



2025 Roadway Design and Bridge Conference

Corpus Christi, TX. April 14-16

DES Breakout Session 2: Using Category 10 Funding

ADA Design Best Practice – using TCAP
ADA, Green Ribbon and, GCAA Funding



April 16, 2025

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Introductions and Map the Field

- Design Division (DES) Landscape Architecture Section
 - Mark Baker – Section Supervisor – Emcee for presentation
 - Bill Macke – Pedestrian Project Manager – TCAP and ADA Design
 - Jamie Godwin – Landscape Architect – Design Considerations
 - Sam Lundquist, P.E. – Kimley Horn – PS&E considerations
 - Jennifer Loa – Green Ribbon, Governor's Community Achievement Awards

UTP Funding Category

- TxDOT's Unified Transportation Program (UTP)
 - 12 funding Categories for specific project types or eligible activities
- Category 10 (CAT10) Funding – **Supplemental Transportation Programs**
 - CAT10 sub-programs:
 - Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Pedestrian Program
 - Green Ribbon Program
 - Landscape Incentive Awards
 - Keep Texas Beautiful
 - Governor's Community Achievement Awards

CAT10 Funding – Supplemental Transportation Programs

- CAT10 Sub-programs
 - Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Pedestrian Program
 - Construction or replacement of curb ramps at on-system intersections to make the intersections more accessible to pedestrians with disabilities
 - Green Ribbon
 - Projects to plant trees and other landscaping to help mitigate the effects of air pollution in air quality non-attainment or near non-attainment counties
 - Landscape Incentive Awards
 - Keep Texas Beautiful
 - Governor's Community Achievement Awards (GCAA)

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Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Pedestrian Program

- Replacement of curb ramps that are non-compliant to ADA design guidelines
- When to replace or remediate non-compliant pedestrian element
- Where are they located on TxDOT Systems
- TxDOT'S TCAP web-application

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Pedestrian Program

Maintenance vs. Alteration Project

If original project scope alters an existing pedestrian facility, including during construction activities, the altered facilities must be brought into compliance with PROWAG as part of that project. If the project scope is considered a maintenance activity, the facilities may remain in place.

This is a 'planning' element. If a TxDOT project performs an alternation, then curb ramps are to be updated



See 28 CFR 35.151(b) and 28 CFR 35.151(i)

TAMES / TCAP

- TxDOT Comprehensive Accessibility Program (TCAP) web-application is a tool that comes out of a chapter of TxDOT Civil Rights TxDOT Accessibility Management Enterprise System (TAMES) playbook to meet requirements of the TxDOT ADA Transition plan.
- Why does TxDOT have a Transition Plan?
 - Federal Government requires States and Local Governments with 50 or more employees complete a self-evaluation identifying physical barriers preventing the public from accessing services and to create a transition plan outlining how the barriers will be removed

TAMES / TCAP

- Self-evaluation inventory (2015 - 2021)
 - Consultants and contractors collected locations, features, and measurements along TxDOT maintained right of ways and at TxDOT facilities state-wide
- TCAP system developed during this inventory and is a web-based repository database of location and remediation status of known ADA compliance issues for TxDOT properties (including Right of Way) all over the state of Texas.
 - Tools for planning, prioritizing, scoping, and cost estimating remediation
 - Provides reporting of remediation of ADA non-compliant elements in TxDOT Services to Federal Highway Authority

