

December 11, 2025

## Alliance Annual Meeting



Congressman Brian Babin, TX-36

**CELEBRATING I-69 MILESTONES** - Sustained progress on development of I-69 projects in Texas was the focus of this year's I-69 Alliance Annual Meeting at the Greater Houston Partnership. Our keynote speaker, Congressman Brian Babin of Woodville, a senior member of the U.S. House Transportation Committee, stressed the need for more federal involvement in the funding of I-69 and other future interstates. Noting that he drives on US 59/I-69 weekly on his journeys to Washington, Babin emphasized the importance of I-69 in serving growing freight traffic including international trade. He delivered a big THANK YOU to the Alliance and to the many local community leaders who have championed development of I-69 over the past three decades.

TxDOT district engineers and planners from the eight TxDOT districts along the I-69 System were on hand to detail how I-69 projects are progressing in their region. Construction advanced across the corridor in 2025 with about 102 miles under construction at 21 locations with a combined construction cost of approximately \$3.5 billion.

**ALLIANCE OFFICERS** – Alliance officers were reelected at the Annual Meeting. They are Chairman Sydney Murphy, County Judge of Polk County; Vice Chairman Chad Sims, County Judge of Harrison County; Gerry Schwebel, executive vice president of IBC Bank; and Secretary-Treasurer Kent Britton, CEO of the Port of Corpus Christi Authority.

**DRAWING THE BIG PICTURE** – TxDOT's Transportation Planning and Programming Division is in the process of developing a web based "dashboard" that will provide

anyone interested in I-69 System progress with a real-time status report. It is intended to provide a tracking mechanism that will allow users to see the I-69 big picture and will help the department make decisions more readily. It is currently being used by TxDOT internally. As an example of the summary data that will be available, the system currently indicates a planned future I-69 investment of \$13.8 billion for projects covering 432 miles. This information helps define total progress but also the need for additional investment to complete the overall interstate project.

**PLANNING FOR ODEM RELIEF ROUTE** – A public meeting on the US 77 Odem Project was held Dec. 4 and a public comment period is open through Dec. 19. The 11.4-mile project will be a key link in the I-69E route between population centers in the Rio Grande Valley, Corpus Christi and Houston. A planning study was completed in 2023 and the project is now in the environmental clearance and schematic design phase. Two routes are under review, one on the east and one on the west of Odem. The entire project will stretch from Interstate 37 on the south to the Sinton Relief Route on the north. This will be a major project with an estimated future construction cost of \$593 million.



**LIBERTY COUNTY CELEBRATION** – In November the Alliance, TxDOT and Liberty County representatives celebrated the addition of eight more miles to the national Interstate Highway System. TxDOT Commission Member Steven Alvis and Congressman Brian Babin helped lead the sign unveiling event on the south side of Cleveland. The addition brings the total number of I-69 System signed miles of 228. Another 32 miles are complete but final approval for signing has been delayed.

## In 2025 the Alliance Continued to Keep the Spotlight on I-69



Alliance delegation met with TxDOT, legislative leaders & Governor's Office staff on I-69 Day in Austin



I-69 sign unveiling celebrated addition of 8 miles in Liberty County to the Interstate System



Alliance Executive Director Jennifer Shepard spotlights I-69 at Texas Transportation Commission meeting



The 8-mile Diboll Relief Route is nearing completion and was opened to traffic in October



Annual I-69 Alliance DC Fly-In is an important part of building support for I-69 System projects



2025 Alliance Annual Meeting Included Reports From TxDOT District Engineers and Planners

## Thanks to the Partners Who Helped Make Our Annual Meeting Possible

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