



2020 Census and Transportation in the Region

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The impacts on funding and services from the 2020 Census will be felt for the next decade!

Many thanks for information from



Why the Census Urban Area Determinations Matter – released Dec. 29, 2022.

- These determine how, or whether, you're eligible for FTA formula funding.
- These determine how much you'll get in FTA formula grants for the next ten years.



Some Quick Reminders about Census Urban Areas



- Urban area boundaries don't necessarily follow jurisdictional boundaries
- Census Bureau doesn't control how DOT uses Census urban area determinations
- In FTA programs, key urban area – not municipal – population thresholds are 50,000 and 200,000
 - “Large-urban” areas with urban populations above 200K
 - “Small-urban” areas with urban populations between 50K & 200K
 - “Rural” [not really] areas with urban populations below 50K



Key Changes to Urban Area Criteria for the 2020 Census

- **Minimum threshold for qualification as urban: at least 2,000 housing units or at least 5,000 population. Increased from a minimum of 2,500 persons.**
- **Use of housing unit density at the census block level instead of population density.**
- **No longer distinguish between urbanized areas of 50,000 or more population and urban clusters of less than 50,000 persons.**
- **Maximum distance for “jumping” across low-density intervening territory reduced from 2.5 miles to 1.5 miles (return to the jump distance that was in effect from 1950 through 1990).**

Types of urban status shifts in 2020

- Parts of 200K+ urban areas broken off into new 50K+ urban areas: **8 NEW BRAUNFELS**
- In our area, New Braunfels is now its own small urban area! It is no longer in the San Antonio-New Braunfels area.
- This impacts several programs, but particularly transit. It is no longer within VIA Urbanized Zone.
- The city must decide how it will address its transit needs.
- The city also must decide if it will be its own MPO or remain within AAMPO.
- Additionally, Marion and McQueeney return to rural transit. No longer in VIA's area. Cibolo on the edge of the boundary – probably doesn't change.

For More Census Information

Census Bureau's "Urban and Rural" website

www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural.html

- Already has information on urban area designations and changes from 2010; will be populated with maps and other data during 2023

Federal Highway Administration's "Census Issues" website

www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/census_issues/urbanized_areas_and_mpo_tma/schedule/

- Provides insight into some of the planning and highway funding issues on FHWA's plate

Federal Transit Administration's "2020 Census: Resources and Information" website

www.transit.dot.gov/census

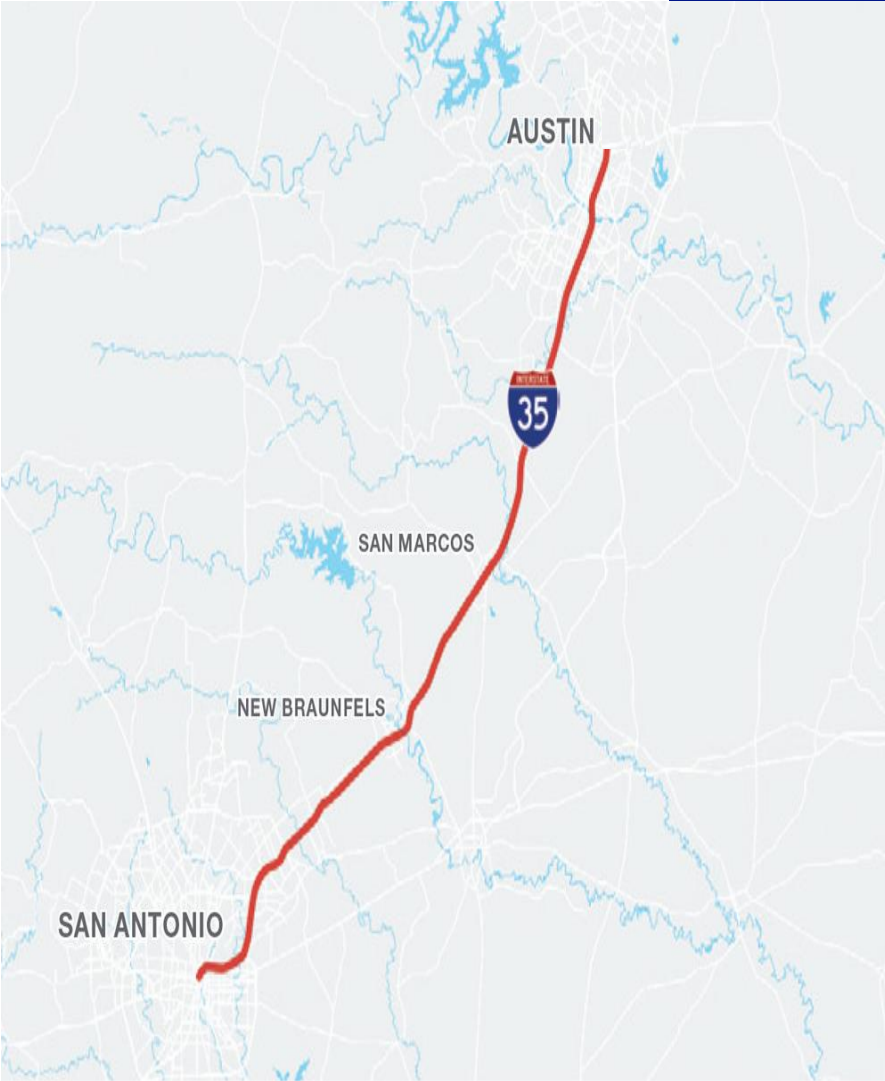
- Includes much FTA-specific detail on Census issues, plus an authoritative map of 2020 and 2010 urban areas over 50,000. Not to be missed!