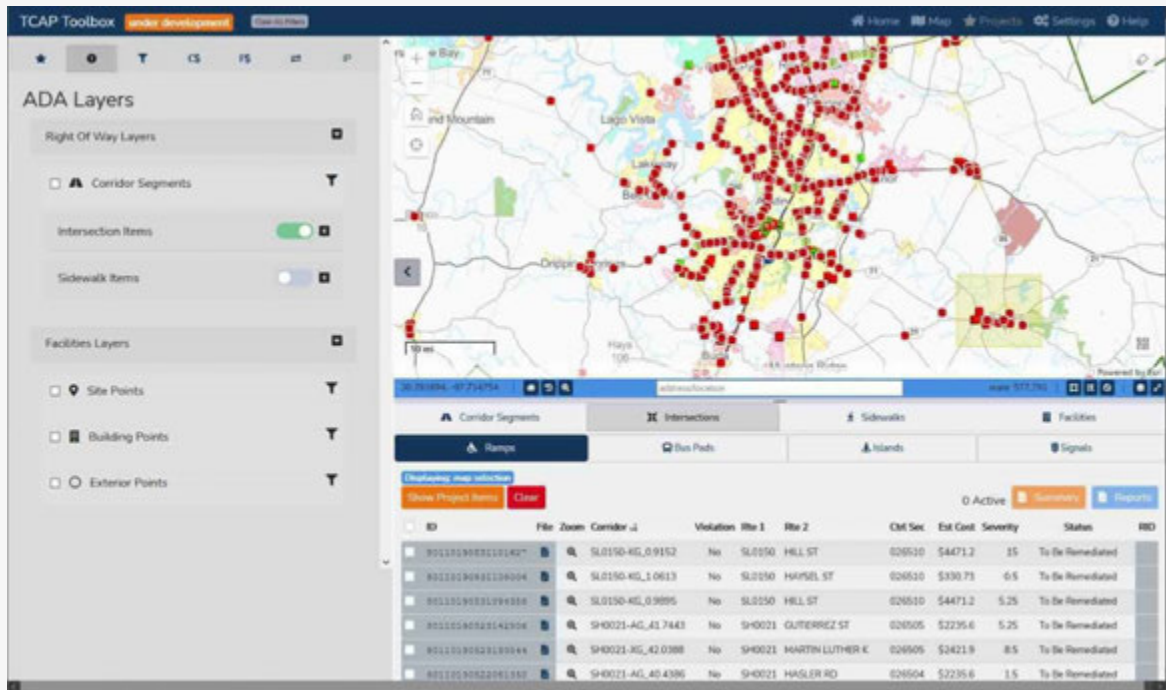
TCAP – Using the TCAP Web-app for Planning & Scoping

When to use the TCAP?

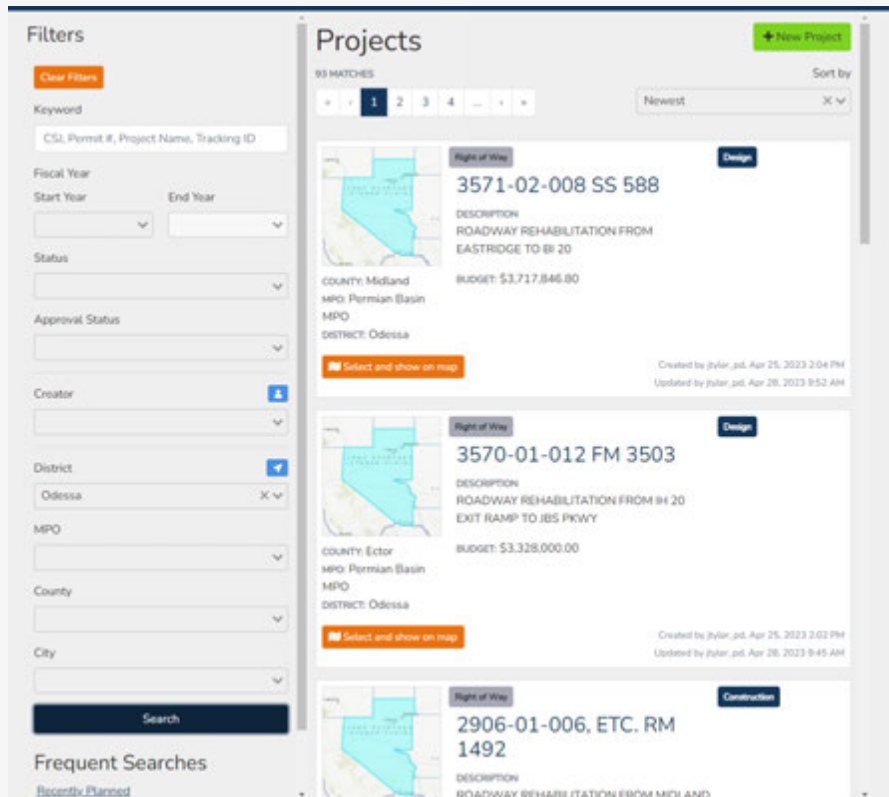
Great for searching for ADA elements in a planned project area.

