



I -35 Update Current Activities and Key Milestones

Mobility Committee | December 04, 2025



Purpose & Agenda

PURPOSE

Update Mobility Committee on I-35 timelines and activities across departments.

AGENDA

- Overview May 22, 2025 Council Direction
- Update: TxDOT Capital Express-Central (CapEx-C) Revised Timeline
- Update: Northern Stitch Alternatives & Public Engagement
- Cap and Stitch Next Steps & Decision Milestones, 2026
- Update: CapEx-C Parkland Impacts Funding & Improvement Stewardship

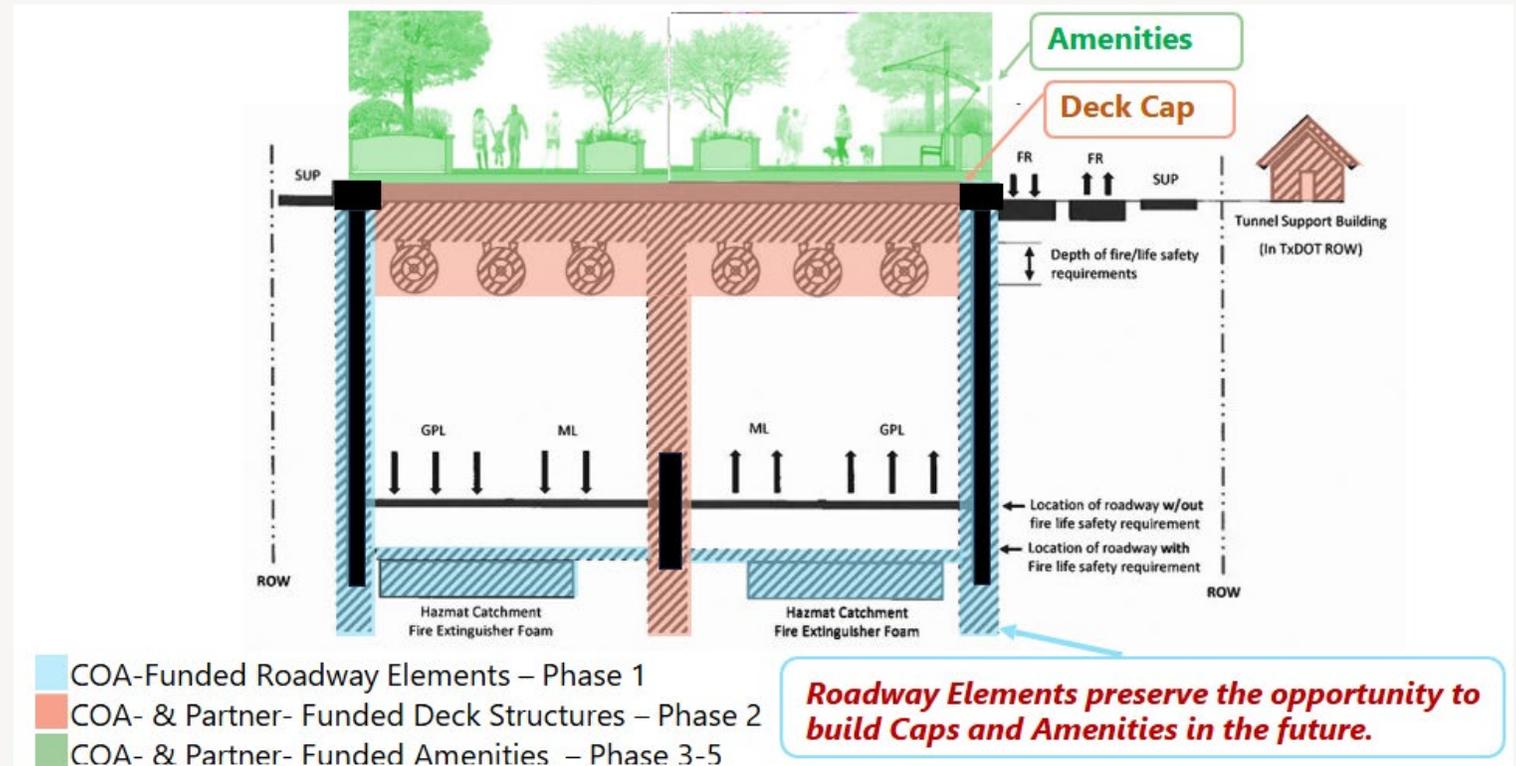
Overview City of Austin IH35 Cap & Stitch Project

