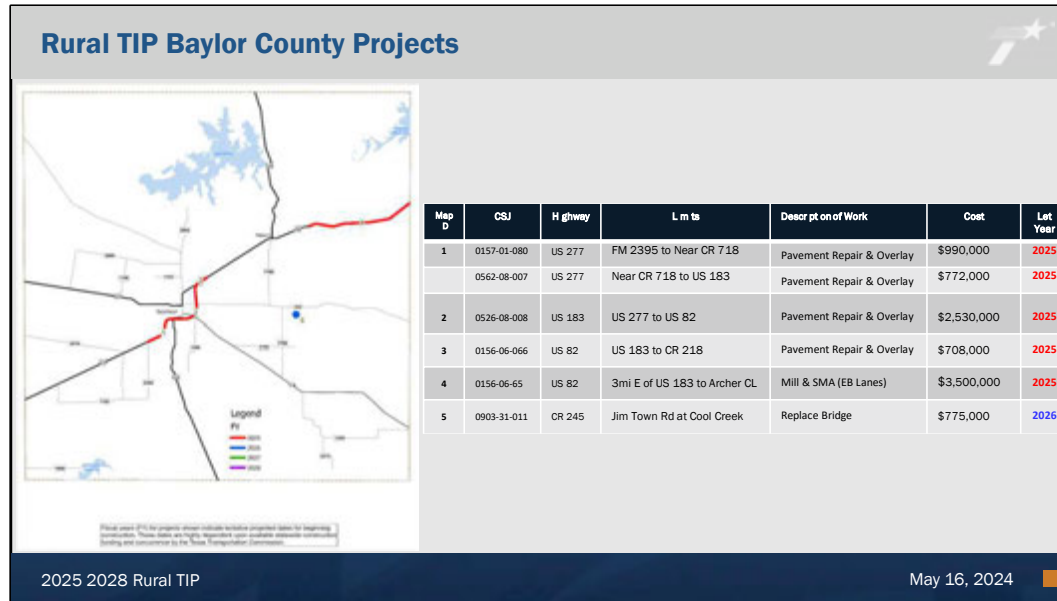
TxDOT, through the District office, is responsible for selecting all projects relating to the State Transportation System and other National roadways. This includes Interstates, State and US Highways as well as the Farm-to-Market and Ranch-to-Market roads you use every day. The projects you will review today should respond to local needs!

It is our responsibility to provide you with the opportunity to share input on which projects should be advanced.



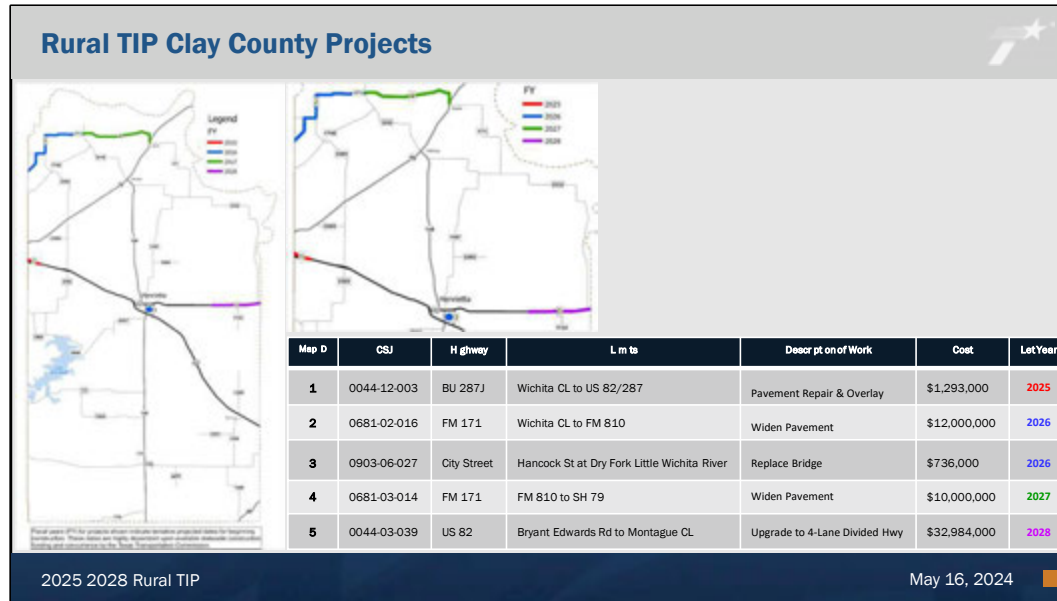
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This map and list shows all Projects included in the 2025-2028 Rural TIP for Archer County Including Project #1 to upgrade a segment of State Highway 79 into a Super-2 with alternating passing lanes every 2 miles as well as various pavement upgrades around the county.