REGIONAL CHALLENGES

1. **No public transportation between San Antonio – New Braunfels – San Marcos – Austin**
2. **Need to connect IH10 East (Seguin) to IH35 to IH10West (Boerne)**
3. **Need to connect IH 35 to I30 near New Braunfels**
4. **Need to plan for 10 years in future in adjacent counties – outer loop**

Service Between



Austin
San Marcos
New Braunfels
San Antonio



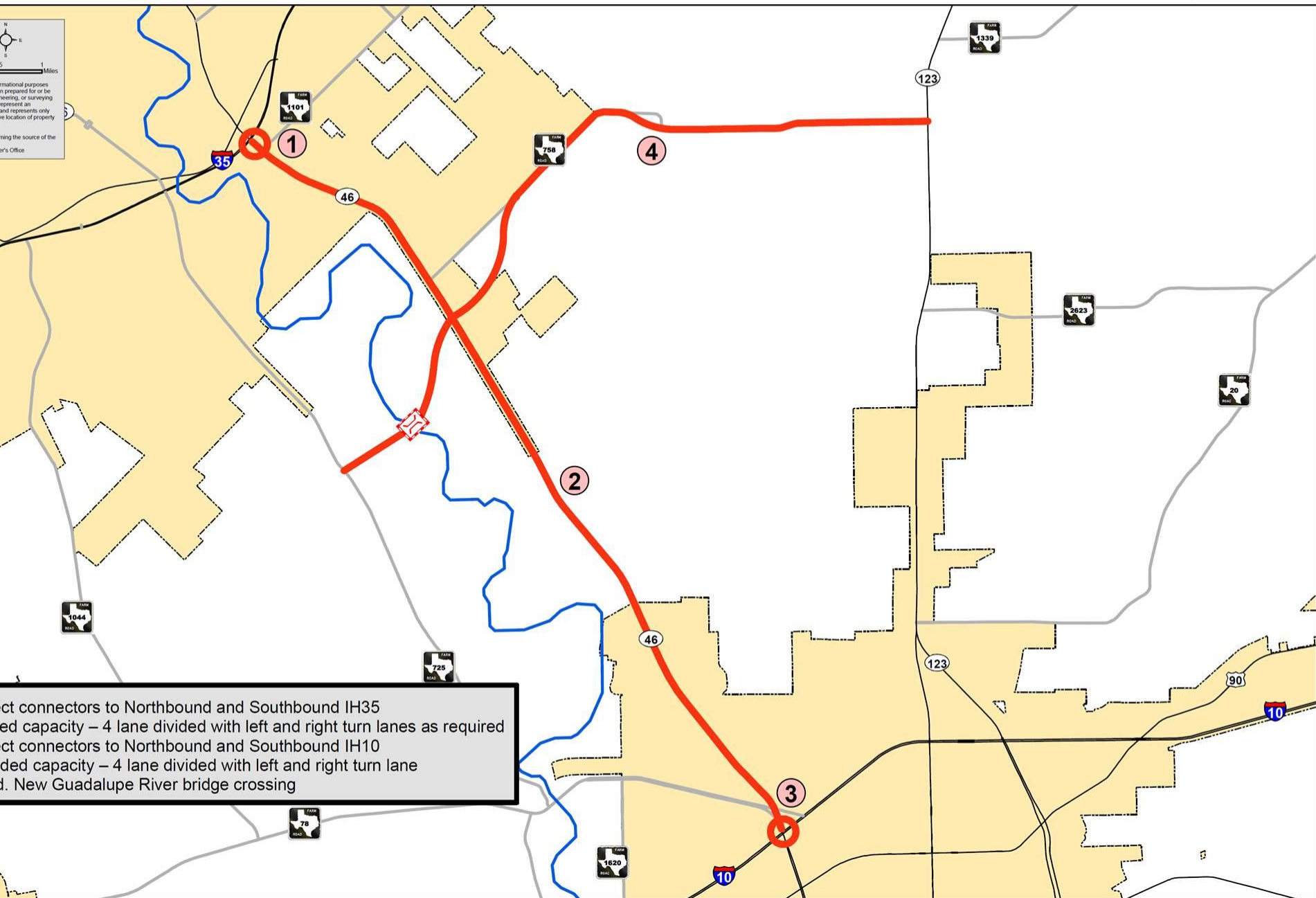
ALAMO
REGIONAL TRANSIT

AACOG

Co. / Guadalupe Co. / New Braunfels / Seguin Region



