

Proposed Action: US 59 Upgrade Project

Project Limits: FM 2919 to FM 710

City: Several County: Wharton State: Texas

TxDOT CSJ(s): 0089-08-098, 0089-08-100, 0089-07-154, 0089-07-152, 0089-07-145, & 0089-06-080

In accordance with 23 CFR Section 771.119 and Section 771.121, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has determined that the US 59 Upgrade Project, upgrading US 59 to interstate standards from FM 2919 to FM 710, will not have a significant impact on the human or natural environment.

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Preferred Alternative is based on the final Environmental Assessment (EA) dated May 2017 and the entire project record. This decision documents the selection of the Build Alternative, presented in the final EA as the Preferred Alternative, which is described as:

The project will consist of a four-lane divided freeway facility (two 12-foot lanes in each direction) with 12-foot inside shoulders and 12-foot outside shoulders divided by a concrete traffic barrier. The freeway facility will have continuous frontage roads (two 12-foot lanes in each direction) with 10-foot outside shoulders and 4-foot inside shoulders. The proposed mainlanes footprint will differ from the existing mainlanes footprint in that the proposed mainlanes will shift and be closer to the centerline of US 59 eliminating the depressed grass median. Drainage will be open ditch. No designated bike lanes or sidewalks are planned however the outside shoulders of frontage roads can be utilized by cyclists and pedestrians.

A Notice of Availability of the draft EA was issued on January 11, 2017.

A public hearing for this project was held on February 9, 2017.

Changes to the draft EA that are included in the final EA that were made as a result of comments submitted at the public hearing include:

- Mainlane Typical Section: The depressed grass median was eliminated for the proposed project.
 A concrete traffic barrier now separates the northbound and southbound mainlanes. Mainlanes have been shifted inward toward the centerline of the roadway approximately 12 feet. Outside and inside shoulder widths were increased to 12 feet. Tie-in of ramps as well as access denial has now changed slightly due to the new typical section configuration.
- North of FM 441 and south of CR 357: Redesigned the southbound exit ramp that was north of FM 441 and south of CR 357 to include both entrance and exit ramps instead of just an exit ramp.
- CR 307 and Bus 59 Intersection Configuration: Eliminated the channelized exit ramp at CR 307 and Bus 59 intersection and improved the geometry of the existing northbound entrance ramp at this intersection. Bus 59 remains two-way in order to serve the Rice Belt Plant.
- Jackson Street and US 59 Northbound Frontage Road: The tie-in from the northbound exit ramp
 to Jackson Street only allowed exiting vehicles to go southbound on Jackson Street, not
 northbound. It now allows exiting vehicles to go northbound or southbound on Jackson Street.
 Jackson Street has also been extended to FM 405 to provide more access along the frontage
 road.
- Pump Station Road Intersection: An overpass with U-turns and access ramps has been added at this location.
- North side of Colorado River: The northbound frontage road exit ramp has been shifted



- approximately 230 feet south to provide greater deceleration length for truck traffic into Nan Ya Plastics. A turning lane has also been added for vehicles entering the Nan Ya Plastics plant.
- FM 960 and US 59 Frontage Road Connection Ramp (the jug handle): Proposed southbound US 59 frontage road connection ramp to and from FM 960 (called the jug handle) has been shifted north approximately 150 feet to provide access to the adjacent property.
- FM 1161 Ramp: Added a northbound entrance ramp north of FM 1161.
- Baughman Slough Property: Moved exit ramp to provide access to property at Baughman Slough.

None of the above design changes resulting from comments received at the public hearing result in greater impacts than what has been previously identified.

Public Hearing Documentation has been prepared and is available for review on request.

The final EA and reports contained in the file of record have been independently evaluated by TxDOT and determined to adequately and accurately discuss the need, purpose, alternatives, environmental issues, impacts of the proposed project, and appropriate mitigation measures. These documents provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. These documents are incorporated by reference into this decisional document.

Based upon TxDOT's review and consideration of the analysis and evaluation contained in the EA for this project, and after careful consideration of all social, economic, and environmental factors, including input from the public involvement process, TxDOT hereby issues this Finding of No Significant Impact for the US 59 Upgrade project from FM 2919 to FM 710.

