Slide 1

Figure 1 Slide 1

Script:

Welcome to the Yoakum District Virtual Public Meeting for the 2025-2028 Rural Transportation Improvement Program (also known as Rural TIP). The purpose of this meeting is to learn about the project to be included in the upcoming 2025-2028 Rural TIP February Revision.

Slide 2

Agenda

01 | Safety Minute

02 | Yoakum District boundaries

03 | The Rural Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

04 | Rural TIP February Revision

05 | Rural TIP Wharton County Projects

06 | Funding

07 | Next Steps

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After a brief safety minute, we will review the Yoakum District and its boundaries, the Rural TIP and the revision process, the project being added to the 2025-2028 February Revision, funding, and why it is important for you to provide feedback.

Slide 3

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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.

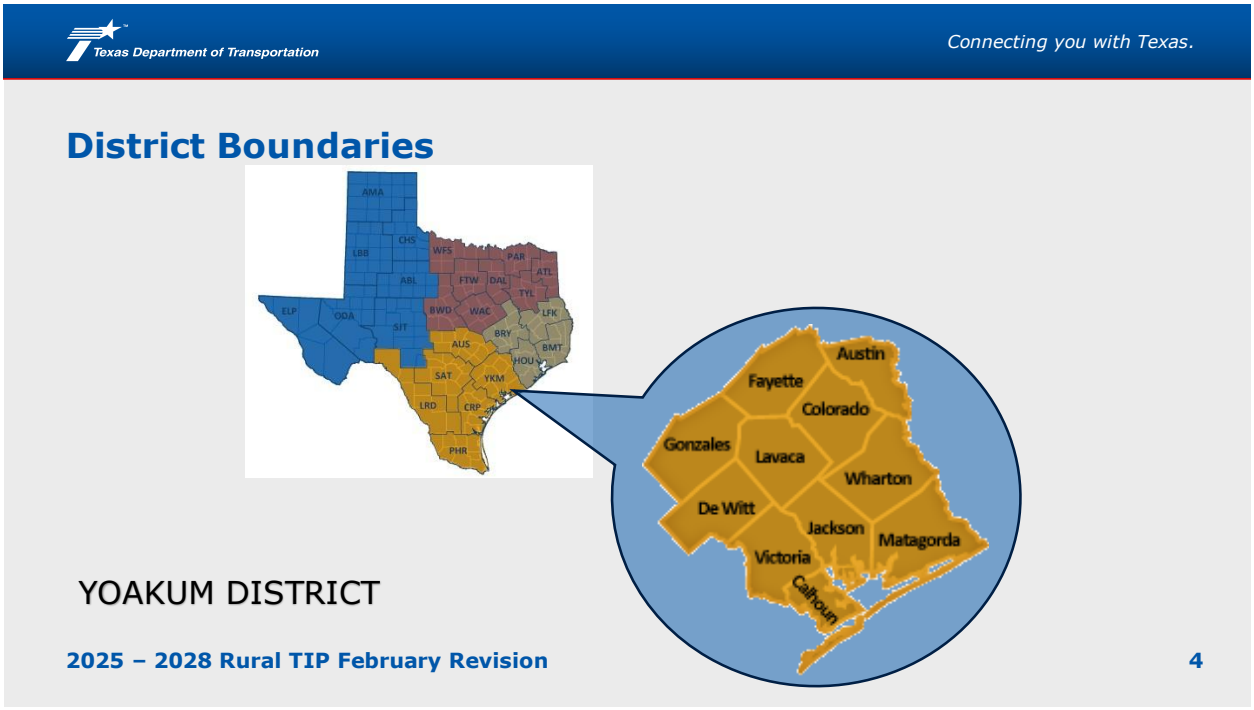
Kind
It's that simple. Treat others the way you want to be treated. Say thanks by giving a small wave, or just a friendly nod.

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.

