





July 2010

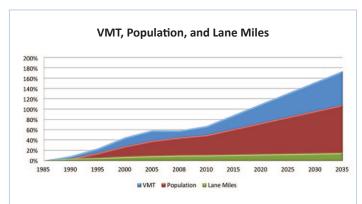
# A Look at Past, Present and Future Trends

As the Texas Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan 2035 begins to take shape, we would like to share some interesting facts, insights, and findings. From activities that have been completed, ongoing analysis, and preliminary public input, some interesting trends and some significant challenges will face the citizens of Texas over the next 25 years.

The Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan 2035 Team has been analyzing trends in population, vehicle miles traveled, trucking, rail, public transportation, bicycle/pedestrian, ports, aviation, and freight. Forecasts were also prepared for these systems through the year 2035.

## **GROWTH**

Over the past 25 years, Texas has experienced substantial growth in population. Forecasts show that Texas will continue to have similar growth in the future. The increase in vehicles miles travelled (VMT) has and will continue to outpace the growth in population. This can be attributed to a number of factors, such as economic growth, longer commutes and higher volumes of through traffic. Currently planned additions to lane mileage will not keep up with the expected growth in VMT over the next 25 years.



USDOT, TxDOT, US Census Bureau & Texas State Data Center

### **FUNDING**

Texas faces three transportation financial challenges:

- First, the demand for transportation spending continues to expand rapidly as
  - The economy grows
  - The population expands
  - The current transportation infrastructure continues to age and needs replacement or reconstruction.

- Second, the current level of funds available to TxDOT has dropped significantly over the last three years, in part due to the economic slowdown.
- Third, the rate of growth in future resources will be slower than in recent years as
  - Fuel economy improves and people begin to use electric vehicles which reduces revenue from current taxes on motor fuel, and
  - The rate of growth in VMT slows (although VMT overall will expand).

This means that the financial gap between what is needed to improve current conditions and available funds will grow significantly—billions of dollars—over the next 25 years.

## **TOUGH CHOICES AHEAD**

What options exist to help meet these demands? Texas can make progress along four fronts—each of which calls for some tough choices by the people of Texas: Come to the next meeting and discuss these tough choices.

It's a great chance to comment on the Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan 2035 and get your ideas heard.

- **Do more with less:** Use technology for more efficient use of infrastructure and get greater return on investment by being more selective in which projects go forward.
- Change demand: Recognize that the transportation system will be used differently in the future than it has been in the past. People in urban areas are likely to telecommute more, shift the hours of travel away from peak hours, and shift from autos to public transportation, cycling, and walking. Freight movement is likely to shift from truck to rail.
- Accept a lower level of performance: Expect more congestion, longer traffic delays, rougher pavements, waiting longer for improvements, etc.
- Find additional sources of revenues: Explore a full range of options, including potential increases in current registration fees, taxes on motor fuel, local option taxes, user fees, and other options.

An efficient and reliable transportation system has historically produced a strong Texas economy. As the population grows and transportation needs increase, transportation infrastructure will play a vital role in maintaining economic strength. Successfully planning for future growth and addressing these tough choices will position Texas to remain an economic leader well into the 21st century.

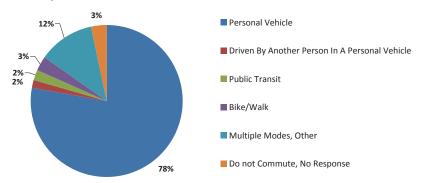
# What we heard from YOU

Twenty-seven meetings were held around the state between May 4th and May 24th as part of the first round of public outreach for the Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan 2035. A questionnaire was administered to help gain insight and information about the transportation system.

- How you commute to work/school (mode)
- Other means of travel in Texas
- Rating of the transportation problems in Texas
- Potential solutions for improving Texas roads and improving public transportation
- Potential solutions for improving travel between Texas cities

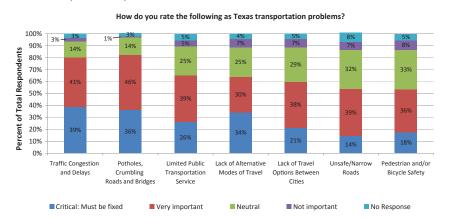
The 228 questionnaires received to date from the public meetings were analyzed and graphical summaries are provided on the website at http://www.txdot.gov/public\_involvement/transportation\_plan/. Not surprisingly, the vast majority of individuals who responded commute to either work or school via personal vehicle at seventy-eight percent (78%) but surprisingly, twelve percent (12%) utilized multiple modes of travel as shown below.

#### How do you commute to work/school?



In response to the question "How do you rate the following as Texas transportation problems?" the questionnaires indicated that more than 50% of the responders rated all of the problems identified below as "Critical" and/or "Very Important."

#### Texas transportation problems



# **Get involved and stay connected:**

- Attend an open-house style public meeting
- Visit our website at http://www.txdot.gov/ public\_involvement/transportation\_plan/
- Email us at TPP\_TxTranPlan@dot.state.tx.us
- Write to:
   Peggy Thurin, P.E., Project Manager
   Statewide Transportation Plan 2035
- Statewide Transportation Plan 2035 4544 Post Oak Place, #224 Houston, Texas, 77027
- Call us toll-free at 1-888-5-TX-PLAN (1-888-589-7526)
- Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube



# Open-House Style Public Meeting for the Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan 2035

Please join us to help shape the future of Texas:

■ Help guide where and how transportation dollars should be spent

Oct 2010

- View exhibits and watch informational videos
- Ask questions
- Provide written comments
- Sign-up for the newsletter mailing list

Attend the location most convenient for you.

