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Media Contact:

Frida Villalobos 832-546-1533

frida.villalobos@pct2.hctx.net

Scott Spiegel 713-859-1092

scott.spiegel@pct2.hctx.net



**ADRIAN
GARCIA**
COMMISSIONER

GARCIA ON AGREEMENT TO MOVE FORWARD WITH I-45 EXPANSION

Harris County, TX — TODAY, [an agreement between state and federal officials has been announced that will let the rebuild of I-45 proceed](#). The project will dramatically shift Houston's freeway system. The agreement, "lifts the federal pause placed on the project, and it resolves the audit conducted by federal officials related to TxDOT's adherence to federal environmental rules," according to the *Houston Chronicle*.

The agreement also commits TxDOT to be accountable for much of the agreement reached between Harris County and TxDOT previously. The agreement calls for additional community engagement, and money for housing, parks, and trails. It also mandates the preservation of bike access to a pair of HISD schools along the path of the freeway.

Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia has issued the following statement:

"What has felt like a lifetime of negotiations on the future of I-45 has finally come to a fruitful end. Harris County residents should be thrilled we have an agreement on this long-overdue project. All the work done by community groups, made up of concerned citizens, made a difference for our local, state, and federal partners in achieving this agreement.

Thanks to the support of FHWA we have a better and safer I-45 project, which is almost entirely in Precinct 2, which means thousands of good jobs and brings billions of our taxpayer dollars back home. It allows Harris County to continue to fuel the Texas and national economy.

I'm thankful to everyone who advocated, TXDOT, County Attorney Christian Menefee and his team, and our congressional and state delegation for this historic agreement. This project, once complete, will make a lifetime of positive difference in the lives of so many who choose to call Harris County, Texas home."

The work on I-45 expansion is expected to begin in 2027.

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