Slide 4



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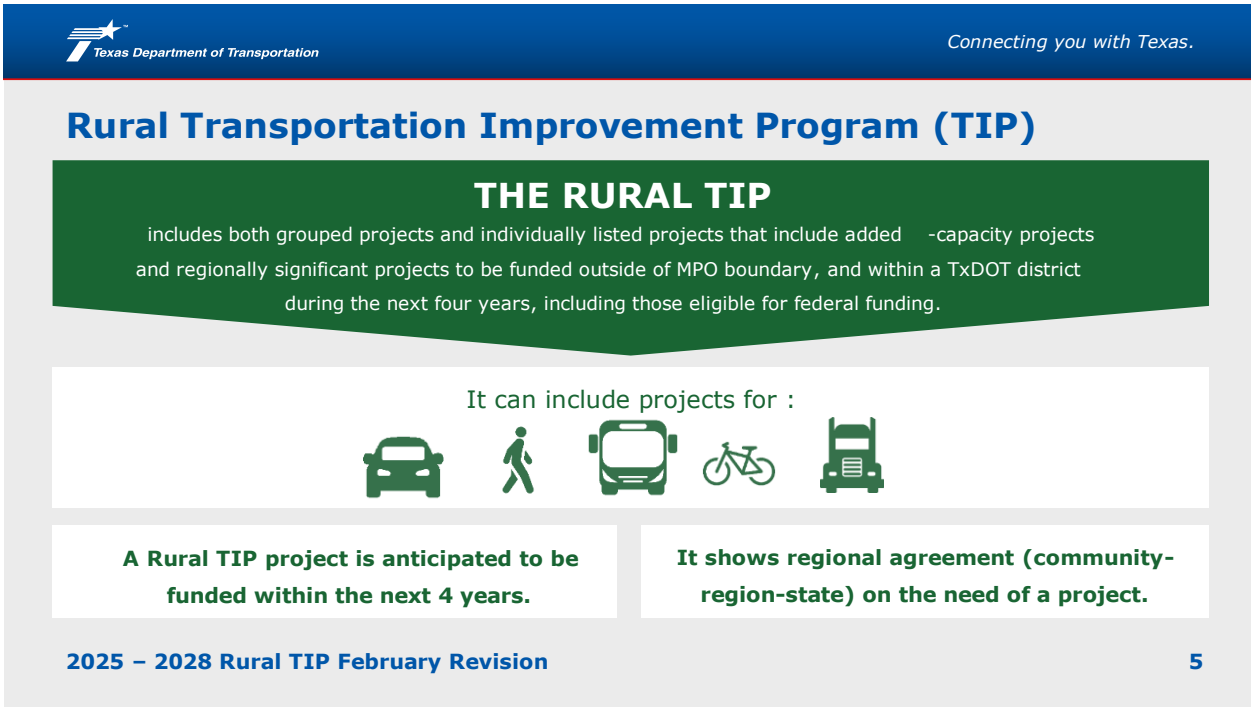
Now to the official presentation. The Yoakum District includes eleven counties, which include Austin, Colorado, Wharton, Matagorda, Calhoun, Jackson, Victoria, De Witt, Lavaca, Gonzales, and Fayette. The project included in this Rural TIP Revision is in Wharton County.

Slide 5



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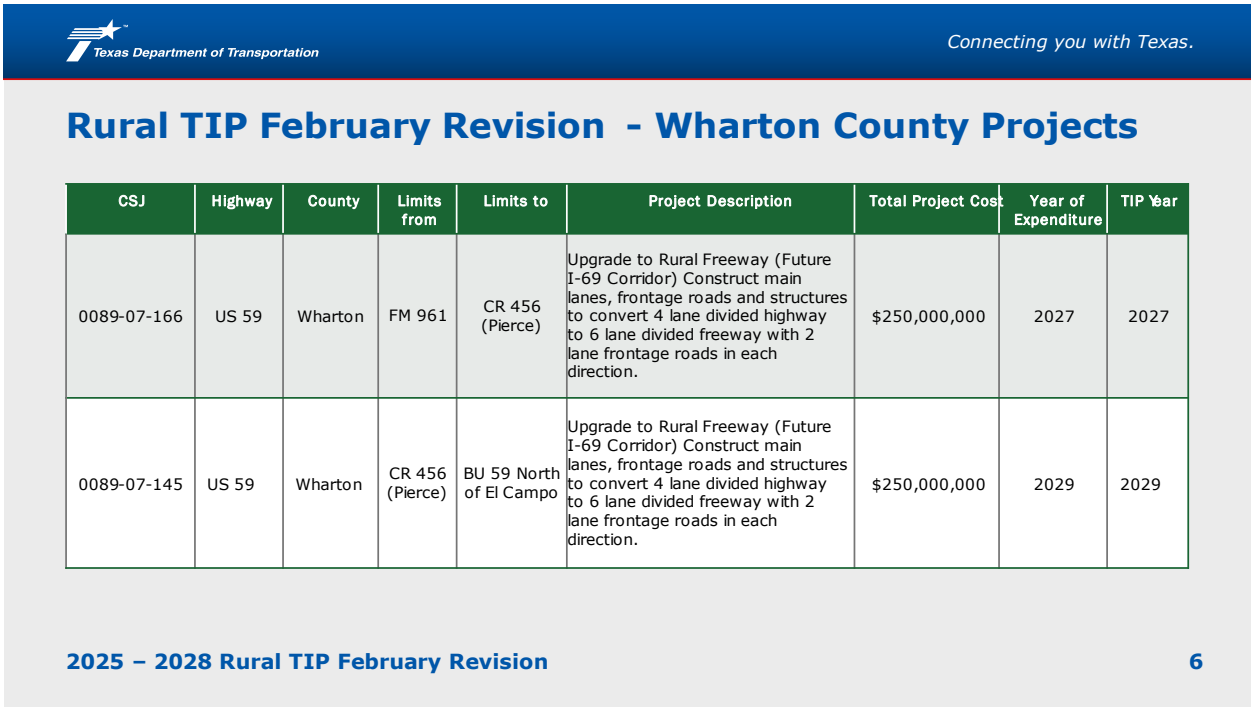
The Rural Transportation Improvement Program is a list of local projects to funded in a TxDOT District over the next 4 years. This means that all projects included in the list are expected to be underway within 4 years following its approval. These are the changes you can expect to go to contract in 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 its rules are established by Federal law, no project can receive federal funding unless it is listed in the Rural TIP!

