

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2020





Reflecting on 2020, it's been an extremely difficult year for everybody due to COVID-19. Louisiana was also directly hit by a tropical storm and four hurricanes, a record for our state. Storm recovery efforts, while they continue, were significant accomplishments this past year. Despite the weather and the pandemic, we have continued to invest in infrastructure to improve our state and to use innovative funding methods in order to get much-needed projects off the ground. I'm proud of not only each and every person in the DOTD family for their accomplishments, but also every citizen of Louisiana for their proven resilience in the face of disaster. I believe the projects we have completed and started will facilitate a safer, faster, and higher quality travel experience.

- Secretary Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D.

Major projects let include:

- **I-10 widening between the Texas state line and Coone Gully in Calcasieu Parish**
 - A \$152 million project will widen I-10 to six lanes and replace 10 bridges between the Texas state line and Coone Gully in Calcasieu Parish. This will create six lanes of I-10 from the state line to the west I-210 interchange.
- **I-12 widening between LA 21 and U.S. 190 in St. Tammany Parish**
 - Construction work on the second project to widen I-12 began in fall 2020 and is expected to take around two years to complete. The project, which will cost \$59.1 million, will widen I-12 between LA 21 and U.S. 190 in St. Tammany Parish.
- **College Drive flyover ramp on I-10 and I-12 in Baton Rouge**
 - Through the innovative delivery of a design-build contract, a \$52.3 million project will construct a new flyover exit ramp to College Drive from I-10 west before the I-10/I-12 split and an exit ramp from I-12 west to College Drive. The College Drive flyover project will improve traffic flow at the I-10/I-12 interchange and is part of a larger project to widen I-10 from LA 415 in West Baton Rouge Parish to Essen Lane on the I-10/I-12 split in East Baton Rouge Parish.
- **I-10 drainage canal bridge replacement in New Orleans East**
 - This \$28.8 million project will replace four flat deck bridges on I-10 between New Orleans and the twin spans over Lake Ponchartrain in Orleans Parish.



Number of projects let in 2020: **223**
Total length: **790.7 miles**
Total investment: **\$677 million**

- **Replacement of the Bayou Chevreuil Bridge near Vacherie**
 - An \$11.6 million project is underway to replace the current bridge over Bayou Chevreuil in St. James Parish. The project will create a wider and longer structure and is estimated to be completed in spring 2022.
- **Replacement of the Union Pacific Railroad overpass on U.S. 84 in LaSalle Parish**
 - This project will replace the Union Pacific Railroad overpass on U.S. 84 in Tullos in LaSalle Parish. The \$8.9 million project is expected to begin construction in 2021.
- **Rehabilitation of ramps along I-20 in Lincoln and Ouachita parishes**
 - An \$8.4 million project to rehabilitate the ramps along I-20 in Lincoln and Ouachita parishes is underway. Construction began in September 2020 and is estimated to be complete in November 2021.
- **Segment 1 of the LA 124 extension in Catahoula Parish**
 - In Catahoula Parish, this \$8.1 million project will construct LA 124 as a bypass to LA 3102 near Larto Lake. The project was let in September 2020 and is anticipated to begin in 2021.
- **Replacement of the U.S. 80 overpass at the Kansas City Southern railroad tracks in Lincoln Parish**
 - This \$6.6 million project will adjust the alignment of the U.S. 80 overpass to address a curve in the roadway, and will replace the existing bridge over the KCS railroad tracks near Arcadia. The project was let in June 2020 and is expected to complete in 2022.
- **Replacement of the Linton Road bridge over Black Bayou Reservoir in Bossier Parish**
 - An off-system bridge project will replace Linton Road Bridge over Black Bayou Reservoir in Bossier Parish. The project let in November 2020 with an apparent low bid cost of \$4.9 million.

Major projects completed include:

- **I-10 widening between Highland Road and LA 73 in East Baton Rouge and Ascension parishes**
 - A design-build construction project was completed in October 2020 on I-10 between Highland Road and LA 73 in East Baton Rouge and Ascension parishes. The \$72 million project widened this stretch of I-10 to six lanes and installed new interstate bridges above Highland Road and Bayou Manchac.
- **J-turns, a roundabout, and other improvements at the intersection of LA 22 and LA 70 in Sorrento**
 - This \$5.6 million project consisted of upgrading the three-legged intersection of LA 22 and LA 70 into a multi-lane roundabout with sidewalks, and installing four j-turns with left turn lanes near the I-10 and LA 22 interchange. Additionally, a traffic signal was installed at the j-turn farthest to the west of LA 22, and the left-turn lane from LA 22 eastbound to the I-10 westbound entrance ramp was extended approximately 400 feet.
- **Judson Walsh Bridge replacement in Opelousas**
 - The Judson Walsh Bridge was replaced in Opelousas as part of an off-system bridge project with a cost of \$498,201.
- **I-20/Tarbutton Road interchange in Ruston**
 - In June 2020, DOTD completed a \$25.5 million interchange project at I-20/Tarbutton Road in Ruston. Traffic is now utilizing the new interstate interchange, along with a new Tarbutton Road overpass and a reconstructed Tarbutton Road at I-20.
- **I-10 widening between LA 347 and the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge in Henderson**
 - The \$54.7 million I-10 widening between LA 347 and the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge in Henderson was completed in December 2020. It replaced the pavement within the existing lanes in each direction along I-10 and installed an additional lane in the westbound direction. This is the second of three projects to reconstruct and widen the I-10 corridor from I-49 to the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge.
- **I-20 patching, milling, and overlay in Bossier, Webster, and Bienville parishes**
 - This \$14.4 million project improved the travel experience on nearly 16 miles of I-20 with patching, milling, and overlay work in Bossier, Webster, and Bienville parishes.
- **Roundabout at the intersection of Edgewood Drive (LA 3144) and Susek Drive in Pineville**
 - The construction of a \$1 million single-lane roundabout at the Edgewood Drive and Susek Drive intersection improved safety and traffic flow by replacing a stop-controlled configuration near a school and a busy residential area.
- **Roundabout at the intersection of Jackson Street (LA 1208-3) and Horseshoe Drive in Alexandria**
 - In Alexandria, a \$1.8 million project replaced a 4-way stop traffic configuration with a single-lane roundabout at the intersection of Jackson Street (LA 1208-3) and Horseshoe Drive.
- **Improvements to the intersection of LA 30 at Brightside Lane and Lee Drive**
 - In late 2020, crews completed a \$9.05 million intersection improvement project on LA 30 at Brightside Lane and Lee Drive in East Baton Rouge Parish. This project installed new left turn lanes and signals, and replaced the existing bridge on LA 30 with a box culvert.
- **Installation of cable barriers on I-49 in north Caddo Parish to the Arkansas state line**
 - Cable barriers were installed on 35 miles of I-49 from Dr. Martin Luther King Drive (LA 3194) in Shreveport to the Arkansas state line as part of \$7 million project. These barriers are designed to absorb the impact of an automobile, redirect the vehicle along the median, and help to prevent a potentially fatal crossover crash.

Other notable events of 2020:

- Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant for \$135 million received from the U.S. Department of Transportation
- The selection of Huval & Associates, Inc. as the Construction Management at Risk (CMAR) consultant for the I-10 widening project in Baton Rouge
- The selection of Boh Brothers Construction Co. as the CMAR contractor to build three new bridges in East Baton Rouge Parish as part of the Comite River Diversion Canal project
- The beginning of construction to widen I-12 between LA 59 and U.S. 190 in St. Tammany Parish
- Removal of over 2.5 million cubic yards of debris from Hurricanes Laura, Delta, and Zeta
- The agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the deepening of the Mississippi River from the Gulf of Mexico through Baton Rouge
- The Office of Multimodal Commerce - Aviation Division execution of 137 grants for airport improvement and development projects for a total investment of just over \$185.9 million
- The Port Construction and Development Priority Program completion of construction on ten projects, creating/retaining an estimated 126 jobs and producing \$110 million in benefits over the life of projects
- The Louisiana Legislature passage of Act 222 of 2019 creating the Short Line Railroad Infrastructure Improvement Program; DOTD's Freight & Passenger Rail Section is now working to develop program procedures and identify potential projects



Ongoing major projects include:

■ Belle Chasse bridge and tunnel replacement in Plaquemines Parish

- Crews continue to build the new \$169 million Belle Chasse bridge in Plaquemines Parish. The project is funded through the first public-private partnership in the state. The project is expected to be completed in 2024 and will replace the current bridge and tunnel system.

■ I-10 widening between I-49 and LA 328 in Lafayette and St. Martin parishes

- The ongoing I-10 widening project from I-49 to LA 328 is estimated for completion in March 2021. The \$124.7 million project will widen 11.7 miles of I-10 and replace the pavement within the existing lanes.

■ Arkansas Road (LA 616) widening and roundabout project in West Monroe

- Construction continues on the \$33 million LA 616 (Arkansas Road) widening and roundabout project in West Monroe, which is anticipated to be complete in Spring 2021. Once complete, over three miles of Arkansas Road from LA 143 (N. 7th Street) to Caldwell Road will be widened four lanes and four signalized intersections will be replaced with roundabouts. As of July 2020, three of the four roundabouts are open to traffic.



■ LA 336-1 Bayou Teche Bridge rehabilitation in Breaux Bridge

- Construction continues on the project to rehabilitate Bayou Teche Bridge on La. 336-1 (East Bridge Street) in St. Martin Parish. The project is estimated to be complete in July 2021, and includes structural, electrical, and mechanical repairs, as well as other renovations including cleaning and repainting of the bridge structure.