Search by Control Section corridors. Search by severity score

Query and export estimated costs and element information



TCAP – Using the TCAP Web-app for Construction



The screenshot displays the TCAP Web-app interface. On the left is a 'Filters' sidebar with sections for 'Clear Filters', 'Keyword' (with a search bar for 'CSL Permit #, Project Name, Tracking ID'), 'Fiscal Year' (with 'Start Year' and 'End Year' dropdowns), 'Status', 'Approval Status', 'Creator' (with a user icon), 'District' (with a dropdown for 'Odessa'), 'MPO' (with a dropdown), 'County' (with a dropdown), and 'City' (with a dropdown). A 'Search' button is at the bottom of the filters. Below the filters is a 'Frequent Searches' section with a link for 'Recently Planned'. The main area is titled 'Projects' and shows '99 MATCHES'. It includes a pagination bar with '1' selected and a 'Sort by' dropdown set to 'Newest'. A '+ New Project' button is in the top right. The project list shows three entries, each with a map thumbnail, project ID, description, county, MPO, district, budget, and status. The first project is '3571-02-008 SS 588' (Design status) for Midland County, Permian Basin MPO, Odessa District, with a budget of \$3,717,846.00. The second project is '3570-01-012 FM 3503' (Design status) for Ector County, Permian Basin MPO, Odessa District, with a budget of \$3,328,000.00. The third project is '2906-01-006, ETC. RM 1492' (Construction status) for Midland County. Each entry has a 'Select and show on map' button and creation/update timestamps.

- Develop project remediation within the Projects Toolkit
- Serves as a central location for project creation, scoping, planning, and tracking
- Initializes project workflows and reporting
- Provides direct integration with the Transition Plan for reporting progress and providing logic of non-improved areas



ADA Design Best Practice

Statewide Pedestrian Program



April 25, 2025

ADA Design Best Practice

Design and construction of pedestrian facilities is extremely important in the process of ADA remediation. The current ADA design standard in use by TxDOT is the Public Right of Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) and TxDOT Roadway Design Manual (RDM).

TxDOT is committed to full compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

- PROWAG published by the U.S. Access Board



ADA Design Best Practice

The U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Transportation have released a Joint Technical Assistance document outlining the following type of road work treatments that are considered alterations:

new construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, microsurfacing or the addition of any new layer of asphalt, in-place asphalt recycling, open graded surface courses, mill & fill and overlay



Cat 10 CR Program Funding

- District Allocations by DES
- Partnership with the Districts to complete ADA pedestrian projects

District No.	District Name	District Abbrev.	Rank	Annual	Bi-Annual	Tri-Annual	Metro
1	Paris	PAR	20			x	
2	Fort Worth	FTW	4	x		x	x
3	Wichita Falls	WFS	3			x	
4	Amarillo	AMA	1		x	x	
5	Lubbock	LBB	2		x		
6	Odessa	ODA	13			x	
7	San Angelo	SJT	21			x	
8	Abilene	ABL	15			x	
9	Waco	WAC	14			x	
10	Tyler	TYL	17			x	
11	Lufkin	LFK	6			x	
12	Houston	HOU	18		x	x	x
13	Yoakum	YKM	5			x	
14	Austin	AUS	25			x	x
15	San Antonio	SAT	22		x		x
16	Corpus Christi	CRP	10		x		
17	Bryan	BRY	24			x	
18	Dallas	DAL	9	x		x	x
19	Atlanta	ATL	23			x	
20	Beaumont	BMT	16			x	
21	Pharr	PHR	7		x		
22	Laredo	LRD	11		x		
23	Brownwood	BWD	12			x	
24	El Paso	ELP	19		x		
25	Childress	CHS	8			x	
			Total	2	8	19	5

Common Questions

- Crosswalks (Marked/Unmarked, Controlled/Non-Controlled Intersections)
- Follow-Up updating TCAP after Construction
- Common CAD Detail Drawings Available from DES
- Additional Assistance from D



Questions, Comments, Contacts

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Design Division | Digital Delivery Section | Landscape Architecture Branch

Improve your ADA Design

- ADA expectations
- Design differences for ADA
- Design Considerations
- Common Issues and solutions