Slide 6



CSJ	Highway	County	Limits from	Limits to	Project Description	Total Project Cost	Year of Expenditure	TIP Year
0089-07-166	US 59	Wharton	FM 961	CR 456 (Pierce)	Upgrade to Rural Freeway (Future I-69 Corridor) Construct main lanes, frontage roads and structures to convert 4 lane divided highway to 6 lane divided freeway with 2 lane frontage roads in each direction.	$250,000,000	2027	2027
0089-07-145	US 59	Wharton	CR 456 (Pierce)	BU 59 North of El Campo	Upgrade to Rural Freeway (Future I-69 Corridor) Construct main lanes, frontage roads and structures to convert 4 lane divided highway to 6 lane divided freeway with 2 lane frontage roads in each direction.	$250,000,000	2029	2029

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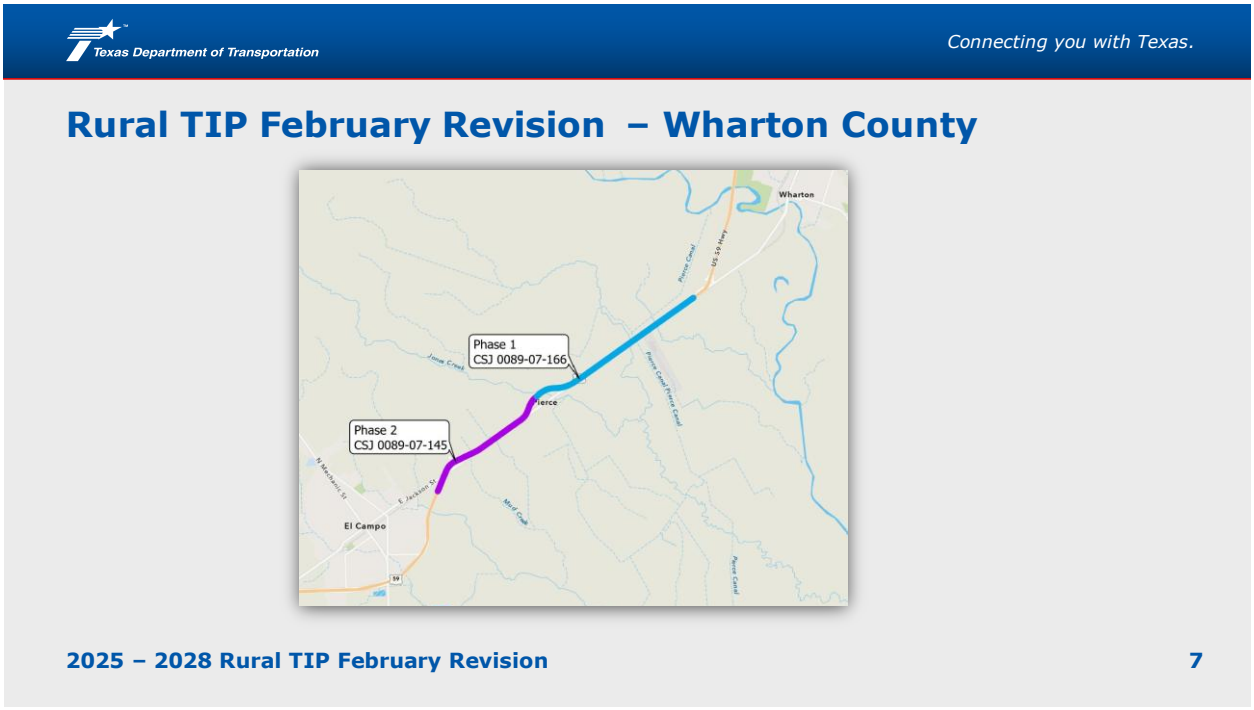
Currently there is an expansion project on US 59 (from FM 961 to BU 59 North of El Campo) in Wharton County scheduled for December 2026 let date. The Yoakum District plans to split the project into two separate lettings (CSJ 0089-07-166 and CSJ 0089-07-145). The first phase (CSJ 0089-07-166) will remain a December 2026 letting and is included in 2025-2028 Rural TIP February Revision for Wharton County. The second phase (CSJ 0089-07-145) is programmed to have a December 2028 let date which will move out of the 2025-2028 Rural TIP.

