



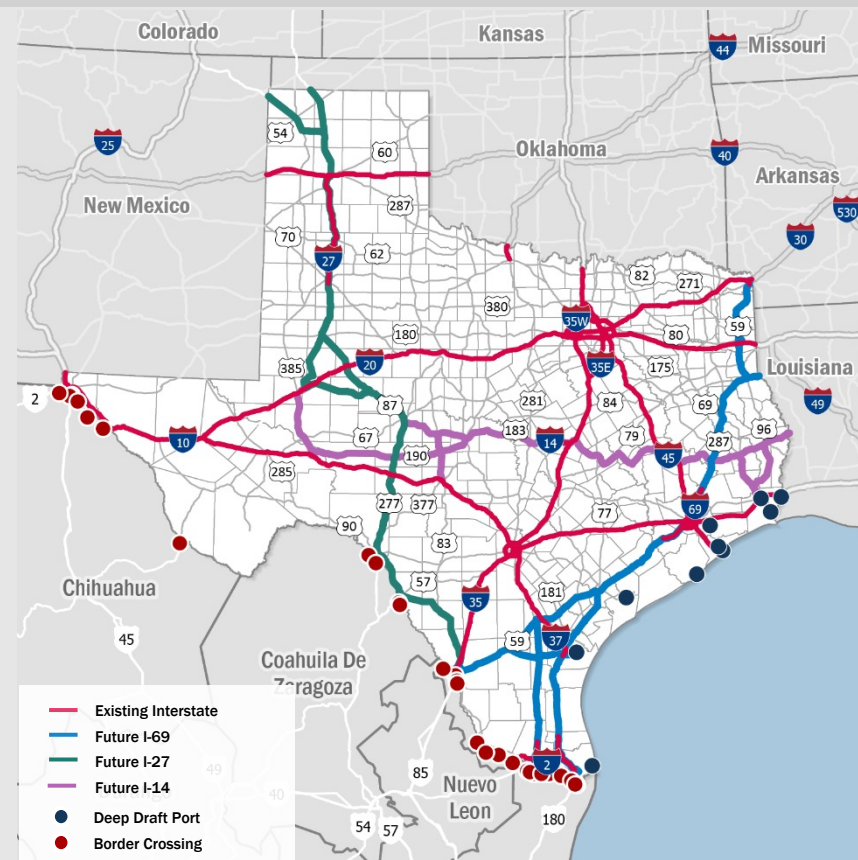
Ports-to-Plains System In Texas Interstate Implementation Plan

TEMPO 2023 Fall Meeting

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Transportation Planning and Programming Division, TxDOT**

December 1, 2023

Future Interstates in Texas



Future IH Corridor	Corridor Length (mi.)	Current Interstate Highway Designation (mi.)	Shared Designation with Other Interstates
I-69	1,088	172	0
I-27*	963	124	28
I-14	1,031	26	53
Total	3,082	322	81

When completed, the three future interstates will connect state, national and global markets through Texas seaports and border crossings.

*Ports-to-Plains Corridor assumed will be designated as I-27.

Ports-to-Plains System International Connectivity



- 1998: Designated by Congress as a High Priority Corridor (Texas/Mexico border to Denver, Colorado)
- 2019: HB 1079 requiring interstate feasibility study of upgrading corridor to interstate standards
- 2020: TxDOT submitted the Feasibility Study Report to the Governor and Texas Legislature
- 2021: SB 1474 established the I-27 Advisory Committee
- 2022: Designated by Congress as a future interstate from Texas/Mexico border to Raton, New Mexico



Ports to Plains System International Trade Significance



Opening Strategic Trade Gateways

The strategic trade gateways at Laredo, Del Rio, and Eagle Pass connect Mexico with Texas and the US



