



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DFW Connector Project Breaks Ground

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Administrator Victor Mendez to speak at Feb. 17 event

TxDOT and NorthGate Constructors will commemorate construction starting on the highly anticipated DFW Connector with a groundbreaking at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 17.

The event will be held at the [project field office, 440 W. State Highway 114, in Grapevine.](#)

Media vehicles other than remote vans may park in Lot 2. See attached fact sheet for project information and attached map for media van parking location. Media RSVPs are required; call Tony Hartzel at 214-317-0251.

The event will mark years of regional and TxDOT efforts to improve mobility at the north end of DFW International Airport, where multiple highways in Tarrant, Dallas and Denton counties converge. The \$1.02 billion, 8.4-mile project features \$250 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding, which is the largest single ARRA transportation contract in the nation. The project will transform the area around Interstate 635 and state highways 114, 121 and 360. Construction will be complete in 2014. The design-build process will allow this 8.4-mile project with two major highway interchanges to be rebuilt in less than five years, about half the time with traditional construction methods. (See attached fact sheet for more details.) Plans call for an ultimate 14.4-mile, \$1.6 billion project. A schedule and funding for the remaining project portions have not been identified.

The DFW Connector is one of the largest transportation projects ever undertaken in North Texas. It is expected to be the first project to fully open with managed lanes in North Texas. And by 2030, almost 290,000 vehicles a day will travel along highways in the project area, with slightly more than half of those coming from outside of Tarrant County.

NOTE: For clarification, there are three transportation/DFW Connector events on Feb. 17:

Tarrant County Commissioner Gary Fickes' transportation summit at 7 a.m. at Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S. Main St. (hosted by area chambers of commerce)

The DFW Connector groundbreaking at 11 a.m. at the project field office, 440 W. State Highway 114 (former Suzuki dealership)

A TxDOT/NorthGate Constructors open house/public meeting regarding the DFW Connector project from 4-8 p.m. at the Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S. Main St.

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