TxDOT will ensure adherence and completion of all project commitments described in the final EA May 2017, Section 4.3. TxDOT will ensure that any and all local, state, or federal permit requirements and conditions are met and otherwise complied with.

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 the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division Director

Date

5/25/17

July



Environmental Document Certification Form

Reset Form

Project Name: US 59 Wharton County		
Control Section Job Number (CSJ): 0089-0	6-080	
Document Type: 🛛 EA 🔲 EIS 🔯	FONSI Document	t Stage: Draft 🔀 Final
When all required items are satisfactorily comp	ovironmental document is ready for public review (dra coleted, the District and ENV representatives will sign th	
document is certified and may proceed to publ	ic review or is ready for final approval.	
This project meets all the following require	rements:	
A. A project scope has been completed	for the project.	
B. The document has been determined	to be administratively complete.	
C. The document meets the requirement	nts of technical review (43 TAC §2.49) as required to	o date.
D. The required public participation has	been completed as required to date.	
 E. All consultation and coordination red environmental documents). 	quired for the environmental decision is complete a	and appropriately documented (for final
F. Legal Review or Legal Sufficiency Rev	riew has been completed, as required.	
G. Current funding has been reviewed,	and is as follows:	
Mix of Federal/State/Local fundi	ng State-only funding Date Verified: 5/1	8/2017
Comments:		
_{Signed:} Alan Migl	Digitally signed by Alan Migl DN: cni Alan Migl. o=TsDOT, ou≈YKM District, email=alan migl⊕txdot gov, c=U5 Date 2017:05 18 99:03 12:-05'00'	Date: 5/18/2017
Distri	ct Core Team Member	
Print Name: Alan Migl		
Signed: LKIMMIT	Digitally signed by LKSMMST DN devix devix of contain, develop, pu=DDDs, pu=EN/ pu=Users, cn=LKSMMST, email=undersys/monitorisation pry Date 2017.65.32.11.09.19 -c5100*	Date: May 22, 2017
ENV	Core Team Member	
Print Name: Lindsey Kimmitt		
Approved for Circulation (EAs only):		
Signed:		Date:
	ect Delivery Director	
Print Name:		