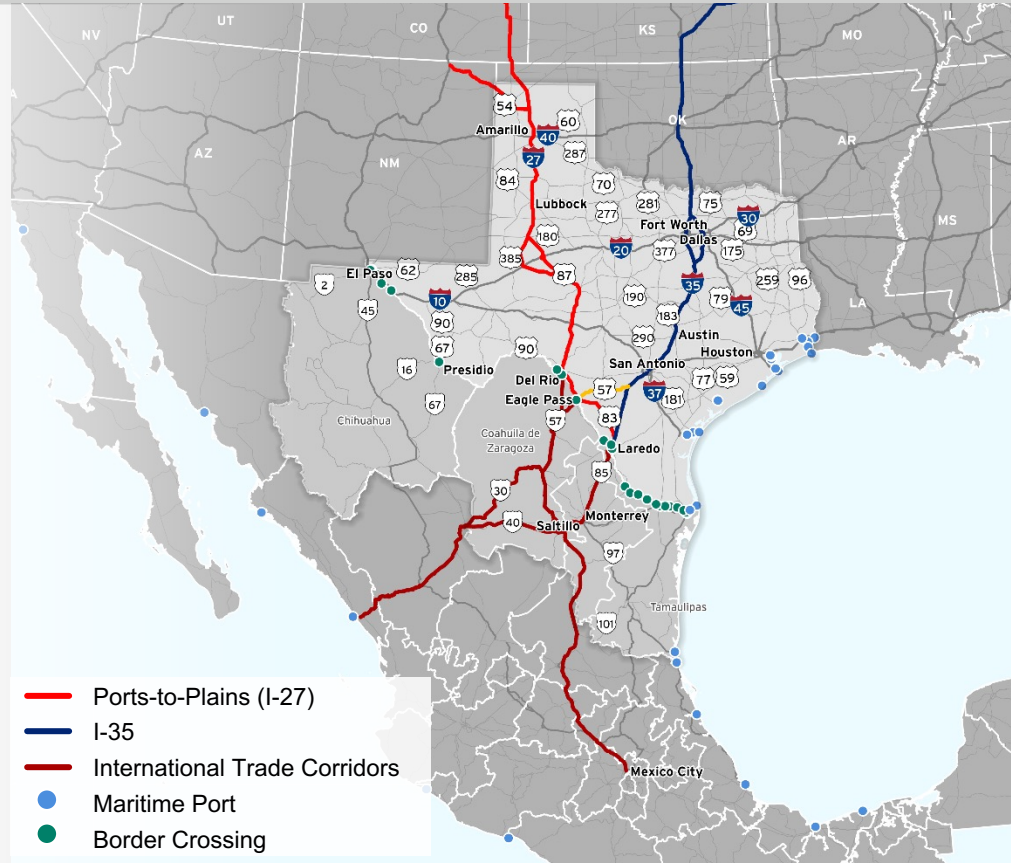
Accessing International Trade

The Ports-to Plains Corridor will provide improved access to the trade gateways



Competing Internationally

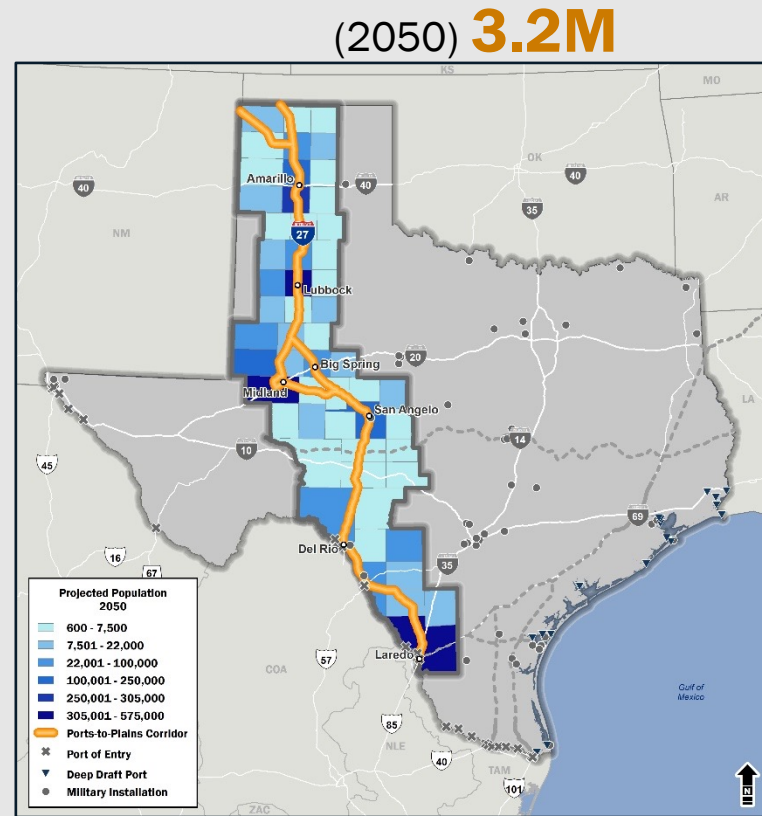
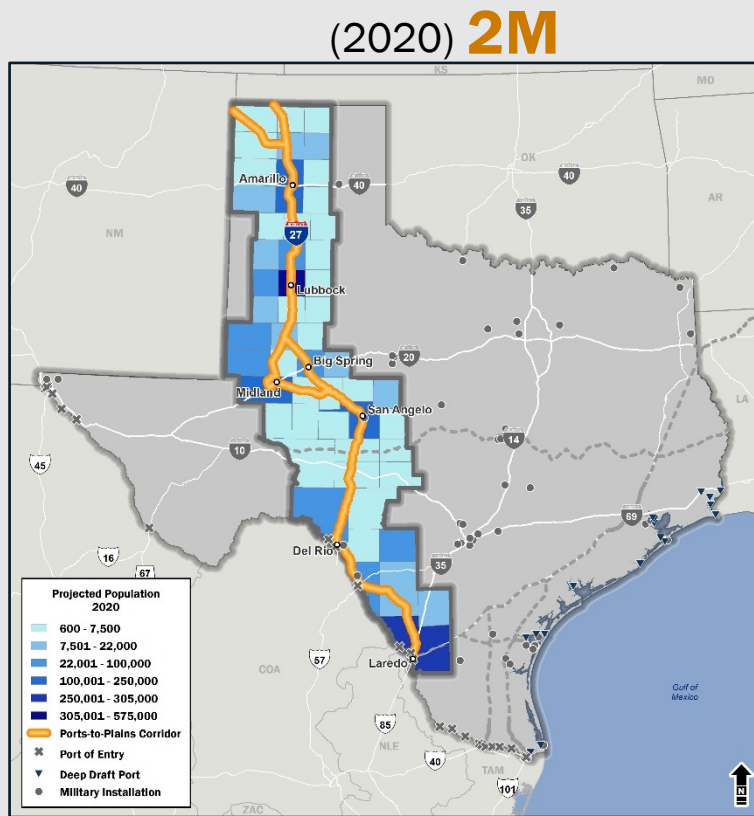
The Ports-to-Plains Corridor is vital to the continued viability of the international trade gateways



