



state highway 45 southeast

PROJECT UPDATE

WINTER 2005

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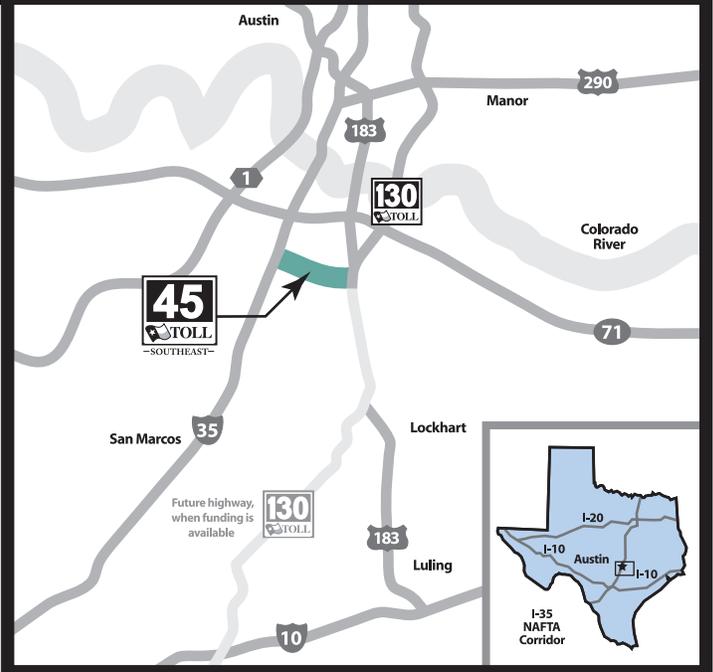
Project Description

The State Highway 45 Southeast (SH 45SE) project is a segment of the overall Central Texas Turnpike System (see map on back side). SH 45SE will provide a direct link between I-35 and SH 130.

SH 45SE will run east/west between I-35 at FM 1327 (just north of Buda) and SH 130's junction with US 183 (in the Mustang Ridge area). The 7.4 mile long facility will be, under an initial Developer contract, a four-lane roadway with limited access and a wide median to accommodate future transportation needs. As traffic warrants and funding is available, the facility could ultimately expand to 6-lanes. Interchange locations will be at the I-35 frontage roads, N. Turnersville, Wright Road, FM 1625, and at the SH 130/US 183 interchange.

SH 130; to help reduce traffic congestion on I-35, SH 71, and other major transportation facilities; to provide an alternative

SH 45SE Project Location



route for thru-traffic such as NAFTA trade traffic; and to improve safety, mobility and accessibility within Travis, Hays and Williamson Counties.

Project Purpose

To enhance regional and national transportation systems by providing an east-west connection linking I-35 and



Project Schedule

Environmental studies for SH 45SE are complete. A public hearing was held on August 14, 2003 to review the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and to obtain public input on proposed roadway alignments. TxDOT also received public input through written comments and additional public meetings. In the fall of 2003, the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) was prepared for submittal to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The FEIS included TxDOT's recommendation of a preferred alignment for the roadway. TxDOT received a Record of Decision (ROD) from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in February 2004. The ROD is FHWA's formal decision approving the project and the preferred alignment.

In July 2004, the Texas Transportation Commission approved selection of Zachry Construction Corporation as Developer to complete final design, right-of-way acquisition, utility coordination, and to construct SH 45SE. Construction is expected to begin during the summer of 2005 and the project is expected to be open to traffic by December 2007.

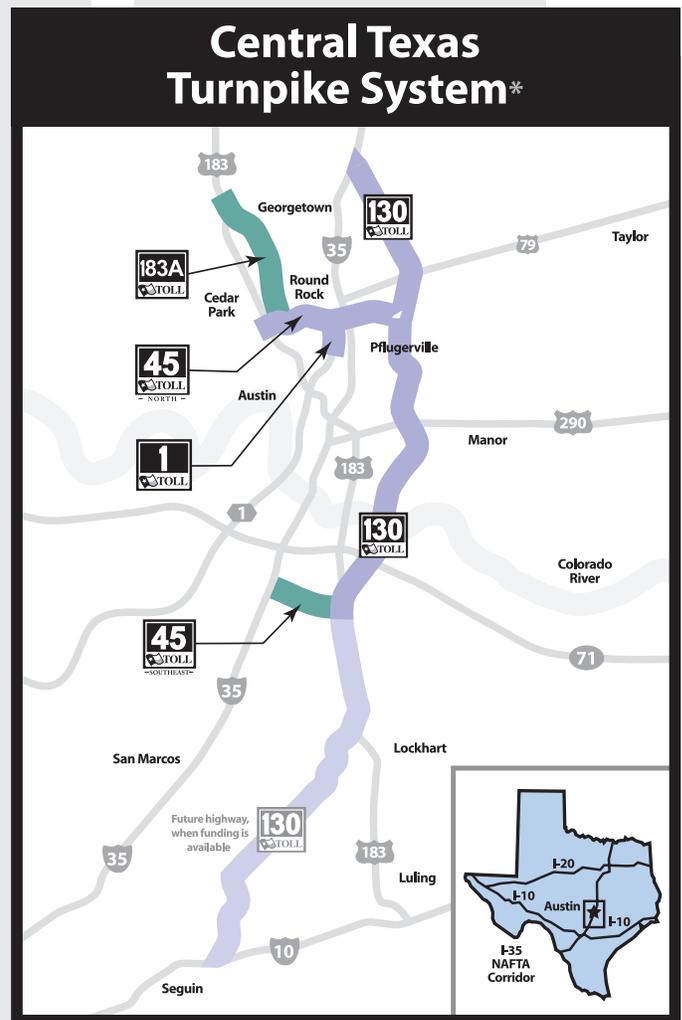
Tolls

SH 45SE is being developed as a toll road. The cost for passenger vehicles will be approximately \$0.12-0.15 per mile. SH 45SE will not be constructed with frontage roads (except where it coincides with FM 1327).

SH 45SE (and all segments of the Central Texas Turnpike System, as shown in the map) will provide convenience and time savings to motorists by offering electronic toll collection. With the use of an electronic tag that is mounted to the inside of a windshield, a motorist can drive non-stop through designated toll lanes. A transponder mounted above the toll lanes will detect the electronic tag and deduct the toll amount from a pre-paid account. Toll rates will be discounted for motorists using an electronic toll tag.

For additional convenience to motorists, the electronic toll collection system will also be compatible with other toll road systems in Texas. A new

technology, known as TxTAG, will allow motorists to use one



* SH 45SE and US 183A are not part of the Central Texas Turnpike System 2002 Project.

electronic toll tag on any current or future toll road in the state.