This table shows the details of these two projects.

Slide 7



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This map shows the US 59 project included in the Rural TIP February Revision in Wharton County.

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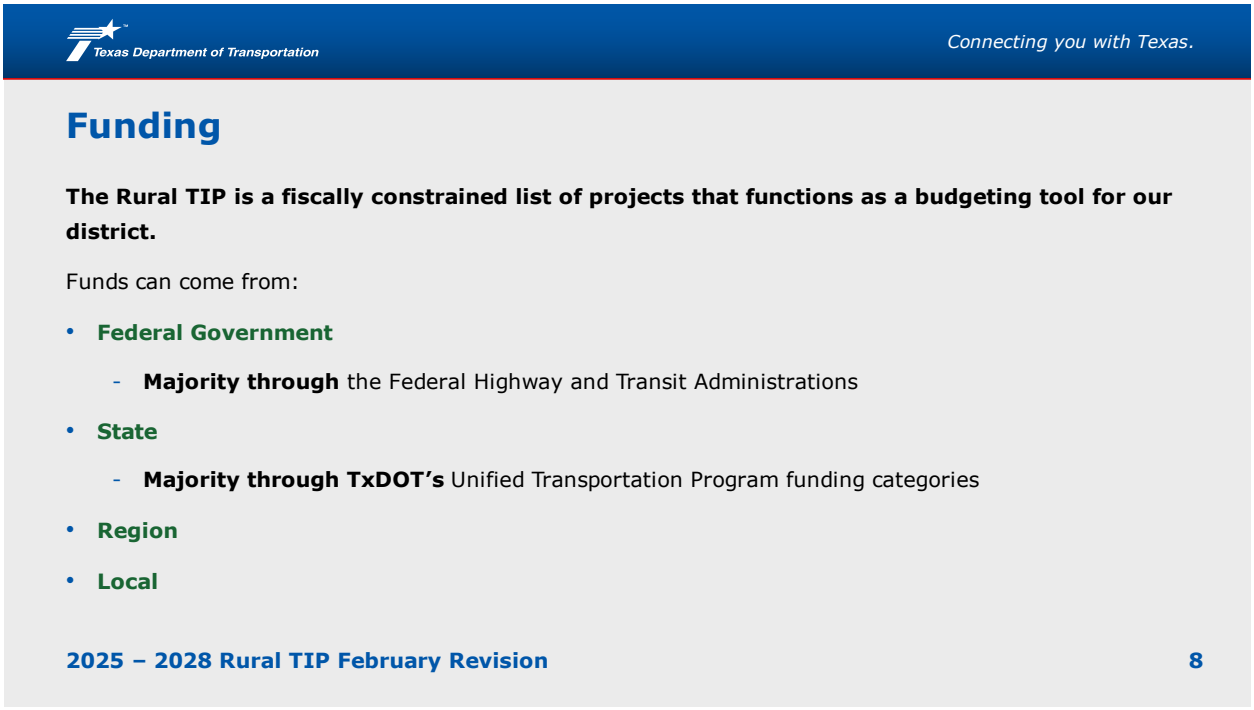