Population in the Ports-to-Plains System Region – 2020 & 2050



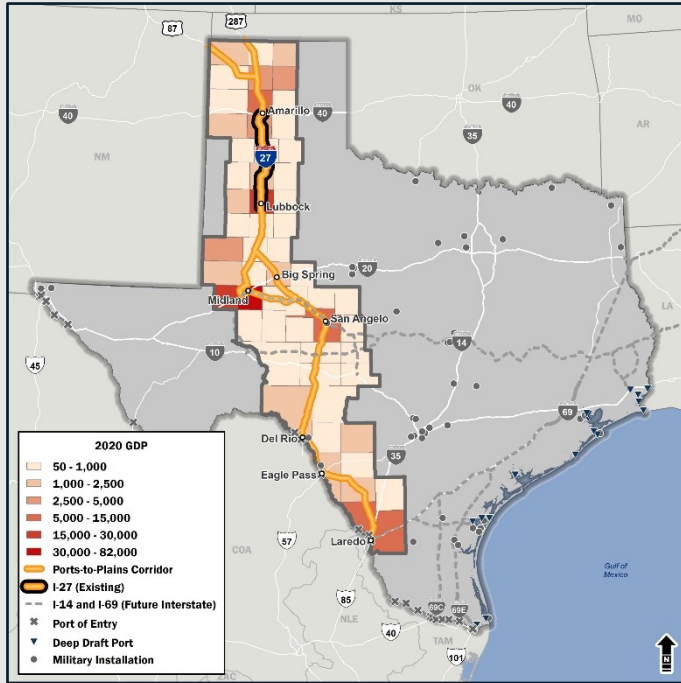
- **2M** of Texans live in the Corridor in 2020
- **3.2M** of Texans will live in the Corridor in 2050, increase by 1.2M
- **61% population growth** in the Corridor region



Economic Impact: Gross Domestic Product (GDP)



