



TEX-21

T r a n s p o r t a t i o n E x c e l l e n c e
f o r t h e 2 1 s t C e n t u r y

TEX-21 Initiative and Corridor
Coalition Updates

April 2026

Initiative Updates

Safety/Vision Zero

- Recent population growth has exacerbated traffic volume and presented increasing challenges for driver safety.
- TEX-21 has prioritized traffic safety and consistently emphasized the topic in discussions.
- TEX-21 is exploring the possibility a Safety Summit dedicated to addressing the state's growing safety challenges.

Third Coast Initiative

- TEX-21's Congressional and legislative partners are well-informed of the importance of improving Texas Seaports and closely aligned with our objectives.
- **HB 500**: \$200M for maritime port improvements (Passed House 4/15).
- **SB 1939**: Moves Ship Channel fund to Highway Fund to retain any interest earned.
- Texas aims to capitalize on national efforts to invigorate the domestic shipbuilding industry.

Transit/Rail Task Force

- TEX-21 has declared 2026 the “Year of Transit” and engaged its major transit partners to host each 2026 in-person meeting.
- TEX-21 has functioned as the chief forum for transit discussions among the state’s 5 major agencies.

Commerce of Transportation

- The economic ramifications of TEX-21 initiatives extend far beyond the infrastructure they improve.
- Every initiative promotes the commerce of transportation, increasing economic activity and GDP.

Technological Innovation Task Force

- TEX-21 is actively seeking to connect with cutting-edge transportation tech companies (e.g., Firefly, Aeropsace, Electreon, and SpaceX).
- TEX-21 aims to incorporate the most advanced technological developments in new infrastructure, including I-47.

Border & Trade Transportation Task Force

- TEX-21 is working closely with TxDOT on this initiative, especially with Andrew Canon (Director of International Trade, Freight and Corridor Planning)
- TxDOT encourages TEX-21 members to attend Freight Trade Advisory Committee meetings as it prepares to update its Statewide Freight Mobility Plan

Space Force Task Force

- TEX-21 supports the expanding private space industry in Texas.
- Space Commission has approved tens of millions in grants from the 2023 \$150M appropriation.
- Caroline Mays of TxDOT announced the creation of the TxDOT Space Corridors program at our meeting in Lancaster last year.

AI Initiative

- TEX-21 has begun to explore the use and implementation of AI in multimodal transportation, as well as helpful legislation.

Corridor Coalition Updates

I-30

- The TEX-21 I-30 Corridor Coalition seeks to unite stakeholders in Texas and Arkansas
- We are actively recruiting cities and counties in East Texas for this coalition (New Boston SIDC, DeKalb)
- TEX-21 Statewide Meeting in Texarkana united 4 State DOTs

US-287

- TxDOT completed Interstate Feasibility Study; results reveal massive economic returns.
- Extensive news coverage in statewide media outlets.
- TEX-21 worked with Sen. Tan Parker on resolution (SR 144) recognizing work on US-287.
- Legislative and Congressional partners committed to advancing the conversion.

US-377

- TxDOT has completed Corridor Study, assessing short, mid, and long-term improvements.
- Focus on economic growth, trade, mobility, infrastructure, and tech integration.
- We are actively recruiting cities and counties along the US-377 corridor.
- TEX-21 worked with Sen. Tan Parker to pass resolution for US-377.

I-45, US-75, & Loop 9

- Loop 9 would create a new, high-capacity connection between US-75 and I-45
- Eases regional and through traffic while reducing congestion in Dallas.
- Supports economic growth and regional mobility.

I-14

- TEX-21 supports expanding I-14, the "Forts to Ports" corridor, to link Texas military bases with seaports, extending to the East Coast.
- The expansion will boost trade, defense, and economic growth, including job creation and better freight mobility.

I-35

- TEX-21 advocates for policies and infrastructure improvements to enhance the safe, efficient movement of people and goods along the I-35 Corridor.
- TEX-21 will unite cities, counties, businesses, and organizations along I-35 to increase national visibility and secure funding for the corridor.

I-69/I-369

- TEX-21 continues to support the Future I-69 effort
- I-369 is crucial for East Texas and the I-69 system overall but faces funding gaps and delayed development.
- TEX-21 is advocating for accelerated development of I-369 and actively recruiting East Texas cities and counties.
- TEX-21 Statewide Meeting in Texarkana united 4-State DOTs

I-27/Ports-to-Plains Corridor

- Extends from Panhandle to Rio Grande
- TEX-21 is supporting the existing Ports-to-Plains coalition to ensure the interstate is developed in a timely manner.

Upcoming Meetings

2026

Remaining 2026 Dates

