



# FACT SHEET

## WHAT IS THE I-10 CONNECT PROJECT?

The I-10 Connect Project is at the intersection of US 54 and I-10 in El Paso County. The project extends from I-10 to Loop 375 (César Chávez Border Highway) and provides access to the Bridge of the Americas (BOTA) Port of Entry via I-110.

Currently, only the westbound Loop 375 to westbound I-10 traffic movement has direct access between I-10 and Loop 375. The three other connections from I-10 to Loop 375 require commuters and commercial trucks to divert from the freeway and use local roadways.

The existing configuration of I-110 leading to the Port of Entry experiences excessive congestion during peak periods of the day, resulting in spillbacks to US 54 and the I-10 connector ramps.

## WHAT WILL BE BUILT AS PART OF THE I-10 CONNECT PROJECT?

- Full reconstruction of the I-110/US 62 (Paisano Drive) interchange; Exit ramps from I-110 to US 62 (Paisano Drive) will be removed. Please see rendering on reverse page.
- Intelligent Traffic System elements including more dynamic message boards and changeable overhead lane markers will be installed to better control the flow of traffic through this busy area as traffic conditions change.
- **Four new direct connector ramps will be built as part of this project:**

## WHY IS THIS PROJECT NEEDED NOW?

TxDOT has big plans for I-10 in Downtown, Central and East El Paso in the coming years. Improving access between I-10 and Loop 375 will allow motorists to more easily use Loop 375 as an alternate route when I-10 is under major construction in those areas.

Additionally, in recent years, increased congestion of southbound traffic seeking to cross the Bridge of the Americas has negatively impacted the quality of life for residents around the Chamizal National Memorial. Removing ramps from US 62 (Paisano Drive) to I-110 and the Bridge of the Americas will reduce the likelihood of trucks waiting in long lines in and around those neighborhoods.



### PROPOSED NEW RAMPS

- 1** From southbound US 54 to southbound I-110 providing direct access to BOTA.
- 2** From westbound Loop 375 to northbound US 54 providing access to I-10.
- 3** From eastbound I-10 to southbound US 54 and Loop 375 and I-110 to BOTA.
- 4** From westbound I-10 to southbound US 54, Loop 375 and I-110 to BOTA.

New direct connectors linking I-10 and Loop 375 which will improve connectivity and separate international bridge traffic onto its own roadway.

## DURING CONSTRUCTION, WILL TRAFFIC GOING INTO CIUDAD JUÁREZ BE IMPACTED?

Yes. Traffic bound for Ciudad Juárez via the Bridge of the Americas (BOTA) will be impacted at many points during work on the I-10 Connect project. Northbound traffic from BOTA will be impacted, too. Impacts will include lane closures and occasional complete closures of I-110 leading to and from BOTA. As a result, significant congestion is expected. In order to manage this impact:

- Marked detours will be set-up when ramps leading to the Bridge of the Americas are closed.
- Motorists and pedestrians should consider using other international bridges to cross into Ciudad Juárez at times during the project.

## DURING CONSTRUCTION, WILL TRAFFIC ON I-10 BE IMPACTED?

Yes. Traffic traveling east and west on I-10 will be impacted at many points during work on the I-10 Connect project including lane closures and occasional complete closures of I-10. As a result, significant congestion is expected. In order to manage this impact:

- Marked detours will be set-up when I-10 is closed in the area.
- Local motorists should consider alternate east-west routes during construction including US 62 (Paisano Drive), SH 20 (Alameda Avenue), and Montana Avenue.

## HOW WILL THE PROJECT IMPACT LINCOLN CENTER AND THE MURALS THERE?

Ten columns bearing murals will be removed; five columns bearing murals will be protected.

Further, as a result of TxDOT's collaboration with Lincoln Park Conservation Committee (LPCC), TxDOT will do the following:

- Visually record the impacted murals for the LPCC.
- Provide new highway columns for the LPCC to paint
- Install bird netting to help protect the murals.
- Use the following protective measures during construction:
  - A chain link fence to protect the Lincoln Center and amphitheater.
  - Place an additional orange colored protective fence around the Lincoln Center.
  - Safeguard the *Virgen de Guadalupe* mural during construction so it can remain as a memorial to *El Calvario* Catholic Church.
  - Use a chain link fence to protect the remaining murals in the construction area.

## SMART WORK ZONE

The I-10 Connect project is the first project in the El Paso area to utilize Smart Work Zone technology which will allow TxDOT to do the following:

- Provide real-time traffic and detour information via temporary message boards
- Track average speeds in work zones
- Provide updated travel times within work zones



Complete reconstruction of the I-110/US 62 (Paisano Drive) interchange including removal of ramps from Paisano Drive to the Bridge of the Americas.

## WHAT WILL THE PROJECT ACHIEVE?

- Provide improved access between I-10 and Loop 375
- Provide additional improvements to minimize congestion leading to the Port of Entry
- Improve mobility in the project area

## HOW LONG WILL CONSTRUCTION TAKE?

### HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

I-10 connect is a \$96 million project that will begin Spring 2019. Three years have been allocated for completion of this project.

## HOW CAN I STAY UP-TO-DATE?

- [I10ConnectElPaso.com](http://I10ConnectElPaso.com)
- Bilingual Hotline
- Email
- Text Message Traffic Alerts
- [Twitter.com/I10CONNECT](https://twitter.com/I10CONNECT)
- [Facebook.com/I10CONNECT](https://facebook.com/I10CONNECT)
- Monthly meetings