ADA Design is a puzzle

- Recalibrate your approach to design
- Evaluate site conditions and constraints
- More than one solution
- Cost of scale



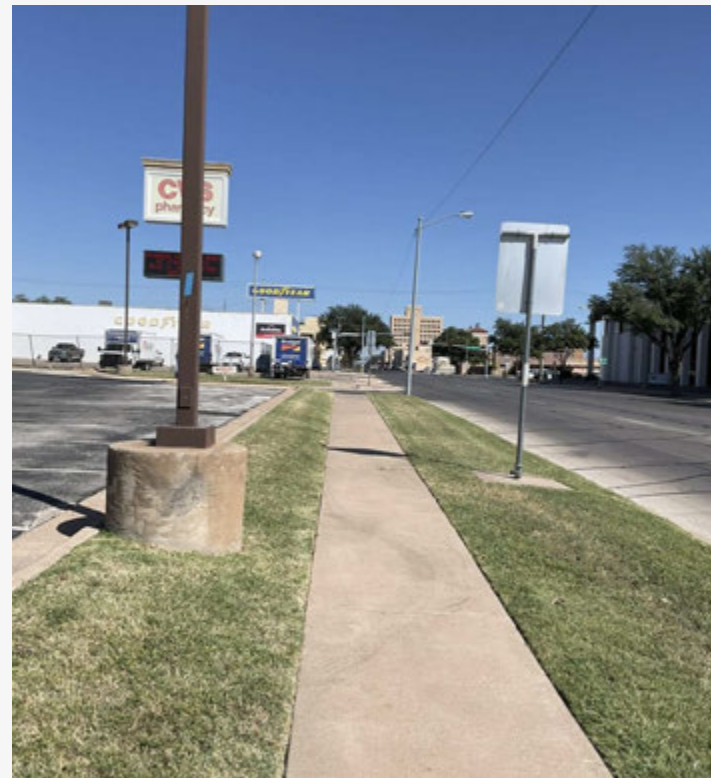
Topographic Survey

- Reduce Cost
- Using Aerials
- Field Measurements
- Human vs Vehicle Scale



Right-of-Way

- Reduce Cost
- Apparent vs surveyed
- As-builts, County Appraisal Districts



Design Considerations

- Thorough understanding of RDM Chapter 7, Section 3 – Pedestrian Facilities, PED-18 Standards, and PROWAG
- MAXIMIZE SAFETY
- Field check your design



