

FM 3349 at US 79 Railroad Safety Project

Proposed grade-separated interchange to allow for increased safety, efficiency, and uninterrupted traffic crossings of the Union Pacific Railroad and US 79.





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FACT SHEET

October 2022

County Commissioner: Commissioner Russ Boles, Precinct 4
Project Limits: Along FM 3349/CR 101 from CR 404 to CR 395.
Project Status: Construction is expected to begin in fall 2022 on the interim project with completion in summer 2025.

Issues To Be Addressed: Safety and mobility

Project Engineers: HDR and BGE, Inc.

PROJECT PURPOSE

An improved interchange will provide safer and more efficient rail crossings in this growing area and create an opportunity to bypass US 79 in the City of Hutto, which experiences severe traffic congestion and delays of almost three minutes per train passing, up to 20 times per day. The project will facilitate improved mobility for emergency service vehicles and school buses, as well as improved connections to industrial and commercial sites to spur economic development.

3X Population Growth

The population of Williamson County is estimated to be 1,377,000 by 2045 – nearly three times what it is now



PROJECT BACKGROUND

The FM 3349 Railroad Safety project was identified in the Southeast Loop Study, a corridor study that kicked off in 2017. Williamson County conducted this study to consider connections for east/west travel between SH 130 and FM 3349 and north/south travel to US 79. The interchange was proposed at the intersection of US 79 and FM 3349 due to the need for a grade-separated crossing over the Union Pacific Railroad. Initially funded through the Williamson County voter-approved 2019 Road Bonds, the project received additional construction funding from the TxDOT Austin District. Construction began in fall 2022 and the overpass is planned to be open to traffic summer 2025.

MORE INFORMATION

Questions or comments may be directed by email to roads@wilco.org with "FM 3349 at US 79 Railroad Safety" in the subject line or contact the roads phone line at 512-943-1195.