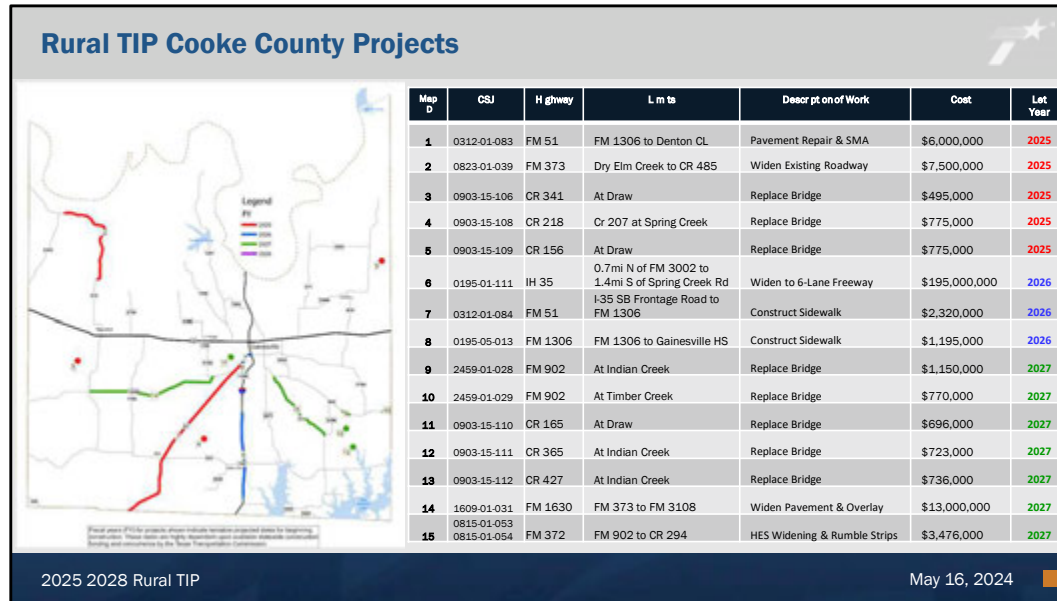
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Next the map for Baylor County and the corresponding list with details about each project included in the current RTIP for Fiscal Years 2025-2028... Highlighted by various Pavement Repair and Overlay projects in FY 2025 and an off-system county road bridge replacement in FY 2026.



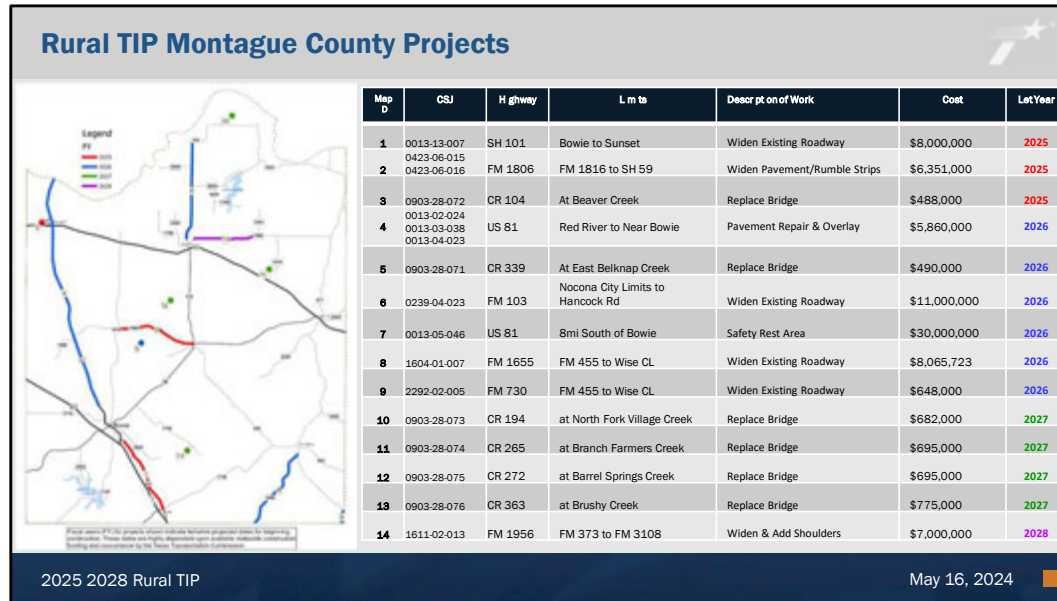
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Continuing into Clay County... There are 5 projects currently in the 25-28 RTIP... including Pavement Widenings on FM 171 in Fys 2026 and 2027 totaling an estimated \$22million and the next segment of widening US 82 to a 4-lane divided Highway scheduled in FY 2028.



