

# RONALD REAGAN EXTENSION PLANNING & PRESERVATION STUDY

## FACT SHEET

Updated November 2022

**County Commissioner:** Commissioner Valerie Covey, Precinct 3 & Commissioner Russ Boles, Precinct 4  
**Project Roadway:** Ronald Reagan Extension from IH 35 to SH 95  
**Project Limits:** Approximately 12 miles

### PROJECT PURPOSE:

Williamson County is conducting the Ronald Reagan Extension Planning & Preservation Study, also referred to as Corridor D on the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), to plan for future growth and set the right of way (ROW) footprint. The road will be built as growth occurs to create a connection between IH 35 and SH 95 to maintain connectivity and mobility.



### WHY THE PROJECT IS NEEDED:

Williamson County has experienced immense growth in recent years and current population projections predict that this growth will continue. In this area, the population of Jarrell has grown 175% in less than 20 years, from 614 in 2000 to 1,692 people in 2018. Additionally, the job market in Jarrell is predicted to grow by 51.5% in the next ten years. That's 18% higher than the national average.



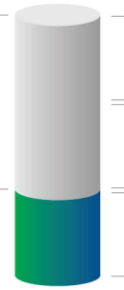
WilCo is the **12th fastest growing** large county in the nation, with a **population increase of 29.6%** between 2010 and 2017

It is the County's responsibility to plan for current and future transportation needs in order to keep pace with the anticipated increased number of residents and vehicles. This high level of growth is inevitable and requires extensive planning and development that will ultimately protect their quality of life.

Preserving the corridor for a future road, before development occurs, allows the County to be fiscally responsible by working with willing sellers and developers before land is developed and it's sold. This also minimizes impacts to businesses and homes because the corridor is preserved before more structures are built.

**2050 POPULATION  
ESTIMATE**  
**1,638,796**

**CURRENT  
POPULATION**



### **3X Population Growth**

The population of WilCo is estimated to be 1,638,796 by 2050—nearly three times what it is now

## **THE STUDY AND PLANNING PROCESS:**

The Ronald Reagan Extensions Planning & Preservation Study is part of the County's LRTP, which works as a placeholder for a network of roadways that will foster safety and mobility across the County.

Over the last several months, the study team worked on a preliminary alignment and met with the community to present that option. Halff Associates, Inc. developed an alignment for the Ronald Reagan Extension. The new alignment has been incorporated into the draft Long Range Transportation Plan.

## **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

The ROW footprint is set and schematic design is underway. A schematic is anticipated to be completed in fall 2022. At this time there no funding for construction or ROW acquisition.

If the County continues to grow and funding becomes available, the first frontage road, most likely a two to three lane road, one lane in each direction, potentially with a center turn lane, would be built. As growth continues to occur and funding is secured, the second frontage road would be built, then finally the main lanes. Building the ultimate Ronald Reagan Extension will most likely take several decades.

## **MORE INFORMATION**

For more information about this project, please visit [www.wilco.org/RonaldReaganExtension](http://www.wilco.org/RonaldReaganExtension). Questions or comments may be directed by email or phone to [roads@wilco.org](mailto:roads@wilco.org) with “Ronald Reagan Extension” in the subject line or contact the roads phone line at (512) 943-1195.

*\* Sources: United States Census Bureau, Census Viewer, Williamson County, Texas Demographics Center, Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce, and Jarrell Economic Development Corporation*