■ Improvements to the I-10/Loyola Drive interchange in Kenner

- A \$125 million Loyola Drive interchange improvement project in Kenner is another example of a design-build project. The project will build two additional elevated flyover ramps connecting the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International airport to I-10 and New Orleans, and improve the existing interchange at Loyola and I-10. Construction is expected to be complete in November 2022.



■ U.S. 167 Access Management project in Lafayette and Vermilion parishes

- The \$14.1 million U.S. 167 Access Management project will install J-turns from the northern end of the Village of Maurice in Vermilion Parish to Ambassador Caffery Parkway in Lafayette Parish. The purpose of the project is to improve safety by eliminating un-signalized full access median openings and providing access alternatively via partial median openings and U-Turns. Construction began in September 2019 and is estimated for completion in summer 2021.

■ I-10 improvements in Sulphur

- The ongoing I-10 improvements project, which cost \$45.5 million, will resurface I-10 from west of LA 108 to the I-210 west interchange in Sulphur. The project will also create an axillary lane between the LA 108 and I-210 interchanges, and replace the Maple Fork bridges.

■ Government Street road diet in Baton Rouge

- Crews continue work on the Government Street road diet project in Baton Rouge, and is anticipated to be complete in late 2020. The \$11.7 million project will add a two-way-left-turn-lane in the center by reducing the amount of travel lanes

from four lanes to three lanes, install ADA accessible ramps and bicycle lanes in each direction, and construct a roundabout to replace the signalized intersection at Government St., Lobdell Ave., and Independence Park Blvd.

■ Rehabilitation of I-20 bridge over the Mississippi River in Madison Parish

- A \$27.7 million project is underway to rehabilitate the two-mile long I-20 bridge over the Mississippi River in Madison Parish, which is expected to be complete in early 2021. The project includes resurfacing the existing bridge deck, updating the roadway lighting, installing an inspection walkway, and repairs to the expansion joints of the bridge.



■ I-10/Pecue Lane interchange in Baton Rouge

- Construction work on phase II of the Pecue Lane/I-10 Interchange Project in Baton Rouge continues making progress. The second phase is a \$13.6 million project that consists of building Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) walls on both sides of I-10 and replacing the existing two lane bridge with two multi-lane bridges.

■ U.S. 11 bridge project in Slidell

- Work continues on the \$28.36 million project to reconstruct the two drawbridges on the U.S. 11 bridge span in Slidell. Construction began August 2018, and anticipated to be complete in spring 2021.

■ I-20/I-220 Barksdale Air Force Base Interchange project near Bossier City

- Construction on the \$71.8 million I-20/I-220 Barksdale Air Force Base Interchange project near Bossier City is expected to be complete in Fall 2021. This project is another example of the innovative delivery method of design-build, and once complete will create a new access road into BAFB extending southward from the existing I-20/I-220 interchange.

Routine maintenance projects statewide in 2020:

- Bridges
 - 6,219 inspections
 - 7 replacements
- Mowing
 - 360,000 acres
 - \$18 million (contract, agreements, and in-house)
- Litter picked up
 - 50,000 cubic yards
 - \$9.5 million (contract, agreements, and in-house)
- Herbicide
 - 100,000 acres
 - \$3.5 million (in-house)
- Ditch cleaning
 - 440 miles
 - \$6.8 million (in-house)



Awards and achievements include:

- The department won the Enterprise GIS Award for creating a system of engagement (SoE) that deployed over 40 apps, making it easier for DOTD employees to view data from various systems such as the Highway Project Viewer, Traffic Data Review Dashboard, and Structure Identification Form.
- Secretary Wilson won the 2020 Trailblazer of the Year award from the American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA) for his outstanding contributions to and advocacy for public-private partnerships in Louisiana.
- Secretary Wilson was also elected vice president of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO).
- DOTD was the recipient of AASHTO's annual Sweet Sixteen Award, which recognized the Louisiana Transportation Research Center (LTRC), a division within DOTD, for its research project investigating e-construction inspection technology called HeadLight.
- DOTD Deputy Secretary Dr. Eric Kalivoda received the prestigious Thomas H. MacDonald Memorial Award, AASHTO's top award presented each year to someone who has "rendered continuous outstanding service over an extended period of time or have made some exceptional contribution to the art and science of highway engineering."
- DOTD Chief Engineer Christopher Knotts, P.E. was appointed president of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), a nonprofit organization made up of engineering and surveying licensing boards regulating the professions of engineering and surveying.
- Mary "Molly" Bourgoyne, P.E., Director of Ports in DOTD's Office of Multimodal Commerce, was appointed president of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Baton Rouge Branch, an organization that brings the global civil engineering community together and is the oldest national engineering society in the United States.
- DOTD's Aviation Division in the Office of Multimodal Commerce received the Special Recognition Award by the Louisiana Airport Managers and Associates (LAMA) for airport improvements, and Director of Aviation Bradley Brandt was the recipient of the esteemed Award of Distinction for his service to the aviation community.