Council's Actions on May 22, 2025

Resolution No. 20250522-042

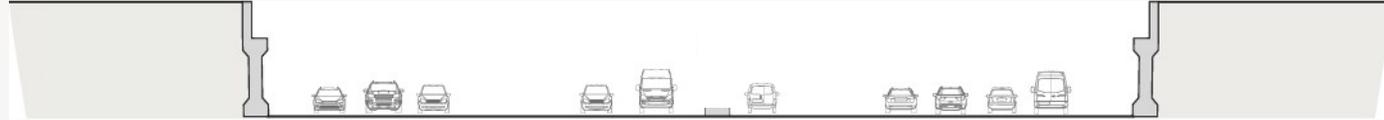
Negotiate & Execute an Advanced Funding Agreement (AFA) with TxDOT:

- Authorize up to \$104M from \$41M TX State Infrastructure Bank Loan (TPWD Capital Budget) and \$63M tax-exempt Certificates of Obligation to be issued 2025 and other funds.
- City is responsible for any cost overruns.
- Build **Roadway Elements** (Phase 1 (Blue)) at following locations:
 - Cesar Chavez to 4th Street;
 - 4th Street to 7th Street;
 - 11th street to 12th Street; and
 - Two 300-foot stitches from 41st Street to the Red Line (with input from community).

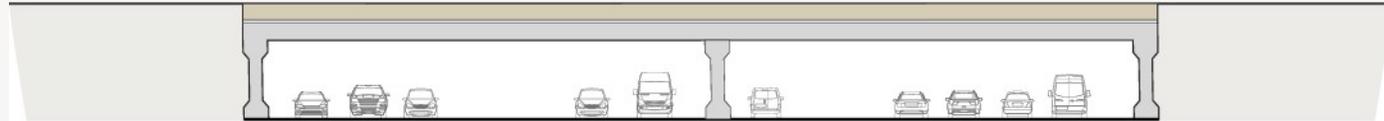


Overview: Cap & Stitch Phasing

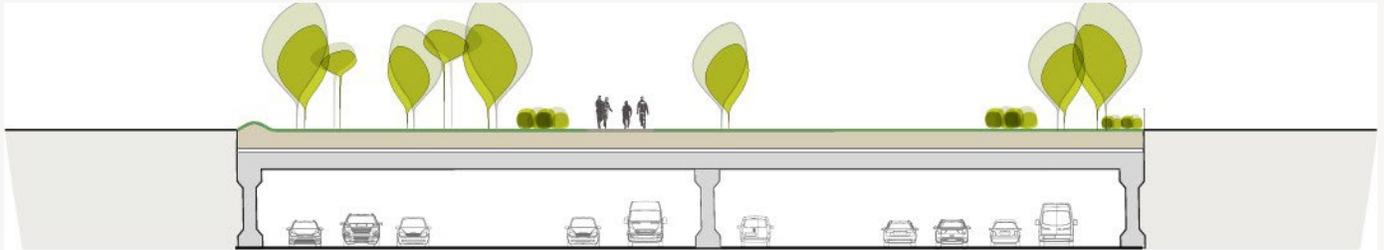
Phase 1: Roadway Elements



Phase 2: Deck Structures



Phase 3: Minimum Amenities



Phase 4: Landscape Amenities



Phase 5: Improvements (1-2 stories)



Update: TxDOT CapEx-C Revised Timeline



Revised TxDOT Schedule

TxDOT Schedule Changes

In July, TXDOT informed City that construction of I-35 and cap elements will now be split into two letting (bid) packages:

- Advanced construction package 2027-2031.
- Ultimate construction package 2029-2033 or later.
 - 100% Design (cost estimates) on Ultimate expected in April 2028.