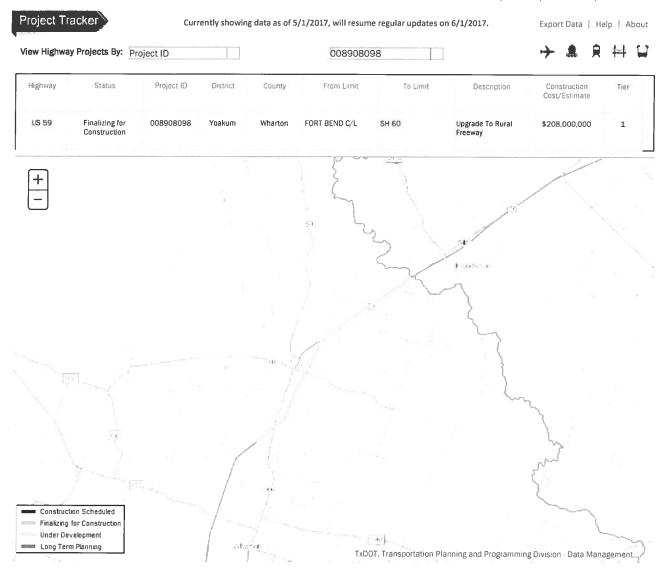
Environmental Document Review Checklist

Project Nam	ne: US 59 W	/harton Cour	ity	State Federal - Assigned Federal - Not Assigned			
CSJ No.: 00	89-06-080		Federal-Aid	No. (if applicable): NH 2013(210) Date of Administrative Completeness: Apr 13, 2016			
District / Co	untv: Yoaki	um, Whartor		Project Sponsor: TxDOT			
Document T	ype: 🛛] EA [EIS Doc	ument Stage: Draft Final Preparer/Consultant: Klotz			
Preparer identify		er check if tent is:	Core Team check if content is:	Major Required Content			
Section in Document	Included	Not Applicable	Acceptable	major nequirea content			
	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	Cover Sheet			
			\boxtimes	Follows TxDOT approved format			
Cover Page			\boxtimes	Includes 23 U.S.C. 327 assignment language			
				Title includes any cooperating agencies (EIS only)			
				Signature block and contacts (only required for EIS)			
				Abstract (only required for EIS)			
				ROD (for Final EIS) / FONSI (for EA)			
				Executive Summary (optional for EA, optional for combined FEIS/ROD, but required for EIS)			
				Includes 23 U.S.C. 327 assignment language			
				Summary of major conclusions, areas of controversy, preferred alternative, and commitments			
		<u> </u>		Table of Contents: include list of tables, figures, and appendices			
			<u> </u>	List of Acronyms			
1.0		\vdash		Introduction			
1.0				Purpose of the Document: brief overview including appropriate figures			
1.0				Project Description			
1.0				Existing Facility Description Proposed Project (Constal Description)			
1.0				Proposed Project (General Description)			
1.5				Demonstrates logical termini and independent utility			
1.4				Planning and Programming Status			
1.4				Consistent with current Plan and Program (required for Final Environmental Document)			
1.4	\boxtimes		$oxed{\boxtimes}$	Reference to plan sheet in appendix (required for Final Environmental Document) Purpose and Need			
1.1			<u>\</u> _	Need statement(s)			
1.1							
1.2		 		Supporting Facts and/or Data Purpose statement(s)			
1.8				Alternatives			
1.8				Build Alternative(s)			
1.8			⊠	Includes number of lanes, ROW requirements, median width, access control, estimated cost			
1.8	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	No-build Alternative			
1.8	\boxtimes			Alternatives Considered But Eliminated From Further Consideration (if applicable)			
2.0				Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences (see page 2 for further detail)			
App. A	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	Agency Coordination			
2.15	\boxtimes			Public Involvement			
4.3	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	Environmental Permits, Issues and Commitments			
4.0			\boxtimes	Conclusion			
4.4	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	Identification of preferred alternative (required for Final Environmental Document)			
-				Locally preferred alternative, if one has been identified			
				List of Preparers (EIS only)			
5.0	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	References Cited			
Figures	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	Exhibits (Maps, Photos, Schematics, Typical Sections)/Appendices			
Comments:		•					



Preparer identify:	Prepa	rer check if co	Core Team check if content is: Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences				
Section in Document	Included	Subject of Technical Report	Not Applicable	Acceptable	Arrected Environment and Environmental Consequences		
Issues/resources determined to have no impact at scoping can be listed in the document. Summary discussion needed for issues/resources considered							
				environment ach issue/res	t, environmental consequences, encroachment-alteration effect, and applicable avoidance,		
2.1			eusures for e		Right of way/Displacements		
2.3			Land Use				
2.7.9					Farmlands		
2.2			Utilities/Emergency Services				
2.4.2					Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities		
2.4.2					Community Impacts (EJ and LEP)		
2.12					Visual/Aesthetics		
2.8.2					Archeological Resources - includes Section 106 statement for Federal projects		
2.8.1		\boxtimes			Historic Properties - includes section 106 statement for Federal projects		
2.5					Section 4(f)/6(f)/Chapter 26 - includes Section 4(f) statement for Federal projects		
2.6					Water Resources		
2.7					Biological Resources - includes Section 7 statement for Federal projects		
2.9					Air Quality		
2.11					Hazardous Materials		
2.10					Traffic Noise		
3.1					Indirect Impacts (Induced Growth Summary)		
3.2					Cumulative Impacts		
2.13							
Comments:					Construction Impacts		
	chack if info	mation is:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		·		
Core Team check if information is: Included as Not Present in Appendix applicable File Supporting Documentation							
The append	ices and/or	file of record	must contain t	he following ite	ems/documents		
☐ Plan and Program consistency documentation (compare against current E-STIP)							
			Technical Reports: all technical reports as identified above have been completed, approved, and are present in the project file				
					onsultation in appendices and/or file – Includes Distribution List for EIS only		
			USFW				
	\boxtimes		Section 4(f		, Programmatic Section 4(f) Evaluation, Section 4(f) De Minimis Determination, or Section		
_							
			Public Med	eting/Public I	Hearing Documentation (that includes public involvement certification)		
Comments:	USCG						
Yes	No	Not applicable			Document Consistency (Core Team Completes)		
			Quantitati	ve consisten	cy between technical reports and Environmental Document (traffic, ROWs, etc.)		
					cy within Environmental Document		
					ency (project limits, street names, key, etc.)		
			Exhibits a	nd appendice	es listed in the Table of Contents are present in the Environmental Document		
Comments:					79		
Completed	By: Al	an Migl			Alan Migl 5/18/2017		
		Dist	rict Core Tean	n Member (Prir	nt Name) Signature Date		
	Li	ndsey Kimm	nitt		LKIMMIT (Refer on the County of the County		
	ENV Core Team Member (Print Name) Signature Date						