AAMPO Request for Recommended Unfunded 2050 MTP Projects





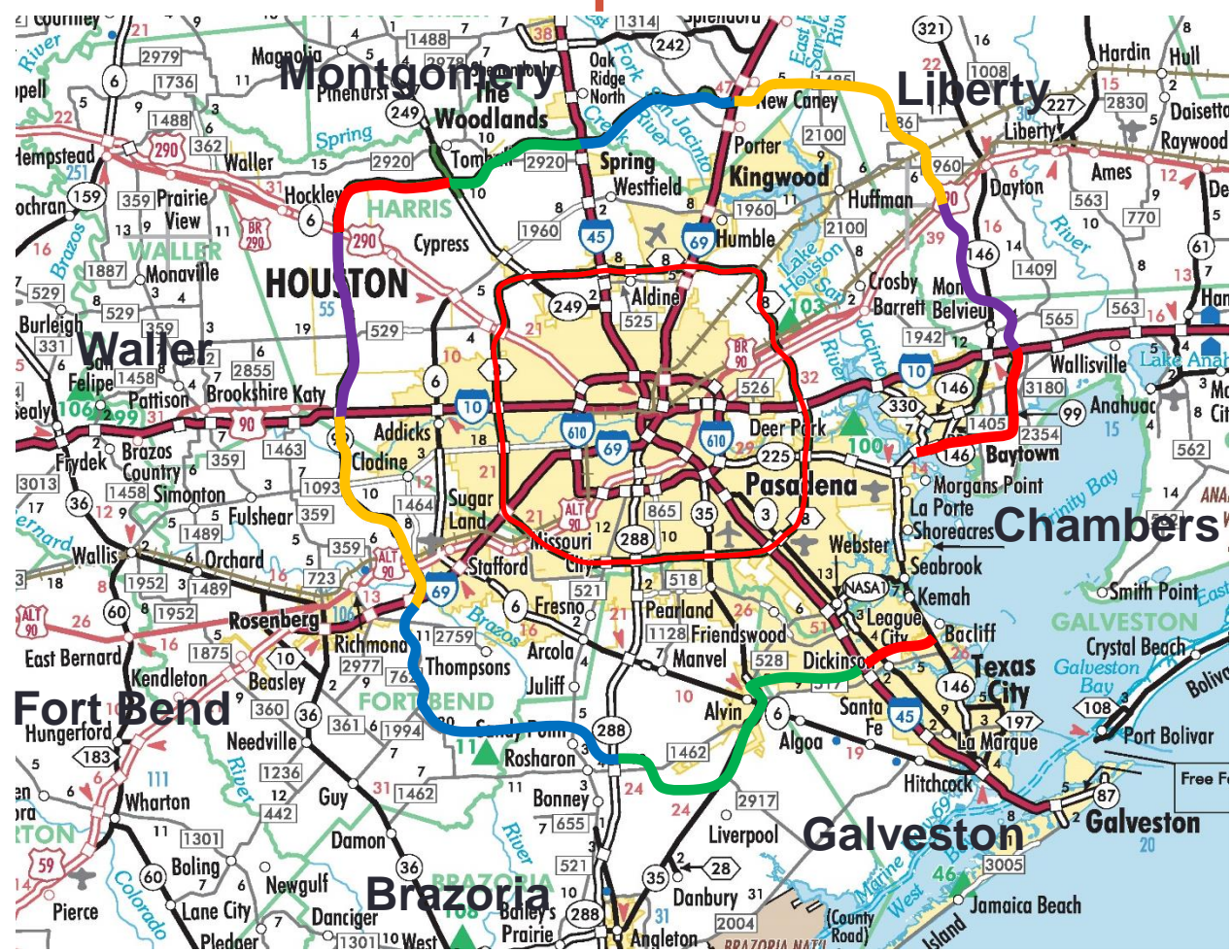
Connector Route between I-35 and I30

- *No high speed east/west connector exists south of Austin to serve the fast growth communities along I-35.**
- *Critical shipping lane for freight moving from border north through Texas and North America**
- *2019 Capital-Alamo Connections Study identified need for connections and increased capacity to provide regional congestion relief.**