Impacts to City

- Deadline for City's construction funding commitment to be included in the original bid package now May 2026 (previously November 2026).
- Design for the City-funded roadway elements and cap decks are now pushed to Spring 2027 (after required funding commitment).
- City would be responsible for all cost overruns despite not having construction bids until Winter 2028.



Revised Schedules Impacts to City

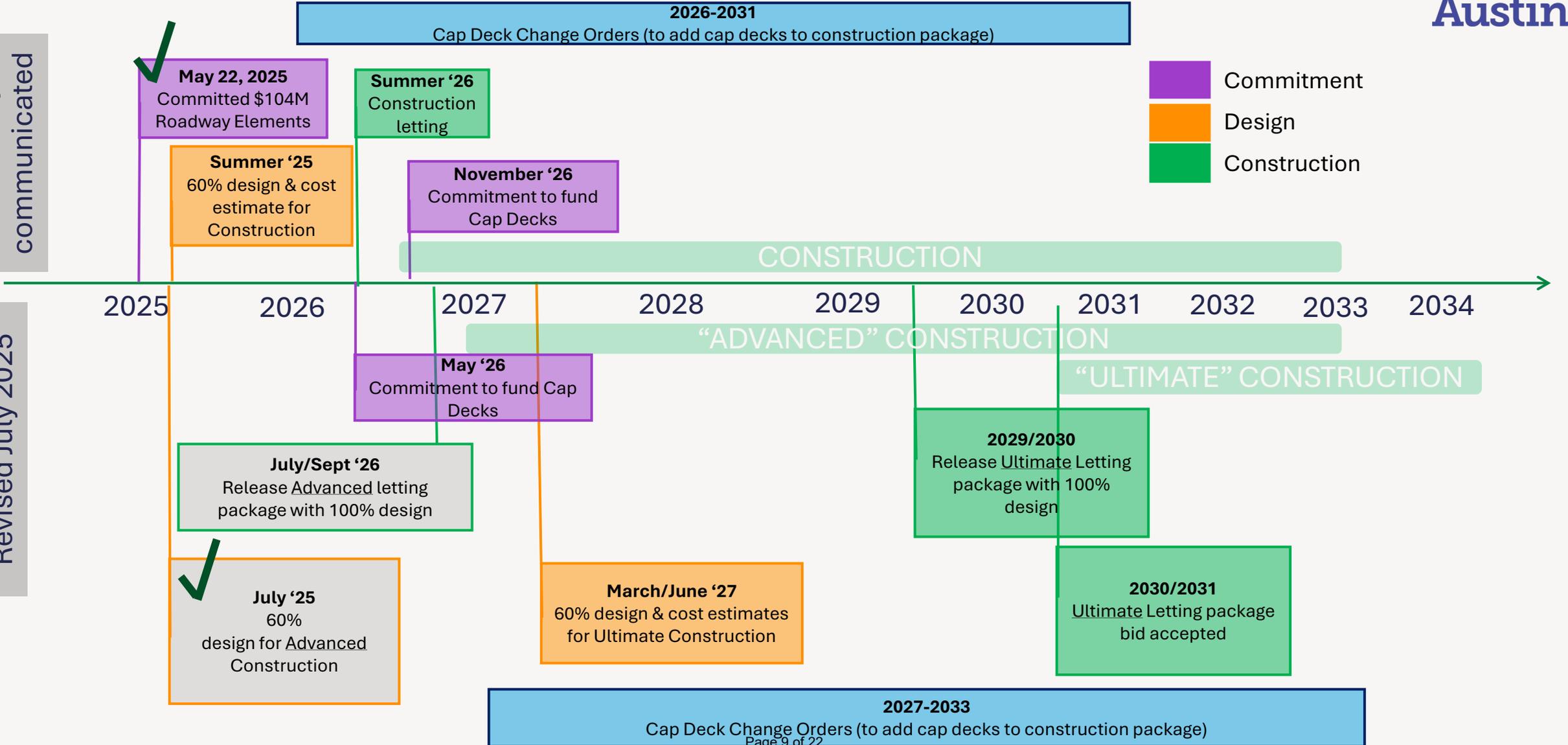
Previously communicated

Revised July 2025

Commitment
Design
Construction

2026-2031
Cap Deck Change Orders (to add cap decks to construction package)