2020



\$155B

Top 5 Counties

1. Midland
2. Lubbock
3. Ector
4. Webb
5. Potter

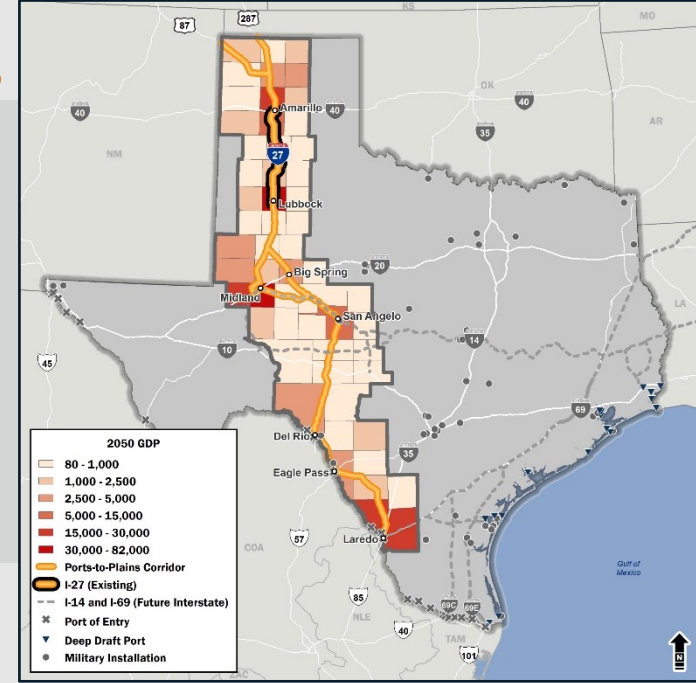
\$263B

Top 5 Counties

1. Midland
2. Lubbock
3. Ector
4. Webb
5. Potter

69%
growth

2050

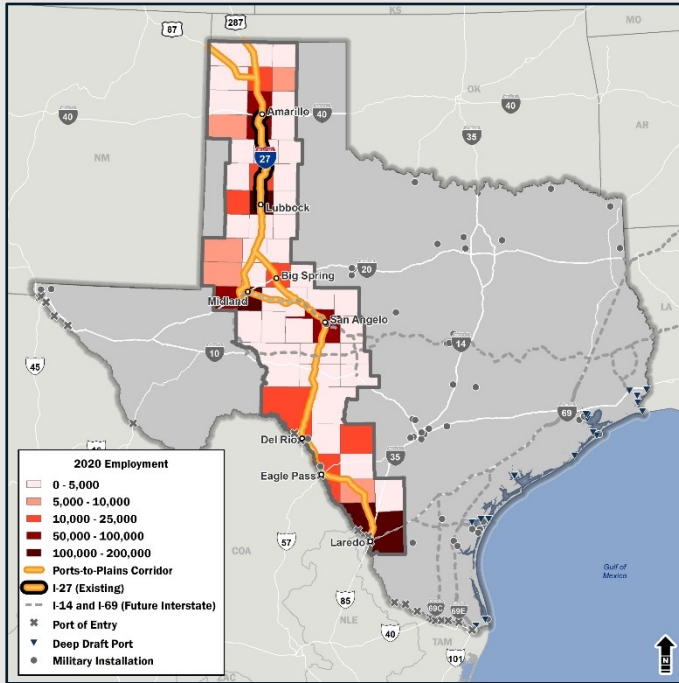


Source: Moody's Analytics, 2021

Economic Impact: Employment – 2020 & 2050



2020



894,768
employed

Top 5 Counties

1. Lubbock
2. Webb
3. Midland
4. Ector
5. Randall

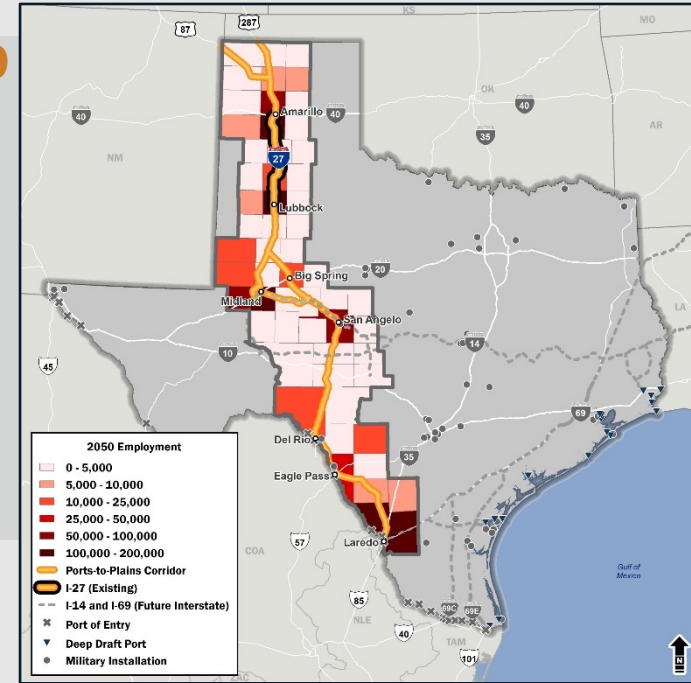
1,044,139
employed

Top 5 Counties

1. Lubbock
2. Midland
3. Webb
4. Randall
5. Ector

17%
growth

2050



Source: Moody's Analytics, 2021