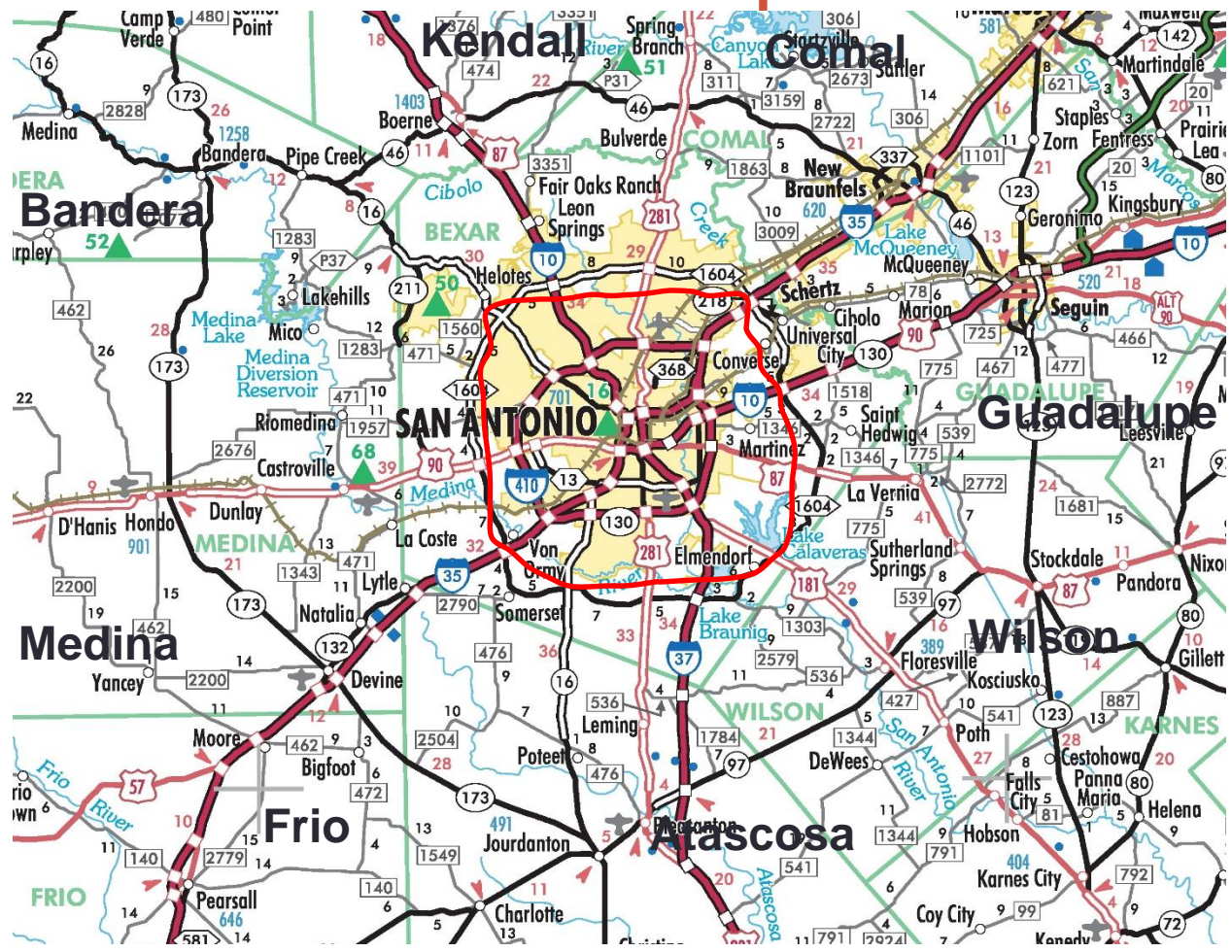
Plan for an outer loop in the region

- ✓ The region is facing explosive growth from counties south of Bexar County to north of Austin.
- No action can be taken until the impacted areas are included in a PLAN
- ✓ Land Prices are increasing exponentially.
Similar to Houston in the 1960's!
- ✓ The MPO can plan for adjacent areas that are likely to be in the MPO in the next 10 years. Working with AAMPO to include the MSA in the next Plan to be done. This will allow the local elected officials to be able to take action.
- In Texas, the RPO does NOT receive funding for Planning. TxDOT retains the rural planning funding.

2020 Houston area map



2020 San Antonio area map





Thank You!

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