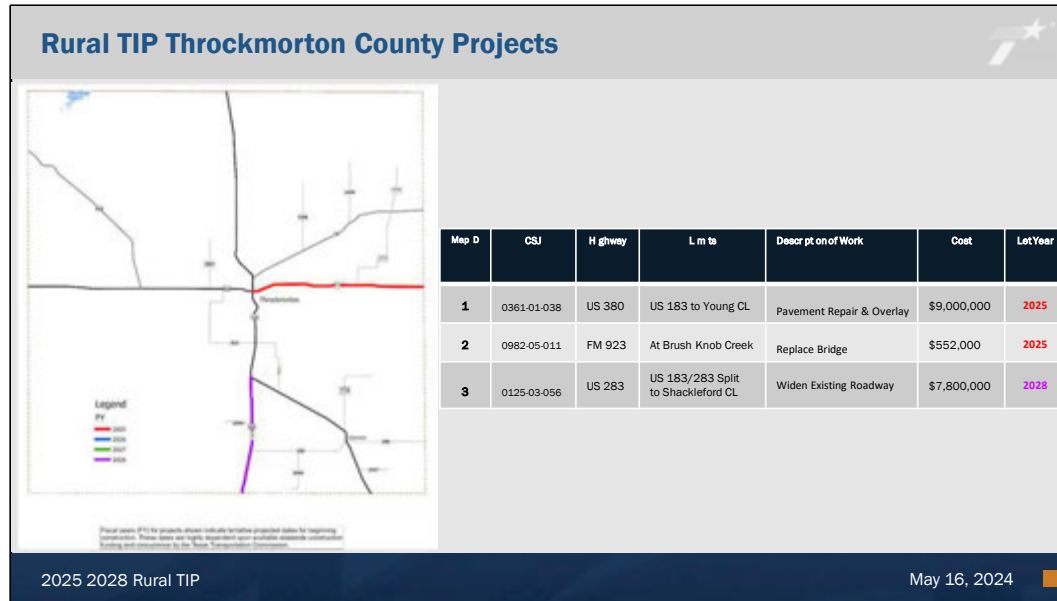
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Cooke County includes 15 projects in the 2025-28 RTIP... The biggest project... The next phase of I-35’s expansion to a 6-lane Freeway in FY 2026... from just north of FM 3002 to 1.4mi S of Spring Creek Rd with an estimated cost of nearly 200-million dollars.



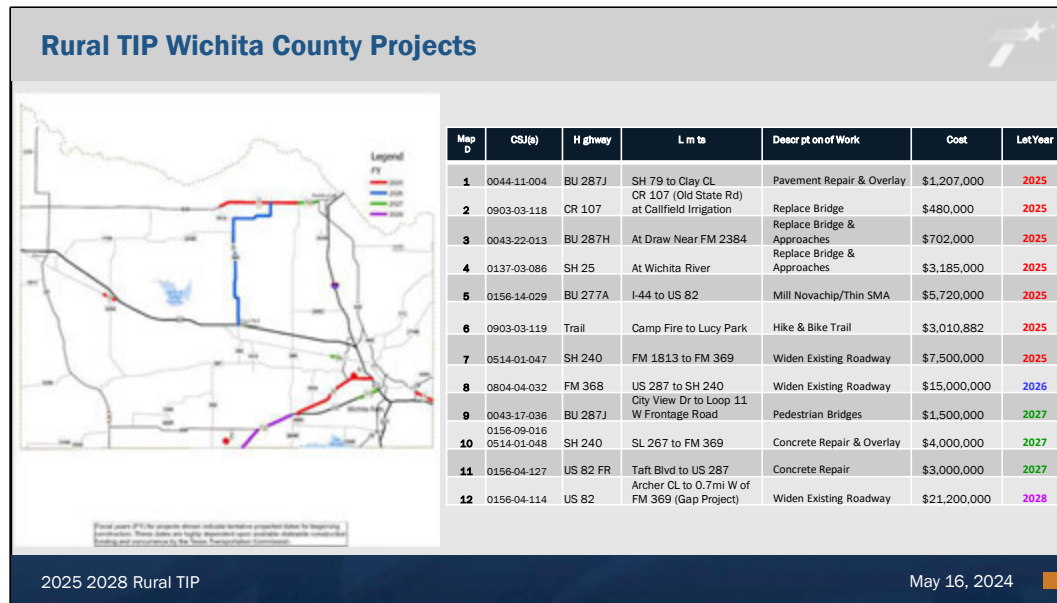
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Moving into Montague County where 14 Projects are featured in the 25-28 RTIP including various roadway improvements and county road bridge replacements... as well as the construction of new safety rest area on US 81/287 approximately 8-miles south of Bowie in Fiscal year 2026.