Come and go any time between the hours of 4:00 – 7:00 pm.

Date	TxDOT District	District Contact	Open-House Style Public Meeting Location
August 12	Abilene	Mary Beth Kilgore, 325-676-6806	TxDOT, Abilene Area Office Conference Room, 1350 N. Arnold Blvd., Abilene, TX, 79603
August 5	Amarillo	Paul Braun, 806-356-3256	TxDOT, Amarillo District Office, HR Conference Center, 5715 Canyon Dr, Amarillo, TX, 79110
August 10	Atlanta	Deanne Simmons, 903-799-1308	TxDOT, Atlanta District Office, 701 E. Main St., Atlanta, TX, 75551
August 12	Austin	Ed Collins, 512-832-7041	TxDOT, Austin District Office, Bldg 7, 7901 North IH 35, Austin, TX, 78753
August 10	Beaumont	Phillip Lujan, 409-898-5740	TxDOT, Beaumont District Office, 8350 Eastex Fwy, Beaumont, TX, 77708
August 5	Brownwood	Sandra Parker, 325-646-2591 (ex. 413)	TxDOT, Brownwood District Office, Large Meeting Room, 2495 Highway 183 North, Brownwood, TX, 76802
August 12	Bryan	Bob Appleton, 979-778-2165	Brazos Center, 3232 Briarcrest Dr, Bryan, TX, 77802
August 3	Childress	Barbara Seal, 940-937-7288	TxDOT, Childress District Office Training Room, 7599 US 287, Childress, TX, 79201
August 12	Corpus Christi	Paula Sales Evans, 361-808-2222	TxDOT, Corpus Christi District Office, Building 2 Training Room, 1701 South Padre Island Dr, Corpus Christi, TX, 78416
August 5	Dallas	Nasser Askari, 214-320-6628	DeSoto City Hall, 211 East Pleasant Run Road, DeSoto, TX, 75115
August 11	El Paso	Eduardo Calvo, 915-790-4322	El Paso Times, Community Room, 300 N. Campbell St, El Paso, TX, 79901
August 13	El Paso	Eduardo Calvo, 915-790-4322	Marfa City Hall, Casner Room, 113 S. Highland (corner of US 67/90), Marfa, TX, 79843
August 3	Ft Worth	Bill Riley, 817-370-6532	TxDOT, Fort Worth District Regional Training Center, 2501 SW Loop 820, Fort Worth, TX, 76133
August 5	Houston	Rakesh Tripathi, 713-802-5301	TxDOT, Houston District, Auditorium, 7600 Washington Ave, Houston, TX, 77007
August 3	Laredo	Alberto Ramirez, 956-712-7446	TxDOT, Laredo District Office, Meeting Room, 1817 Bob Bullock Loop, Laredo, TX, 78043
August 5	Lubbock	Dianah Ascencio, 806-748-4472	Levelland High School, Commons Area, 1400 Hickory, Levelland, TX, 79336
August 3	Lufkin	Kathi White, 936-633-4395	TxDOT, Lufkin District Office Regional Conference Room, 1805 N. Timberland Dr, Lufkin, TX, 75901
August 5	Odessa	Matt Carr, 432-498-4761	TxDOT, Odessa District Office, Large Conference Room, 3901 E. Hwy 80, Odessa, TX, 79761
August 10	Paris	Rick Mackey, 903-737-9300 (ex. 375)	Sam Rayburn Student Center, Texas A&M University-Commerce, 2200 West Neal St, Commerce, TX, 75428
August 4	Pharr	Amy Rodriguez, 956-702-6100 (ex. 102)	TxDOT, Pharr District Conference Center, 600 W. US Expressway 83, Pharr, TX, 78577
August 2	San Angelo	John DeWitt, 325-947-9265	TxDOT, San Angelo District Office, Training Room, 4502 Knickerbocker Rd, San Angelo, TX, 76904
August 11	San Antonio	Laura Lopez, 210-615-5839	VIA Metro Center Board Room, 1021 San Pedro Ave, San Antonio, TX, 78212
August 10	Tyler	Glenn Green, 903-510-9220/9135	Rose Garden Center, 420 Rose Park Dr, Tyler, TX, 75702
August 5	Waco	Ed Kabobel, 254-867-2700 (x731)	Central Texas Council of Governments, 2180 North Main Street, Belton, TX, 76513
August 10	Waco	Ed Kabobel, 254-867-2700 (x731)	Waco Transit Administration Building, 301 South 8th Street, Waco, TX, 76701
August 5	Wichita Falls	Adele Lewis, 940-720-7728	TxDOT Training Center, 1601 Southwest Parkway, Wichita Falls, TX, 76302
August 5	Yoakum	Paul Frerich, 361-293-4347	TxDOT, Yoakum District Office, Training Room, 403 Huck Street, Yoakum, TX, 77995
Persons who have special communication or accommodation needs may call the District Contact listed above. Requests should be made no later than three days prior to the meeting. Every reasonable effort will			

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## Feb 2010

# O10 Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan 2035 Schedule Data Open Analyze Future Open House-Style House-Style



## PUBLIC COMMENTS WELCOME