



NEWS RELEASE

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TxDOT, ABRAMS-KIEWIT BREAK GROUND ON NEW BORDER WEST EXPRESSWAY

Project to close loop, providing a safer more efficient commute for region

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EL PASO – In order to bring greater connectivity and enhance mobility to the El Paso metropolitan area, the Texas Department of Transportation and Abrams-Kiewit Joint Venture today broke ground on the Border West Expressway. Once completed, the project will provide motorists with an alternate route for I-10 while also addressing needed improvements to transportation infrastructure. TxDOT was joined by leaders from the Texas Transportation Commission, the Legislature, city of El Paso and El Paso County for the milestone.

“This project is perhaps the most important for El Paso since I-10 was originally constructed in the late 1950s and early 1960s,” said Ted Houghton, Texas Transportation Commission Chairman. “It provides a necessary alternative to I-10 and provides critical capability to manage traffic when incidents or reconstruction affect I-10. This is a proud moment for El Paso.”

Major roadway construction is scheduled to begin in March 2015 and expected to be complete by Fall 2017. It will also provide motorists with an alternate route for I-10 while also addressing needed improvements to transportation infrastructure.

“This will finally complete Loop 375 and help accommodate future growth and development, as well as provide better connectivity around the city,” said Bob Bielek, TxDOT El Paso District Engineer.

The project is located west of downtown El Paso and south of I-10. It extends approximately nine miles from Racetrack Drive near Doniphan Road and New Mexico 273 east to US 54, one mile east of Park Street. In addition to adding more lanes for drivers in the area, the project will also improve access to UTEP, downtown destinations, border crossings, and medical centers.

Part of the highway, from Racetrack Drive to Spur 1966, will be tolled while the segment that currently exists will remain non-tolled.

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The Texas Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, rail, and public transportation across the state. TxDOT and its 12,000 employees are committed to working with others to provide safe and reliable transportation solutions for Texas by maintaining a safe system, addressing congestion, connecting Texas communities, and being a Best in Class state agency. Find out more at www.txdot.gov. "Like" us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/txdot; and follow us on Twitter, www.twitter.com/txdot.

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