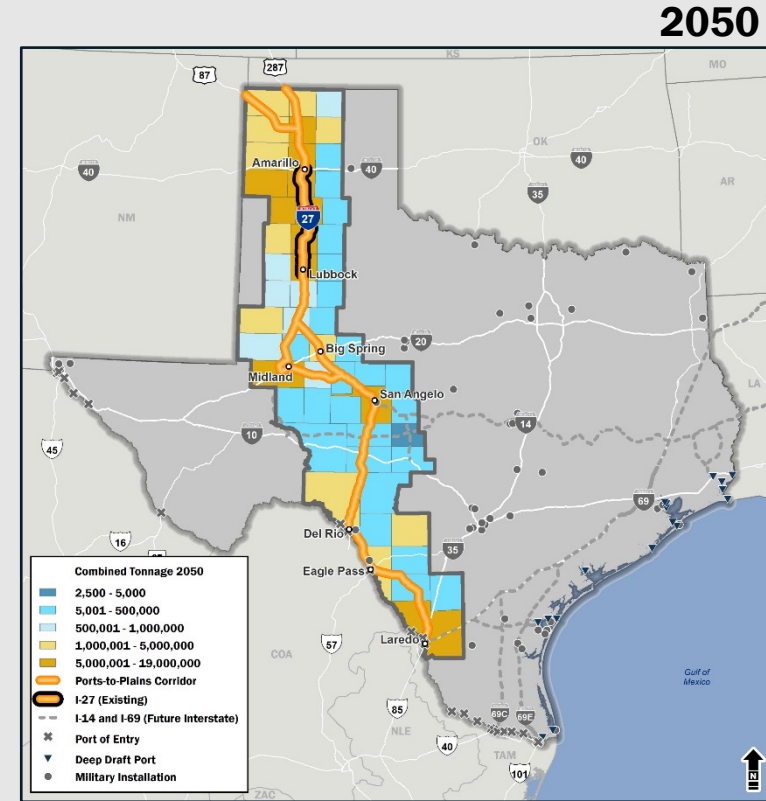
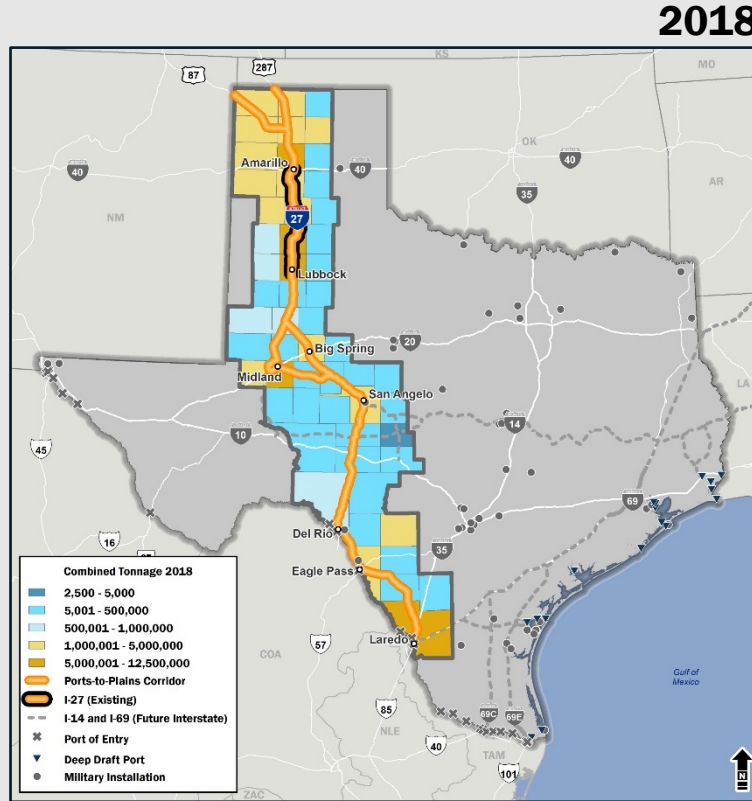
Economic Impact: Freight Tonnage By County – 2018 & 2050



- Total freight tonnage is forecast to **grow 78%** through 2050

- Top county locations for growth are:

- Webb
- Midland
- Ector
- Lubbock



Source: TxDOT SAM (V4) and TRANSEARCH (2019) database

Ports-to-Plains System in Texas - Interstate Implementation Plan



Purpose

The purpose of the implementation strategy and plan is to **identify short-, mid-, and long-term improvements that upgrade the corridor to interstate standards.**