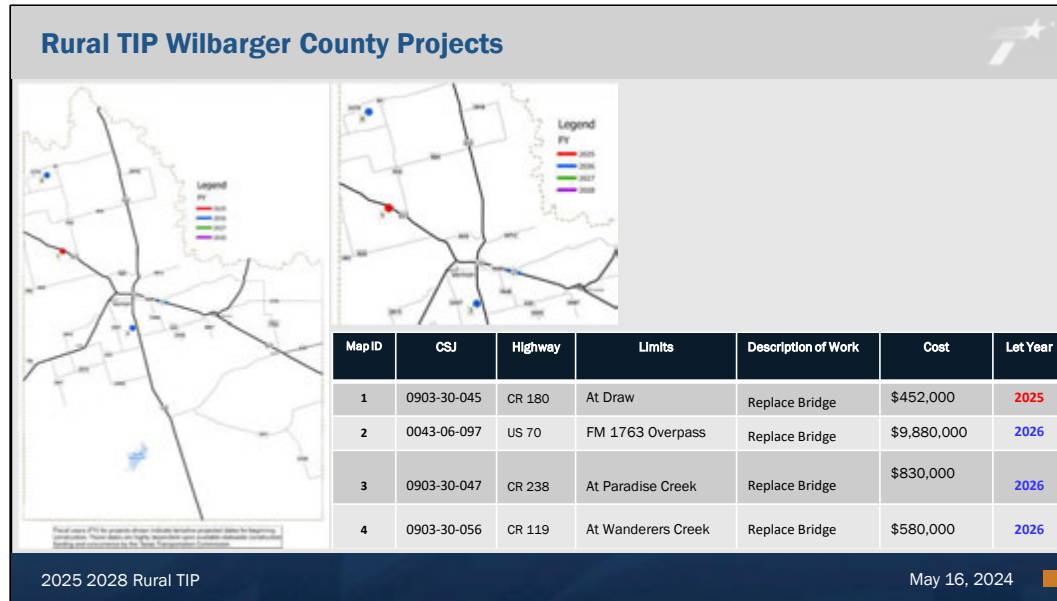
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Turning our attention to Throckmorton County... 3 projects in the current RTIP with estimated costs totaling just over \$17-million dollars including widening US 283 from the US 183 split to the Shackleford county line in FY 2028.



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A reminder to pause the video as need to view the project maps and lists. Here, we see the 12 projects included in the 2025-2028 RTIP for Wichita County. The largest project... #12 on the map and list in FY 2028... Known as the Gap Project... Widening US 82 from the Archer County Line to near FM 369 with an estimated cost of just over \$21-million



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This map shows all Projects included in the 2025-2028 Rural TIP for Wilbarger County... All 4 projects are bridge replacements... 3 on off-system county roads and Project #2... The FM 1763 Overpass at US 70 east of Vernon estimated at 9-million 880-thousand dollars

Rural TIP Young County Projects



Map ID	CSJ(s)	Highway	Limits	Description of Work	Cost	Let Year
1	0134-03-035	US 380	SH16 to FM 2179	Pavement Repair & Overlay	\$2,000,000	2025
2	0361-02-048	US 380	Weaver Ln to Throckmorton CL	Pavement Repair & Overlay	\$2,500,000	2025
3	0529-01-026	FM 61	FM 3003 to FM 67	Pavement Repair & Overlay	\$2,000,000	2025
4	0362-01-055	SH 16	Graham South City Limits to Palo Pinto CL	Pavement Repair & Overlay	\$5,000,000	2025
5	0133-08-038	SH 114	FM 2178 N to Ave C in Olney	Pavement Repair & Overlay	\$2,000,000	2027
6	0256-01-060	SH 67	US 380 to Stephens CL	Pavement Repair & Overlay	\$8,000,000	2027
7	0134-02-063 0562-05-018	FM 926	Near Pavelev Creek to US 380	Pavement Repair & Overlay	\$500,000	2027
8	0444-04-024	FM 210	SL 132 to SH 79	Pavement Repair & Overlay	\$450,000	2027
9	0284-03-011	SL 132	SH 114 to SH 79	Pavement Repair & Overlay	\$750,000	2027

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And in Young County... 9 Pavement Repair and Overlay projects in Fiscal Years 2025 & 2027 totaling just over an estimated \$23-million dollars... Once again... please review projects from any of the 9 counties in the Wichita Falls District previously shown in the presentation.