2027-2033
Cap Deck Change Orders (to add cap decks to construction package)



TxDOT's Timeline



- **May 2026: Council to commit funding** for decks and East Avenue Trail construction for inclusion in 2028 bid package (deck construction still possible via change order).
 - TxDOT will begin scope and fee negotiations for deck design costs based on City's commitment.
 - Additional cap decks added after May 2026 would be a change order to the 2028 contractor bid.
 - Design fee for all cap decks \$25M, increase of \$6M from May 2025 estimate of \$19M.
 - East Avenue Trail allowance for amenities \$6.3M.
- **December 2026:** Cap deck design AFA execution (per Nov. commitment); design payment due.
- **May 2028:** AFA execution for cap deck construction.
- **2032:** First payment for cap deck construction due (50% of construction costs).

Update: Northern Stitch Alternatives



Austin

Northern Stitches: Resolution 20250522-042

"Two 300-foot stitches from 41st Street to the Red Line or a contiguous equivalent within the cost parameters set herein and with the intent to connect Red Line Parkway, the East Avenue Trail, and 41st Street, ensuring viable space for future buildings and trees, and subject to further refinement with the community".



Public Engagement Purpose & Status

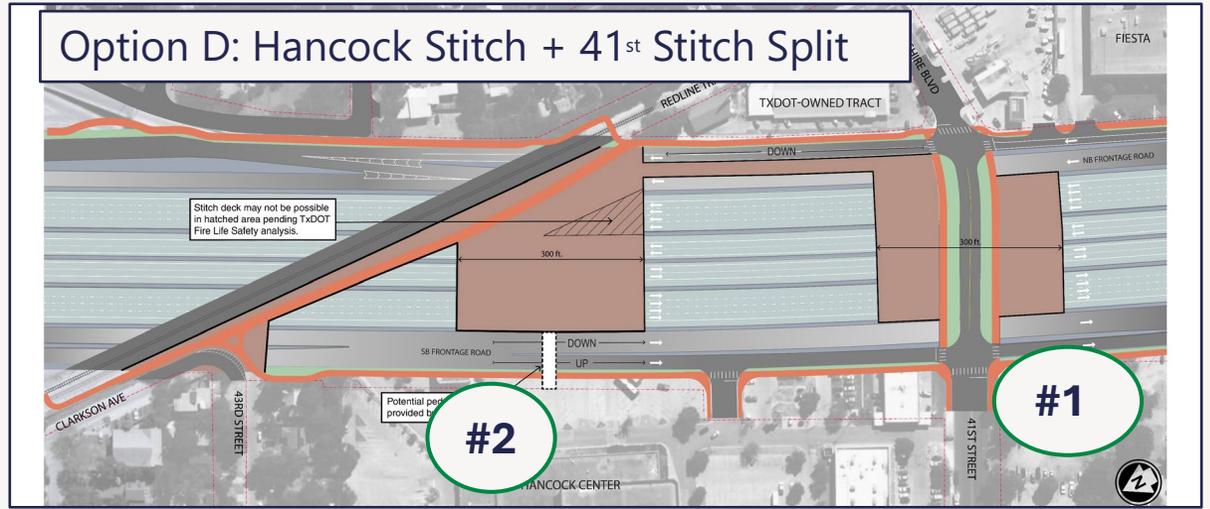