Ports-to-Plains shares a corridor with
9 Interstates, US or State highways

963 miles

I-27(Existing): 125 miles

I-35 (Existing): 30 miles

Future Interstate: 808 miles

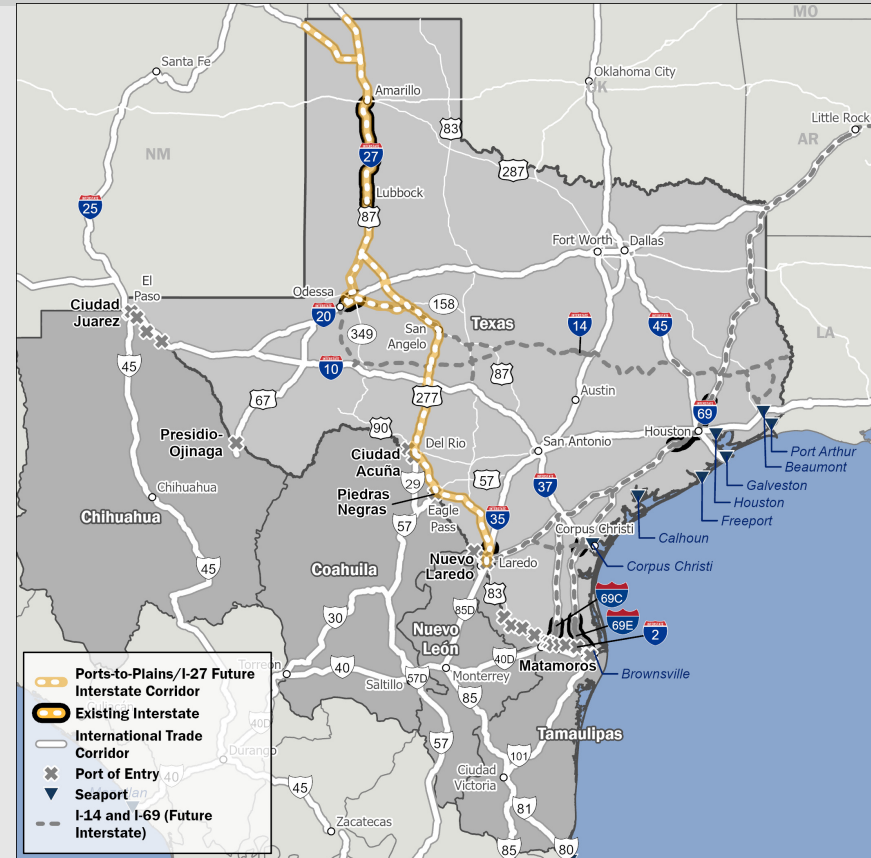
30 Cities/Towns along route

26 Counties

6 Districts

5 MPOs

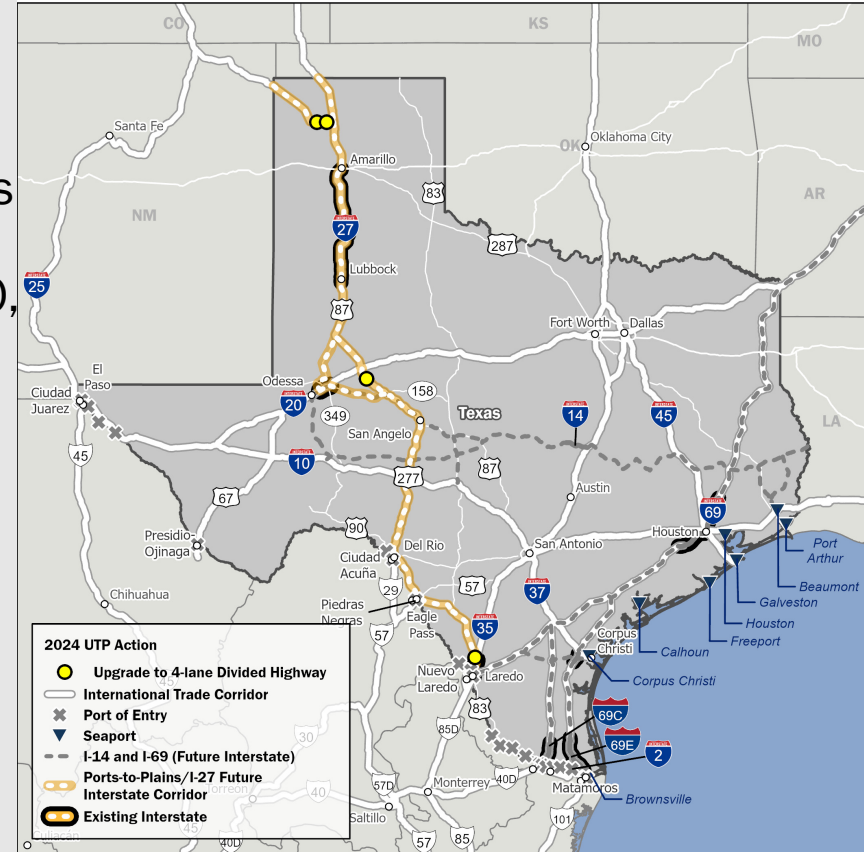
6 RPOs



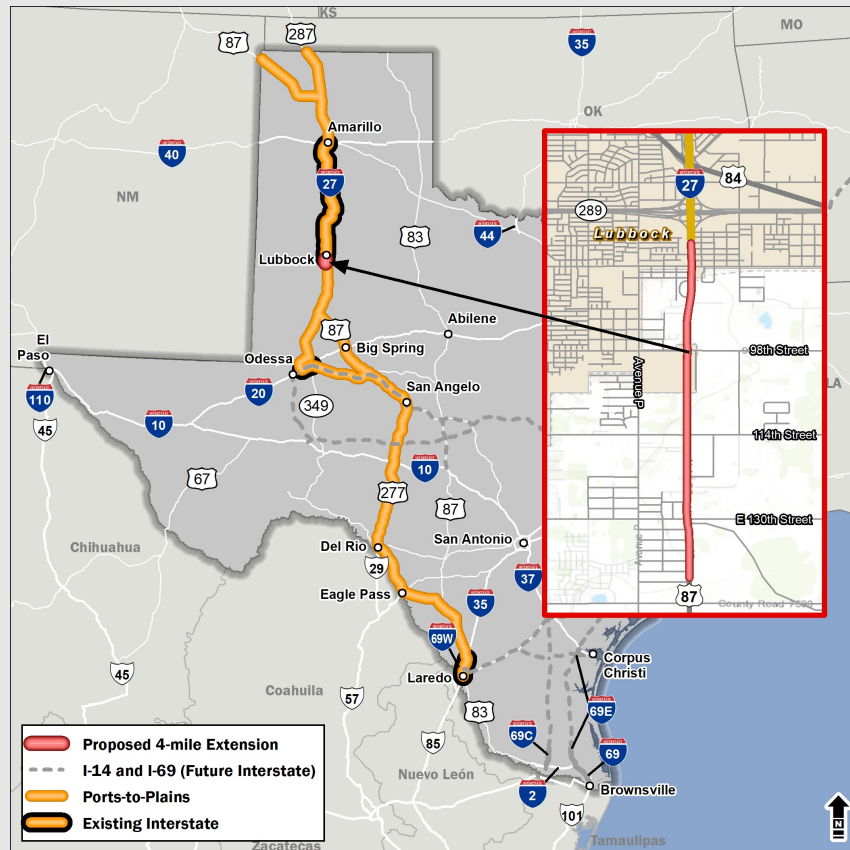
General Approach in Planning the Ports-to-Plains System in Texas



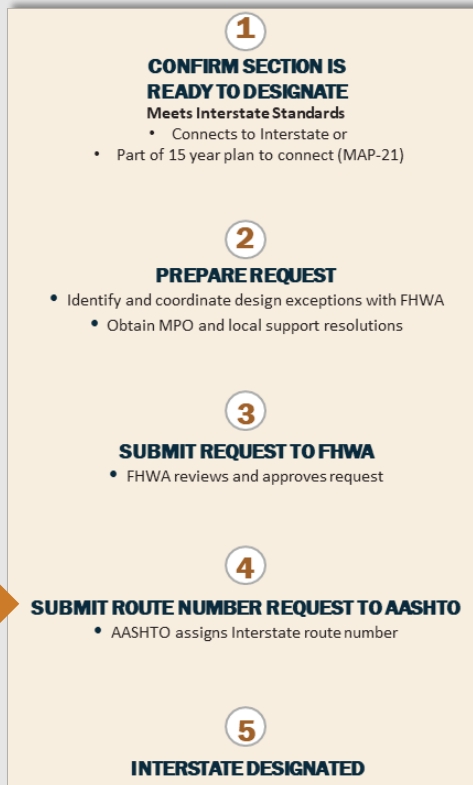
- Obtain interstate designations as quickly as possible
- Prioritize project planning to interstate standards in areas that connect to an existing interstate
- Build from existing interstate highways (I-10, I-20, I-35, I-40), not just radiate from existing I-27
- Identify 4-lane highway sections (undivided and divided) that are also adjacent to existing interstate highways for initial sequencing of an interstate section
- Identify areas warranting a City location route study
- Avoid federal and tribal lands to the extent practicable



Ports-to-Plains System in Texas: Progress on 4-Mile Interstate Designation



WE ARE
HERE



Key Elements of the Port-to-Plains System in Texas – Interstate Implementation Plan



Spring 2023

Summer 2023

Fall 2023

Winter 2024

1 Listening Sessions

- Inform
- Solicit feedback

2 Public Survey

- Solicit community feedback

3 District Workshops

- Conduct gap analysis
- Identify city location studies
- Determine limits of future interstate projects

4 Prepare Strategy and Plan

- Review and incorporate stakeholder and public feedback
- Identify short-, mid- and long-term upgrades to interstate standards

5 District/MPO Regional Workshops

- Review Corridor Sections
- Review city location studies

6 Final Document

- Document the planning process, strategy and implementation plan
- District Wrap-up Meetings

