



The Ports-to-Plains Corridor Future Interstate Would Impact the Economy

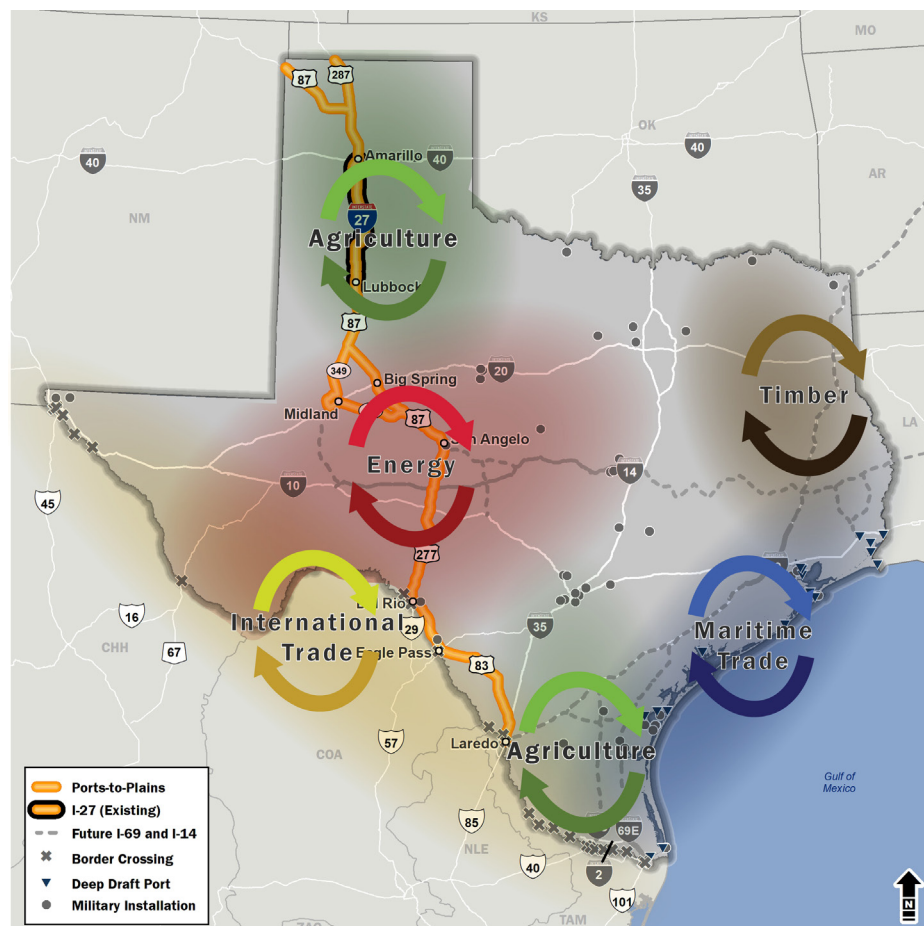
I-27 Advisory Committee



The Ports-to-Plains Corridor was designated as a future interstate in Texas and New Mexico in the federal Fiscal Year 2022 omnibus appropriations bill. Interstate 27 (I-27) is part of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor and exists between Lubbock and Amarillo. It is assumed the Corridor will be designated I-27 as it extends south from San Angelo and north from Amarillo. Route numbering is ultimately the responsibility of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and the United States Department of Transportation. The **963-mile corridor spans 26 Texas counties** and includes portions of I-20, I-27, I-35, US 83, US 87, US 277, US 287, SH 158, and SH 349.

Key Industries in Texas

Statewide connectivity supports Texas' key economic sectors highlighted in the map, including agriculture, energy, and international trade along the Ports-to-Plains Corridor.



Economic Benefits of the Interstate

Upgrading the Ports-to-Plains Corridor to an interstate facility is critical to the economic prosperity and growth of counties along the corridor, in Texas, and across the nation. To remain economically competitive, industries in West and South Texas need access to an interstate-level facility that connects with expanding markets and to the international gateways of Laredo, Del Rio and Eagle Pass.

The industries expected to economically benefit as a result of an upgraded interstate include those that significantly contribute to the Ports-to-Plains' economy today – such as energy, food, and agriculture – as well as industries that heavily depend on the transportation of goods, like warehousing and manufacturing.

Economic Impacts to the Ports-to-Plains Corridor and All of Texas

The interconnected nature of the economy means there are spillover or multiplier effects across regions, such that increased economic activity in one area creates more economic activity in other areas nearby.

Estimated Interstate-Projected Economic Impacts

Rest of Texas		Ports-to-Plains Corridor
\$690M	Travel Costs Saved Annually	\$3.4B
4,400	Jobs Created	17,710
\$640M	Annual GDP Increase	\$2.2B

Economic Impacts on Construction and Maintenance Spending

Construction and ongoing maintenance of the interstate would create:

	Construction	178,600 Job-Years	\$17.2B Cumulative GDP
	Ongoing Maintenance	2,090 Long-term Jobs	\$185M Annual GDP

Long-term Economic Returns

Return on Investment (ROI) is a common measure for determining whether an investment is worthwhile. In this case, it is calculated as the gain in GDP relative to the upfront capital cost. The ROI calculation excludes operating and maintenance costs.

$$\frac{\$55.6B \text{ Statewide GDP Gains over First 20 Years}}{\$41.3B \text{ New Statewide GDP Gains* over First 20 Years}} = \frac{\$17.8B \text{ Net Statewide GDP Gains}}{76\% \text{ ROI}}$$

*Includes Time Value of Money (3% discount rate)

The future interstate would provide a greater demand for gas stations, truck stops, restaurants, lodging, and other businesses serving passenger and commercial travelers. This provides opportunities for development and expansion of roadside businesses in communities across the corridor.

Fact Sheet Sources: Ports-to-Plains Corridor Interstate Feasibility Study (October 2020)



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<https://www.txdot.gov/government/partnerships/i-27-advisory-committee.html>

I-27 ADVISORY COMMITTEE - ECONOMIC IMPACT FACT SHEET
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Future U.S. Interstate Highway and International Connections

