

Managed Lanes Research Texas Department of Transportation

TRB 81st Annual Meeting
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Study Overview

TxDOT Research Project 0-4160

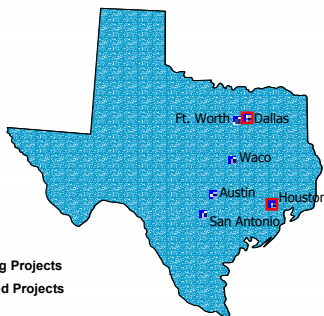
• Vision:

- ✓ Develop a better understanding of how managed lanes can improve mobility.

• Objectives:

- ✓ Investigate interrelated issues surrounding safe and efficient operation.
- ✓ Develop a managed lanes manual to help TxDOT make informed decisions.

Managed Lane Projects



Examples of Managed Lanes

- HOV lanes
- HOT lanes
- Value priced lanes
- Express lanes
- Separation and bypass lanes
- Dual facilities
- Lane restrictions



Definition of Managed Lanes

"A facility that increases freeway efficiency by packaging various operational and design actions. Lane management operations may be adjusted at any time to better match regional goals."

- TxDOT Project Monitoring Committee

LBJ Project Definition

"Managed lanes increase freeway efficiency by offering a predictable trip with little congestion for those who carpool, ride bus transit, vanpool, ride a motorcycle or, if driving alone, are willing to pay a toll. Lane management operations and pricing structure may be adjusted at any time to better serve modal needs."

- LBJ Circular, Summer 2001

North Central Texas COG

HOV and Managed Facility (HOV/M)

Defined as:

- Warranted HOV lanes where the capacity could be managed if excess capacity exists during certain time periods or directions throughout the day
- Identified toll roads where demand could be managed with reduced tolls for HOVs

The Flexibility Issue:

How do you design for ultimate flexibility?

Research Tasks

- **Completed**
 - ✓ Symposium 2001
 - ✓ Literature Review
- **Underway**
 - ✓ At-Grade Access/Egress
 - ✓ Concept Marketing
 - ✓ Decision-Making Framework
 - ✓ Geometric Design
 - ✓ Enforcement
 - ✓ Legislative Issues

<http://managed-lanes.tamu.edu>

Future of HOV Lanes?

- HOV will remain an important component of community objectives aimed at reducing SOV travel and enhancing bus transit
- Agencies are seeking flexibility to maximize freeway efficiency and HOV lane effectiveness 24/7
- The type of managed facility needed in a corridor depends upon the characteristics of the corridor

Questions?

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