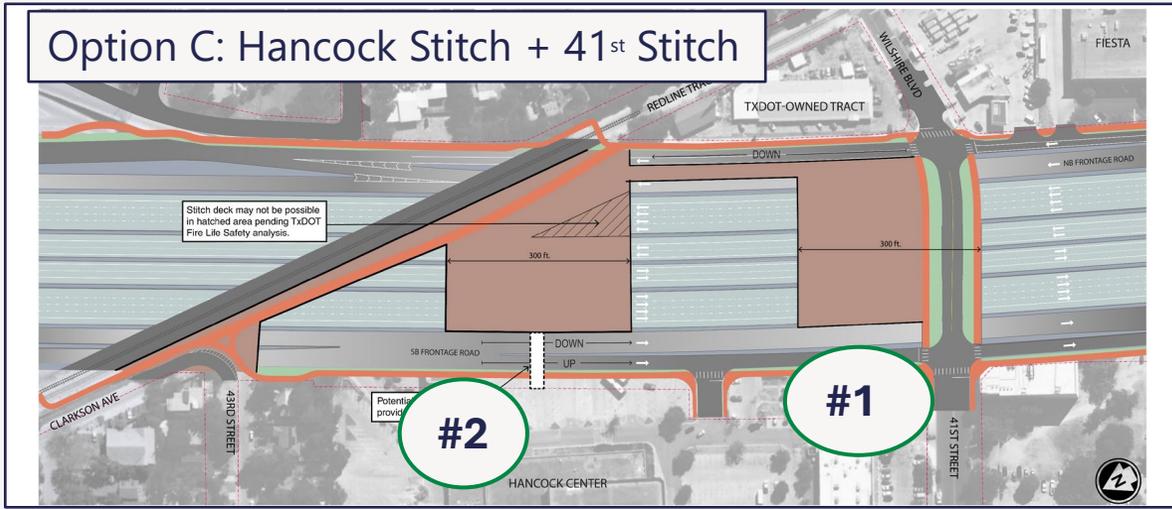
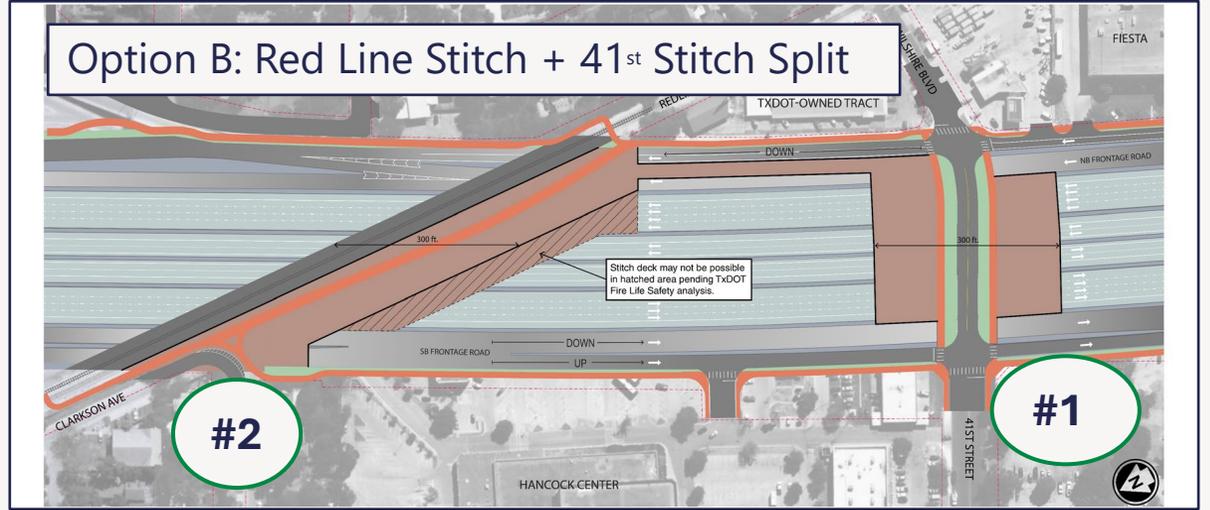
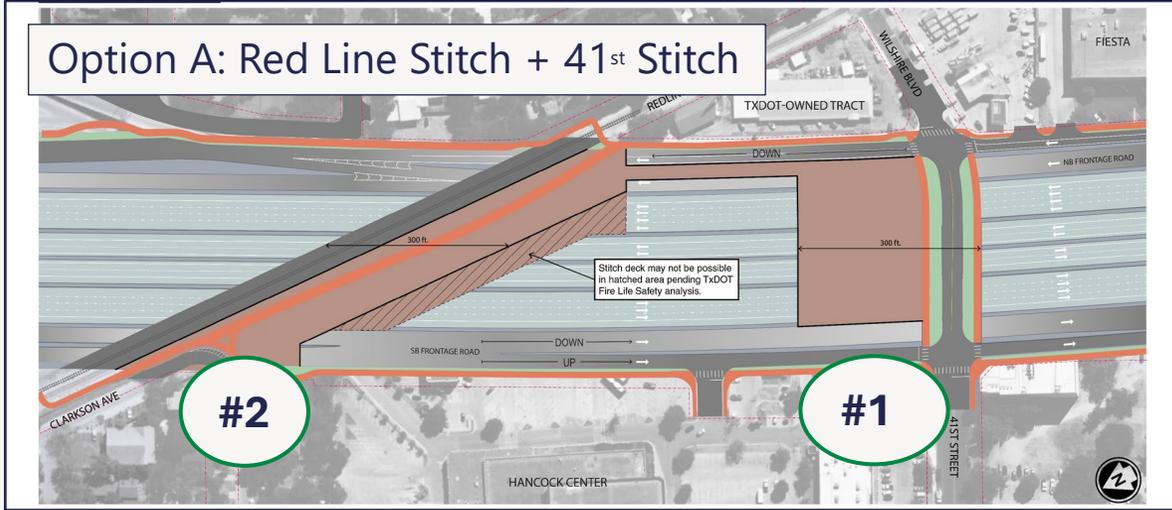
- **September – November 2025** Neighborhood Stakeholder Working Group co-develop alternatives and discuss engineering constraints and opportunities with TxDOT.
- **November 22, 2025** Public Open House to discuss four stitch alternatives, gather input, and answer community questions.
- **What is the City's budget?** Roadway elements (construction) for both stitches limited to maximum of \$24 million.
- **What is the deadline?** The City must identify the two stitch locations and extents by December 2025.
- **How will the decision be made?**





