

# **CR 279/BAGDAD ROAD**

**FACT SHEET** 

Updated August 2020

**County Commissioner:** Commissioner Cynthia Long, Precinct 2 **Project Limits:** Loop 332 to CR 281/Leander City Limits

**Project Schedule:** Schematic to be finalized in fall 2020. Construction to begin in late 2022.

**Issues to be addressed:** Safety, mobility, expanding north-south connectivity

## **PROJECT PURPOSE:**

The CR 279/Bagdad Road project is being designed and constructed by Williamson County to provide safety and mobility improvements to the existing corridor between Loop 332 to CR 281/Leander City Limits. The project includes the reconstruction and realignment of the existing two-lane road with the addition of a center turn lane and shoulders. Ultimately, once the need arises and funding is secured, the road would include an additional lane in each direction, widening the road from three lanes to five lanes.

As part of this project, the County will also be constructing a 10-foot trail (shared use path), providing access and connectivity for bicyclists and pedestrians.

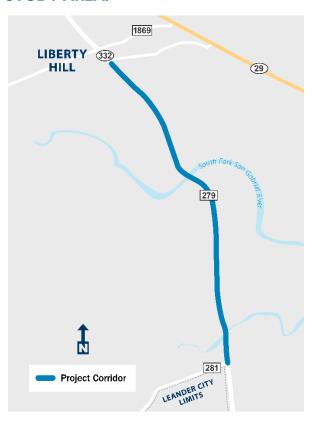
## WHY THE PROJECT IS NEEDED:

The current level of traffic on the existing road exceeds design and safety standards. The volume is expected to increase as the County grows and as new developments and buildings continue to be built along the road. If the County does not plan for improvements now, options will be limited and more impactful in the future.



There has been a significant amount of growth in both the cities of Liberty Hill and Leander in recent years. Between 2018 and 2019, Leander topped the Census Bureau's list of fastest growing large US cities. Leander has had a population growth rate of 156.95% since 2010, and Liberty Hill's population has increased by 209.51%. The fall 2020 opening of the 1,350-acre Williamson County River Ranch Park will bring additional traffic to Bagdad Road.\*

#### **STUDY AREA:**



## **PROJECT TIMELINE:**

The engineer, Brinkley & Barfield, Inc., is currently working on the schematic, which is expected to be finalized by fall 2020, and would set the right-of-way footprint. The project team would then begin working on finalizing the design of the road and anticipates going to construction in late 2022.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

For more information about this project, or to sign up for email updates, please contact our public involvement team by calling (512) 943-1195 or emailing roads@wilco.org. All project materials and updates, including any lane or road closures, will be posted on the CR 279/Bagdad Road page of the County website <a href="www.wilco.org/BagdadRoad">www.wilco.org/BagdadRoad</a>.

<sup>\*</sup> Sources: Community Impact <u>article</u>, World Population Review <u>Leander webpage</u>, World Population Review <u>Liberty Hill webpage</u>, Texas Demographics <u>webpage</u>, Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce <u>webpage</u>