Upcoming Workshops

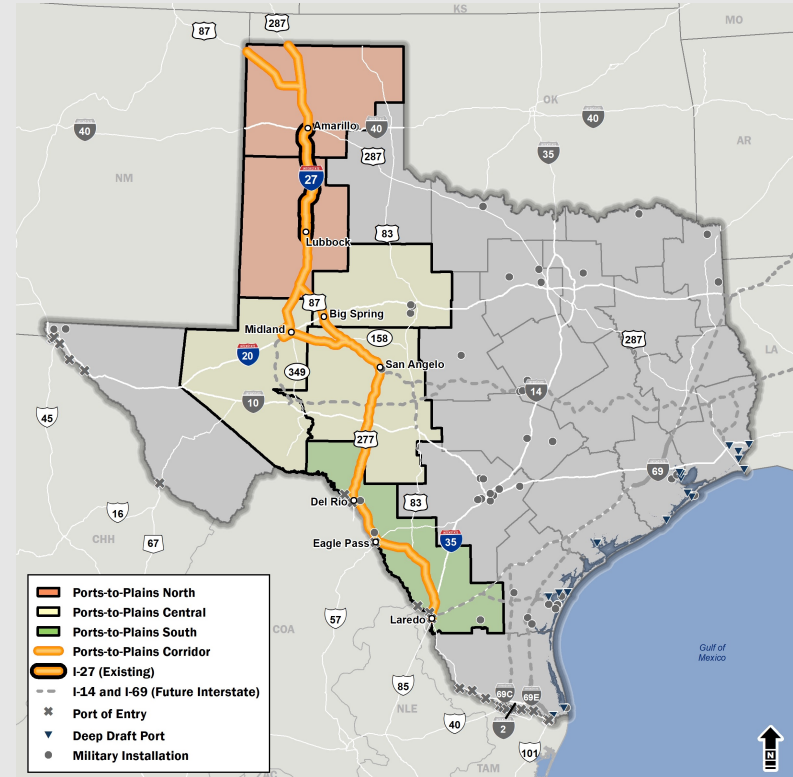


District/MPO Regional Workshops

- ✓ November 28, 2023 – Big Spring (Central)
- ✓ November 29, 2023 – Laredo (South)
- December 15, 2023 – Plainview (North)

Binational Workshop

- December 5, 2023 – Del Rio area

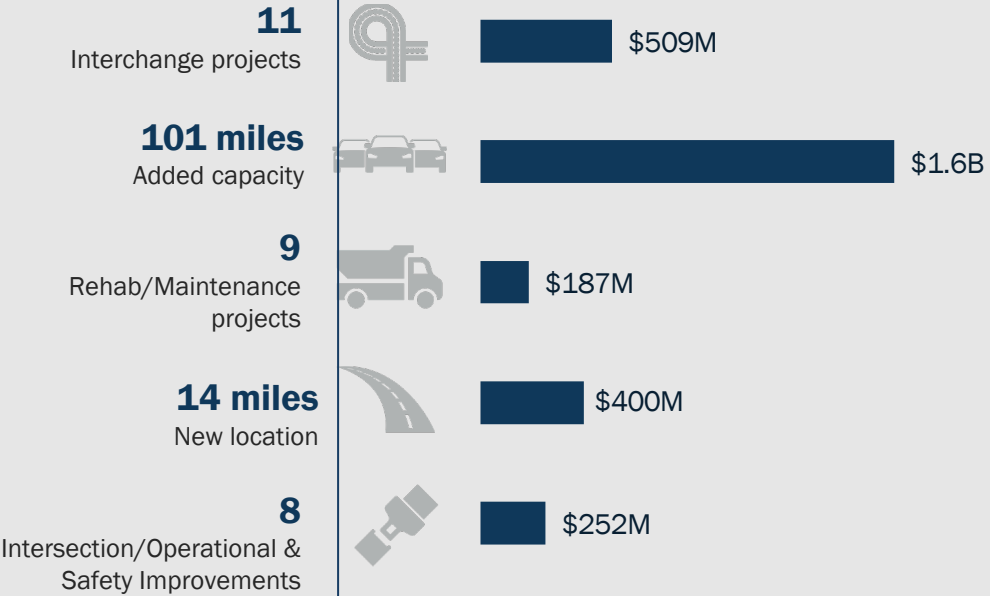




60
Active projects

\$5.5 Billion
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Planning	Engineering	Construction
\$2.2B	\$1.9B	\$1.4B



Source: TxDOT Project Tracker, August 2023



■ Funding:

- Currently, **no specific federal or state funding** program set aside to build future interstate highway projects
- Projects compete with all other Texas highway improvement projects for funding
- Continually balance competing interests throughout the state
 - New construction
 - Maintenance and preservation

■ Project Selection:

- Annual project scoring system evaluates all projects prior to developing the Unified Transportation Program (UTP) each year
- **Each project competes for funding** during the annual project selection process in the UTP



Congressional designation for a future interstate does not promote future interstates above other projects



P2P SYSTEM IN TEXAS: RESOURCES

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Webpage is active on
TxDOT.gov keyword “Ports-
to-Plains System in Texas”

Fact sheet is available