

U.S. 290 traffic system improvements continue

Work on West 34th intersection now under way

Rozco Contracting Inc., under contract to the Texas Department of Transportation, has begun work on a second Traffic System Management Improvement project on U.S. 290.

The \$2.1 million project consists of:

- Widening the pavement on the existing westbound approach to Jones Road;
- Replacing the existing exit ramps to Jones Road and West 43rd, with new two-lane exit ramps;
- Completing median modifications and pavement widening for additional left turn

storage at Senate, Gessner, Fairbanks-North Houston, Hollister, West 43rd and West 34th; and

- Re-striping the U.S. 290 eastbound and westbound frontage roads between Dacoma Road and Jones Road.

Once complete, these improvements will facilitate improved movements along the U.S. 290 frontage roads and intersections.

After installing barricades and signing, crews started work on the intersection of the U.S. 290 westbound frontage road and

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Work continues on U.S. 290 traffic improvements

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34th last week. Work on the remaining intersections, as well as the frontage roads, is anticipated to begin in the coming weeks, and the project is anticipated to take approximately six months to complete.

Motorists are advised to anticipate temporary lane reductions on the U.S. 290 frontage roads to accommodate these improvements. Updated information regarding lane closures is available at: http://traffic.houstontranstar.org/construction/construction_report.aspx.

The overall vision for the project entails reconstruction of U.S. 290 and Hempstead Tollway covering a corridor approximately 38 miles long. It includes freeway capacity reconstruction and widening from the North Loop to FM-2920 to create:

- Five general-purpose lanes in each direction from IH 610 to just west of SH 6, plus auxiliary lanes where appropriate;
- Four general-purpose lanes in each direction from west of SH 6 to near the proposed SH 99/Grand Parkway, plus auxiliary lanes; and
- Three general-purpose lanes in each direction from near the proposed SH 99/Grand Parkway to the west study limit, plus auxiliary lanes.

Other planned improvements include two frontage road lanes in each direction to be reconstructed along Hempstead Tollway from the North Loop to Beltway 8, as well as proposed high-capacity transit corridor located along Hempstead Highway, and bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

Construction on the other portions of the interchange, including construction of the Hempstead Tollway is scheduled to begin in 2012, pending environmental clearance and funding availability.