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Close All >

Project Summary

Project Summary		Las	Last Updated: 5/1/2017		
Project ID	008908098	District	Yoakum		
Highway	US 59	Project Length	7,33 Miles		
From Limit	FORT BEND C/L	County	Wharton		
To Limit	SH 60	Bid Received Date	2020-Jan		

Description	Upgrade To Rural Freeway	Project Class	UPG	
Project Note	This project is being developed by non-TxDOT resources. Estimates have been provided to TxDOT by these resources.	Strategic Score	59.12	
		Total Score	76.6	

Contact Information 🗸

Contact Information			Last Updated: 5/1/2017
TxDOT Contact Name	Jeffery Vinklarek, P.E.	Phone	(361) 293-4363
Construction Company	TBD		

Project Construction

Project Milestones

Project Milestones	Last Updated: 5/1/2017		
	Target Date	Actual Date	
Start Design	1/13/2017	1/13/2017	
Design 30% Complete	5/18/2018	TBD	
Design 60% Complete	8/10/2018	TBD	
Design 100% Complete	12/31/2018	TBD	
Receive Environmental Clearance	7/31/2017	TBD	
Utility Coordination	11/15/2019	TBD	
Right Of Way Coordination	12/31/2018	TBD	
Project Ready to Bid	11/15/2019	TBD	

Programmed Funding ~

Programmed Funding	Last Updated: 5/1/2017		
	PID	Amount	
Category 12 - Strategic Priority (12TTC)	017	\$100,000,000	
Category 2M - Metropolitan Area Corridor (2002M)		\$31,000,000	
Category 4 - Statewide Connectivity Corridor (04CN)	017	\$77,000,000	

Financial Information 🗸

Financial Information	Last Updated: 5/1/2017
	Amount Paid to Date
Project Engineering	\$1,935

Construction	\$0
Construction Engineering	\$0
Total	\$1,935

Last Date of data update was: 5/1/2017

Driver | Business | Government | Inside TxDOT Project Tracker Currently showing data as of 5/1/2017, will resume regular updates on 6/1/2017. Export Data | Help | About View Highway Projects By: Project ID 008908100 Construction Cost/Estimate Highway Status Project ID District County From Limit Description Tier US 59 Wharton 0.26 MI. N. OF FM 102 Upgrade To Rural Freeway \$88,000,000 NA Construction Scheduled Under Development Long Term Planning

Close All >

TxDOT, Transportation Planning and Programming Division - Data Management...

Project S	Summary
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Project Summary		Las	t Updated: 5/1/2017
Project ID 008908100		District	Yoakum
Highway	US 59	Project Length	2.553 Miles
From Limit	SH 60	County	Wharton
To Limit	0.26 MI. N. OF FM 102	Bid Received Date	2021-Jan
Description	Upgrade To Rural Freeway	Project Class	UPG

Project Note	This project is being developed by non-TxDOT resources. Estimates have been provided to TxDOT by these resources.	Strategic Score	0.00
		Total Score	0

Contact Information

Contact Information			Last Updated: 5/1/2017
TxDOT Contact Name	Jeffery Vinklarek, P.E.	Phone	(361) 293-4363
Construction Company	TBD		

