

## **Loop 49 Segment Gets \$38 Million in Funding**

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The Texas Transportation Commission, TxDOT's governing body, approved nearly \$38 million in economic stimulus funding for Segment 3A of Loop 49 at a special meeting today in Austin.

Segment 3A will extend Loop 49 at Texas Highway 155 northwest to Texas Highway 31.

"I appreciate the Texas Transportation Commission's selection of Loop 49 as one of the projects. The community has worked for many years to secure funding and we will continue to do all we can to see it to completion," said Texas Sen. Kevin Eltife, R-Tyler, said in a statement released by TxDOT.

"This is a great win for the people of Tyler. Loop 49 is a project with strong community support that will benefit the area. Thanks to the transportation commission for selecting this project and to all the people in Tyler who worked to make it happen," said state Sen. Robert Nichols, R-Jacksonville added.

Randy Hopmann, Tyler district engineer said, "Loop 49 has been a regional priority mobility project for the Tyler community. TxDOT in partnership with the North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority, Smith County, the city of Tyler, and the Tyler Metropolitan Planning Organization is happy to see this long term project become reality."

Tyler MPO voted on Monday to use its entire \$4.7 million allotment from the stimulus package to help pay for Segment 3A. Construction is to begin as early as September.