

transportation projects to enhance safety, improve congestion and connectivity, and preserve Texas roadways. This is a \$25 billion increase in total investment from the previous year.

The 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) includes \$270,098,787 in funding in the San Angelo District, which includes money for the following projects:

- The expansion of US 83 in Menard and Kimble Counties to four-lane divide.
- The completion of “Super Two” passing lanes on US 277 in Coke County.
- The San Angelo Relief Route segment on US 277 from US 67 to north of FM 2105.

“Thanks to our booming economy, Texas has achieved a major milestone in our transportation infrastructure with this record \$142 billion investment that will strengthen our roadways and build a next-generation transportation network,” said Governor Abbott. “Through this record transportation investment project, the State of Texas will further improve roadway congestion and safety to meet the growing needs of Texans in our large metros, rural communities, and everywhere in between. This plan will not only connect Texans from every corner of our state, it will also bolster our economic growth and ensure Texans and businesses continue to thrive for generations to come.”

“This historic investment in our transportation system is critically important to help meet the needs of our fast-growing state,” said Texas Transportation Commission Chairman J. Bruce Bugg, Jr. “Thanks to the leadership of Governor Abbott and our Texas Legislature, Texas continues to see growth in the transportation investments needed to support a world-class transportation system focused on safety and congestion relief.”

“This plan will help the lives of all Texans for years to come as we work to move people and goods safely and efficiently in

our rural, urban, and metropolitan areas,” said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. “TxDOT is already putting these resources to work with a record number of projects aimed at improving safety and saving lives on our roadways.”

In February, Governor Abbott announced TxDOT’s proposed 2024 UTP, estimated to be \$15 billion more than the 2023 UTP. With the State of Texas providing a majority of the funding, the 2024 UTP includes a total investment of over \$142 billion for all development and delivery projects, right-of-way acquisition, engineering, routine maintenance contracts, and UTP construction funding. The over \$10 billion of average annual investment programmed in the UTP over the next 10 years is expected to bring an estimated \$18.8 billion per year in economic benefits, per the Texas A&M Transportation Institute’s analysis. These benefits are a result of increased labor income and business output, as well as the addition of 70,500 direct and indirect jobs.

Many of the projects in this plan are roadway segments identified on Texas’ 100 Most Congested Roadways list. Texas Clear Lanes congestion-relief projects will see an increase in funding, supporting \$66.7 billion total investment for completed, under-construction, and planned non-tolled projects since 2015. Funding for rural projects also increased to \$19.2 billion, a major jump from \$2.2 billion in the 2016 UTP.

The UTP is a planning document that guides the development of transportation projects across the state. Additionally, the UTP identifies public transportation, maritime, aviation, and rail investments. Projects are selected by TxDOT and local transportation leaders



Town Hall! A Town Hall meeting was held on Monday evening, August 21, in the auditorium at Bronte ISD. The meeting was to bring awareness to the public of the desperate need for volunteers for our local EMS, particularly on the east side of the county. There was also discussion about the economic impact of creating an emergency services district.



Construction! A new 3500 square foot addition to the museum at Fort Chadbourne is currently being constructed. The area will house a new exhibit area and a theater.

based on effectiveness in addressing criteria such as safety, pavement condition, capacity, and rural connectivity, with opportunities for public input at the both the state and local levels

Wildfire danger remains top concern

By Julie Tomascik
TFB Editor

High temperatures and winds, combined with dry conditions, have the Lone Star

State facing increased wildfire danger.

As of mid-August, over 195 counties were under a burn ban.

(Continued on page 6)

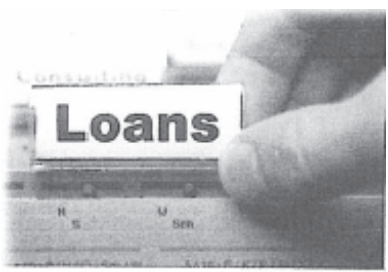
PUBLIC NOTICE

RE: COUNTY CLERK’S RECORD ARCHIVE FUND FY 2024

Notice is hereby given, per L.G.C. Sec. 118.025(g) that a public hearing regarding the County Clerk’s Record Archive Fund shall be held on September 11th at 9 am at 13 E. 7th Street, in the Commisisoner’s Courtroom to allow public discussion regarding the use of these funds.

That’s Quick!

Quick turnaround time is what we strive for when it comes to your finances! Whether



it’s an Auto Loan, Home Improvement or almost any kind of personal loan you can think of, we’re here to help. In most cases, we guarantee quick service and will be doing our best to save you time and satisfy your financial needs. Our first priority is you!



Robert Lee
State Bank

621 Austin Street Robert Lee, Texas

453-2545

MEMBER
FDIC



USE US TODAY!