Project Construction

Project Milestones

Programmed Funding ~

Programmed Funding		Last Updated: 5/1/2017
	PID	Amount
Category DA - Develop Authority (DDA)	CNN	\$88,000,000

Financial Information ~

Financial Information	Last Updated: 5/1/2017	
	Amount Paid to Date	
Project Engineering	\$27	
Construction	\$0	
Construction Engineering	\$0	
Total	\$27	

Last Date of data update was: 5/1/2017

Driver | Business | Government | Inside TxDOT Project Tracker Currently showing data as of 5/1/2017, will resume regular updates on 6/1/2017. Export Data | Help | About 食料質 View Highway Projects By: Project ID 008907154 Highway Status Project ID District County From Limit To Limit Description Construction Cost/Estimate US 59 **Under Development** 008907154 2 0 MI S OF FM 102 Upgrade To Rural (PUMP STATION RD Freeway \$80,000,000 NA Construction Scheduled Finalizing for Construction Under Development Long Term Planning

Close All >

TxDOT, Transportation Planning and Programming Division, Data Management.

Project Summary		Las	t Updated: 5/1/2017
Project ID	008907154	District	Yoakum
Highway	US 59	Project Length	2 Miles
From Limit	0.26 MI. NORTH OF FM 102	County	Wharton
To Limit	2.0 MI. S OF FM 102(PUMP STATION RD	Bid Received Date	2021-Jan
Description	Upgrade To Rural Freeway	Project Class	UPG
Project Note	This project is being developed by non-TxDOT resources. Estimates have been provided to TxDOT by these resources.	Strategic Score	0.00
		Total Score	0

Contact Information 🗸

Contact Information			Last Updated: 5/1/2017
TxDOT Contact Name	Jeffery Vinklarek, P.E.	Phone	(361) 293-4363
Construction Company	TBD		

Project Construction

Project Milestones

Programmed Funding 🔻

Programmed Funding		Last Updated: 5/1/2017
	PID	Amount
Category DA - Develop Authority (DDA)	CNN	\$80,000,000

Financial Information ~

Financial Information	Last Updated: TBI	
	Amount Paid to Date	
Project Engineering	\$0	
Construction	\$0	
Construction Engineering	\$0	
Total	\$0	

Last Date of data update was: 5/1/2017

Project Tracker

Highway

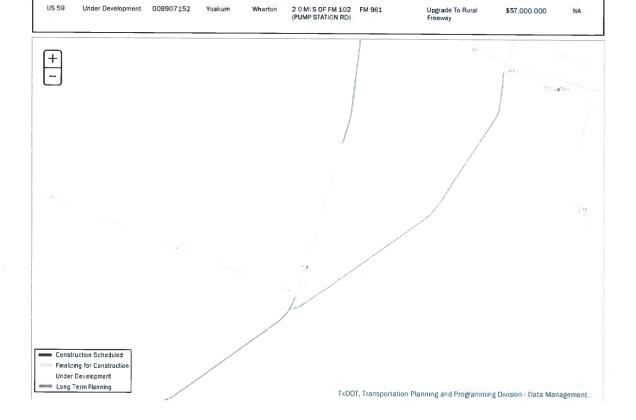
View Highway Projects By: Project ID

Project ID

District

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Driver | Business | Government | Inside TxDOT Currently showing data as of 5/1/2017, will resume regular updates on 6/1/2017. Export Data | Help | About 子 島 食品質 008907152 From Limit To Limit Description Construction Cost/Estimate



Close All

Project Summary ~

Project Summary		Las	t Updated: 5/1/2017
Project ID	008907152	District	Yoakum
Highway	US 59	Project Length	1.438 Miles
From Limit	2.0 MI S OF FM 102(PUMP STATION RD)	County	Wharton
To Limit	FM 961	Bid Received Date	2021-Jan
Description	Upgrade To Rural Freeway	Project Class	UPG
Project Note	This project is being developed by non-TxDOT resources. Estimates have been provided to TxDOT by these resources.	Strategic Score	0.00
		Total Score	0

Contact Information ...