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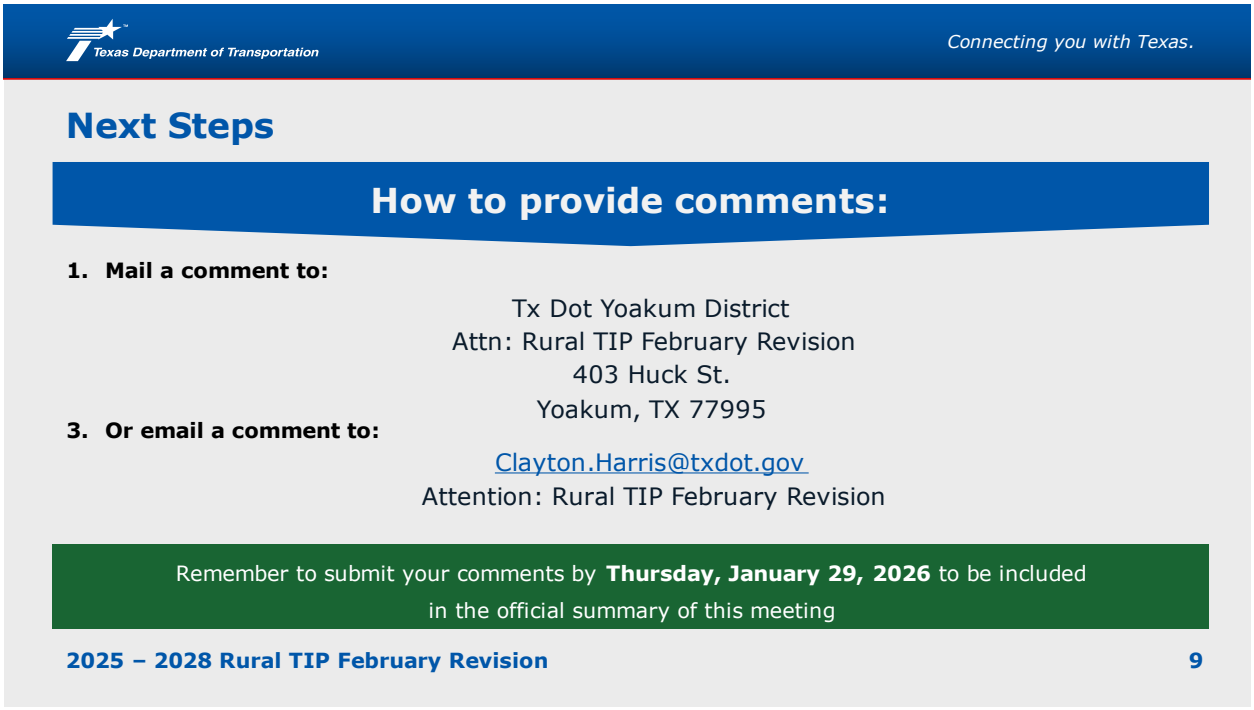
The Rural TIP functions as a budget list for the District. Therefore, it is fiscally constrained. Like the budget of a household, the Rural TIP has to be realistic about the amount of money available to covers all the needs. Frequently we identify more improvements than we have money to implement. This 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:

- 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.
- TxDOT, like the Federal Government also allocates a section our budget for these projects through the Unified Transportation Program's 12 funding categories.
- 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 and state government and their capacity to meet them.

Slide 9



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Now that you are familiar with the program, we want to hear what you think.

Please fill out a comment card and mail it to the TxDOT Yoakum District, Attention: Rural TIP February Revision, 403 Huck St, Yoakum TX 77995 by Thursday, January 29, 2026.

Once comments have been collected and considered, the Yoakum District will provide a revised Rural TIP for approval and integration into the statewide document.

You can also email your comments to: Clayton.Harris@txdot.gov, subject line: Rural TIP February Revision. Again comments must be received by Thursday, January 29, 2026, to be included in the official meeting summary.

If after today, you would like more information or have any other questions feel free to reach out or visit the District Webpage on TxDOT.gov for updates. Thank you for participating in the Yoakum District's 2025-2028 Rural TIP February Revision. This concludes the virtual public meeting.