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**
Through the Federal Highway and Transit Administrations
- TxDOT**
Through its Unified Transportation Program funding categories
- Local governments**
Who may be required to provide matching funds for federal monies

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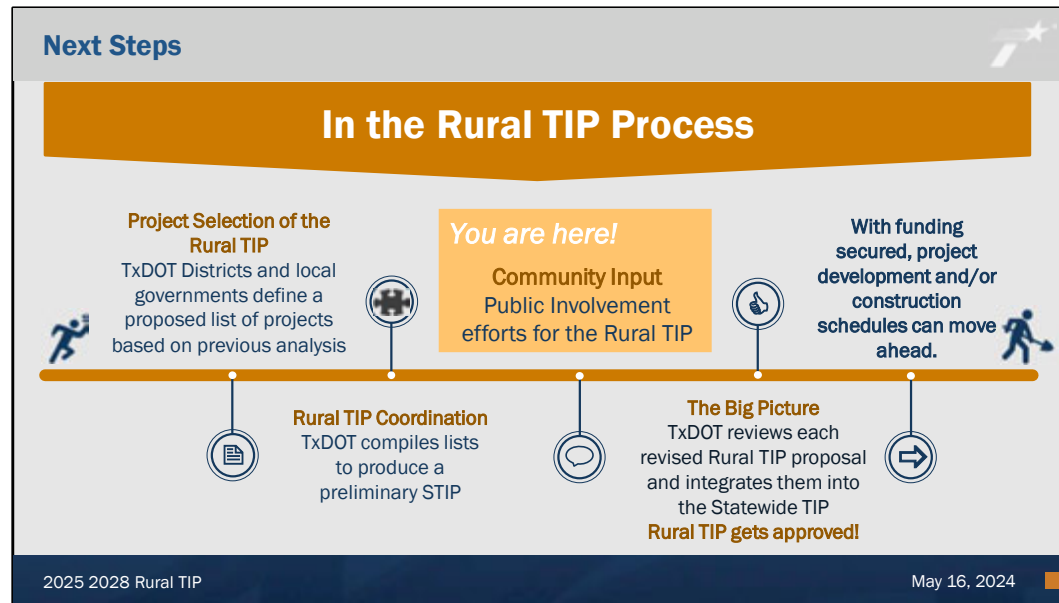
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The Rural TIP functions as a budget list for the District. As such, it is fiscally constrained. For example, when looking at the budget of a household, the Rural TIP has to be realistic about the amount of money available to cover all the needs. Frequently 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 are available from 3 main 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 our budget for these projects through the Unified Transportation Program's 12 funding categories.

And 3) 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 and state government and their capacity to meet them.



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The timeline above illustrates the Rural Transportation improvement Plan process and where we are right now. Once your comments have been collected and considered, the Wichita Falls District will submit a revised Rural TIP, if necessary, for approval and integration into the Statewide document.

The Statewide Transportation Improvement Program is built from the Rural TIP of all of the 25 Districts in the State as well as the Transportation programs from all of the Metropolitan Planning Organizations. The timeline above shows where in the Rural TIP each process fits into this larger effort. Once the STIP is approved by the Federal government, everyone’s projects are funded and move one step closer to construction

Next Steps

How to provide comments:

- 1. Print and mail completed comment card to:**
Texas Department of Transportation
Wichita Falls District
Attn: Kyle Poirot
1601 Southwest Parkway
Wichita Falls, TX 76302
- 2. Or email a comment to:** Kyle.Poirot@txdot.gov

Remember to submit your comments by **May 28, 2024** to be included in the official summary of this meeting. The comment card is available at the link below:
<https://www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings/wichita-falls/2024/2025-2028-rtip-051624.html>

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Now that you are familiar with the Program, we want to hear what you think. Please print and mail the completed comment card to the address on the screen. The comment card is available At the txdot.gov link bottom of the orange box on your screen.

You can also email in your comments to: Kyle.Poirot@txdot.gov

Comments must be postmarked or otherwise received by **May 28, 2024**. 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 or visit the District Webpage for updates.

Please share this information with your friends or family and remind them to make sure they send their comments before **May 28, 2024** as well. Thank you for your time and we look forward to hearing from you.