Northern Stitch Alternatives

- Potential Stitch Deck
- Share Use Path



Cap & Stitch Next Steps & Decision Milestones



Next Steps & Decision Milestones

- **February 2026:** Staff present Cap and Stitch financing plan at Council work session in response to Resolution No. 20250522-105. Elements will include:
 - Recommended funding strategy for cap decks and amenities
 - Strategies for safeguarding the City against potential cost escalation
 - Phasing strategies for deck and amenity design and construction funding
 - Timing and estimates for private / philanthropic participation
- **May 2026:** TxDOT requested Council action for cap deck construction funding commitment for decks to be included in the bid package.
- **December 2026+:** Cap decks can be included via change orders.

Update CapEx-C Parkland Impacts

Shared Use Bridge/ East of IH-35

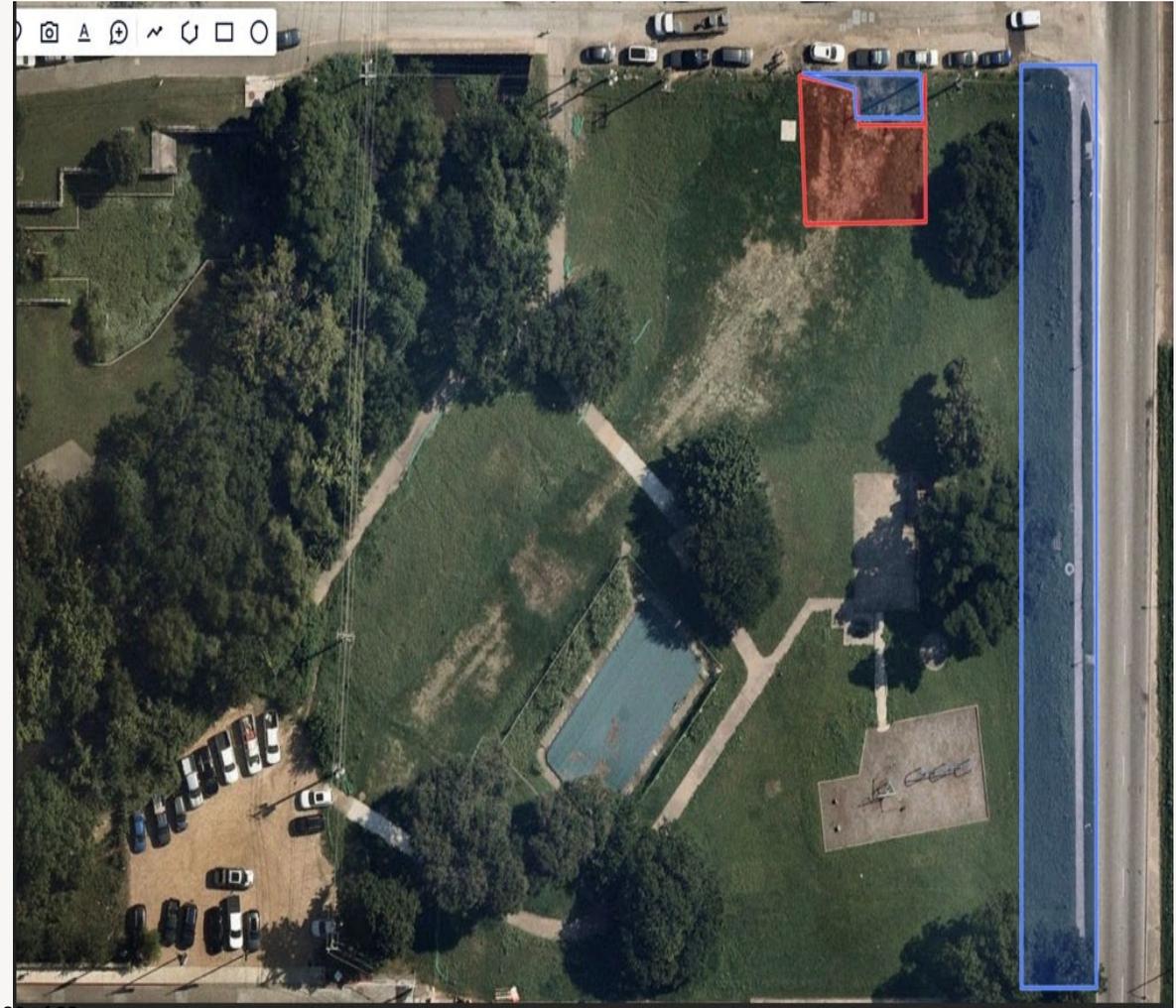
Primary purpose of temporary easement at Edward Rendon Sr. Metro Park is for the construction of the East Pedestrian Bridge which will connect to Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike Trail.





Parkland Impacts to Central Austin – Palm Park

- Proposed permanent use of parkland for utility relocation from TxDOT ROW to Palm Park shown in (Blue).
- Proposed temporary use of parkland shown in (Red).
- Relocation of utilities will have an impact to the design and construction of park improvements to Palm Park.



Parkland Impacts to Central Austin

The proposed Boardwalk was included by TxDOT as mitigation under Section 4(f) of the U.S. DOT Act of 1966. The Boardwalk would connect to parkland as it joins the existing on land trail.

The funds of \$25M towards the Boardwalk would be allocated through Austin Public Facilities Corporation (APFC).

Two boat concessions will be impacted.



Questions?



ATPW, AFS, AP

December 04, 2025