

First TEXpress Lanes open on I-35W

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A section of the Interstate-35W project is now open.

Construction of the I-35W project in Fort Worth consists of two major phases. Most of Phase 1, which was developed by the Texas Department of Transportation, is now open. Drivers can use the new NTE TEXpress Lanes on I-35W to travel from just north of Northeast Loop 820 to US 287.

There are two new TEXpress Lanes entrance ramps and four new exit ramps open on this section of I-35W. The US 287 south entrance ramp and the I-35W exit ramp are temporary and will be replaced by permanent ramps this fall.

Once the entire I-35W project is completed in 2018, there will be 15 entrances and 11 exits on these TEXpress Lanes.

The final portion of Phase 1 will open by November, and Phase 2, which is being constructed by NTE Mobility Partners, is scheduled to be completed by fall 2018.

TEXpress lanes are toll lanes that are built within an existing highway. They add additional capacity to the highway to accommodate more traffic and relieve congestion. Unlike other toll roads, the price changes based on the level of traffic in the corridor to maintain a minimum 50 mph speed.

The TEXpress lanes are fairly new to the Dallas-Fort Worth area and are unlike other toll roads in North Texas or throughout the state. It is the driver's choice to drive in the TEXpress lanes and pay the tolls or to drive in the adjacent non-tolled general highway lanes.

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