Contact Information			Last Updated: 5/1/2017
TxDOT Contact Name	Jeffery Vinklarek, P.E.	Phone	(361) 293-4363
Construction Company	TBD		

Project Construction

Project Milestones

Programmed Funding 🔻

Programmed Funding		Last Updated: 5/1/2017
	PID	Amount
Category DA - Develop Authority (DDA)	CNN	\$57,000,000

Financial Information -

Financial Information	Last Updated: TBD	
	Amount Paid to Date	
Project Engineering	\$0	
Construction	\$0	
Construction Engineering	\$0	
Total	\$0	

Last Date of data update was: 5/1/2017



Close All >

Project Summary		Las	t Updated: 5/1/2017
Project ID	008907145 District Yoaku		Yoakum
Highway	US 59	Project Length	7.937 Miles
From Limit	FM 961	County	Wharton
To Limit	BU 59 NORTH OF EL CAMPO	Bid Received Date	2027-Jan
Description	Upgrade To Rural Freeway	Project Class	UPG
Project Note	This project is being developed by non-TxDOT resources. Estimates have been provided to TxDOT by these resources.	Strategic Score	0.00
		Total Score	0

Contact Information >

Contact Information		Last Updated: 5/1/20:	
TxDOT Contact Name	Jeffery Vinklarek, P.E.	Phone	(361) 293-4363
Construction Company	TBD		

Project Construction

Project Milestones

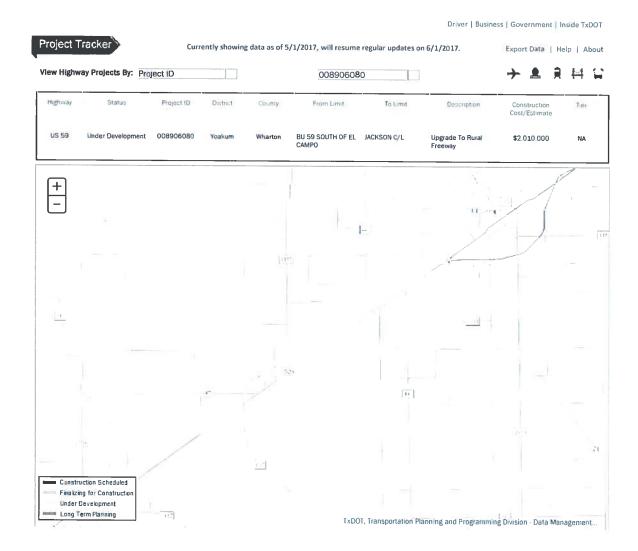
Programmed Funding 🗸

Programmed Funding		Last Updated: 5/1/2017
	PID	Amount
Category DA - Develop Authority (DDA)		\$158,000,000

Financial Information ~

Financial Information	Last Updated: 5/1/2017	
	Amount Paid to Date	
Project Engineering	<u>\$1,528,292</u>	
Construction	\$0	
Construction Engineering	\$0	
Total	\$1,528,292	

Last Date of data update was: 5/1/2017



Close All >

Project Summary		Las	t Updated: 5/1/2017
Project ID	008906080	District	Yoakum
Highway	US 59	Project Length	11.202 Miles
From Limit	BU 59 SOUTH OF EL CAMPO	County	Wharton
To Limit	JACKSON C/L	Bid Received Date	2027-Jan
Description	Upgrade To Rural Freeway	Project Class	UPG
Project Note	This project is being developed by non-TxDOT resources. Estimates have been provided to TxDOT by these resources.	Strategic Score	0.00
		Total Score	0

Contact Information

Contact Information			Last Updated: 5/1/2017
TxDOT Contact Name	Jeffery Vinklarek, P.E.	Phone	(361) 293-4363
Construction Company	TBD		

Project Construction

Project Milestones

Programmed Funding ...

Programmed Funding		Last Updated: 5/1/2017	
	PID	Amount	
Category DA - Develop Authority (DDA)		\$233,000,000	

Financial Information 🗸

Financial Information	Last Updated: 5/1/2017
	Amount Paid to Date
Project Engineering	<u>\$1,479,623</u>
Construction	\$0
Construction Engineering	\$0
Total	\$1,479,623

Last Date of data update was: 5/1/2017