TCAP Assessments for Design

- Identify deficiencies
- Identify compliant areas



Common Design Issues

- Constrained ROW
- Temporary Construction Licenses



Common Design Issues

- Utilities and obstructions



Common Design Issues

- Cross slope and slope buffers



Common Design Issues

- Pedestrian push button locations



Common Design Issues

- Driveways
- Parking Lots



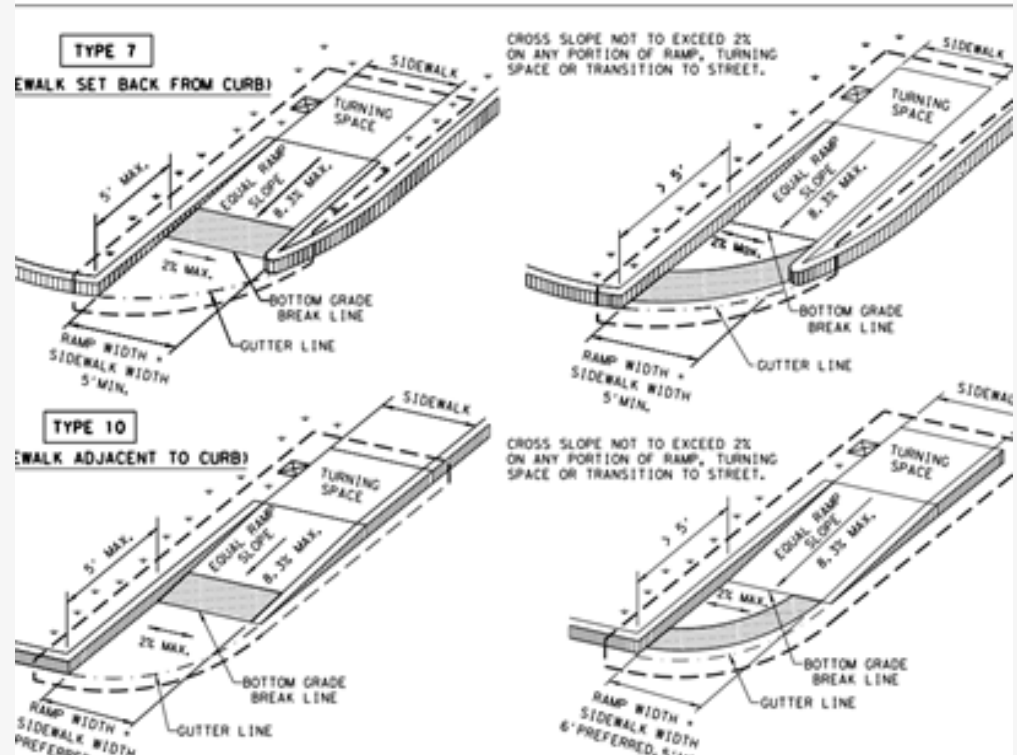
Common Design Issues

- Accommodate existing drainage flows



Common Design Issues

- Detectable Warning Surface Placement



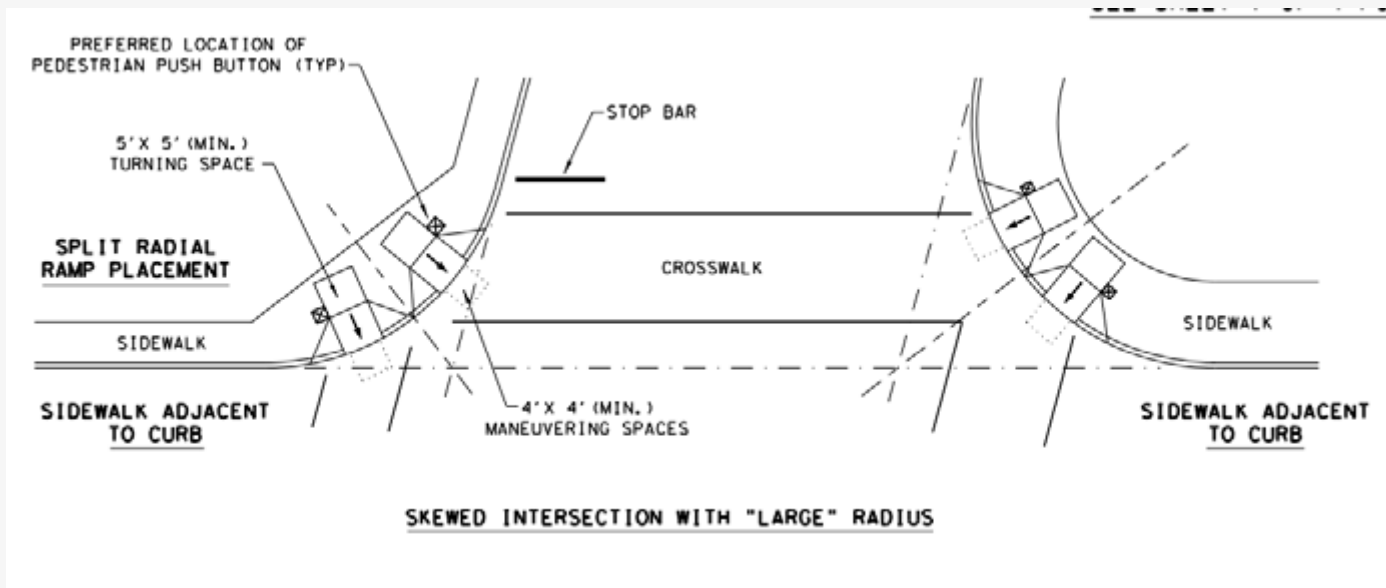
Common Design Issues

- Asphalt Transitions



Common Design Issues

- Curb Ramps at large corner radii



TAMES / TCAP – Reporting to FHWA

- TCAP reporting elements
 - For TxDOT Civil Rights and eventually up to Federal Highways on how TxDOT is remediating ADA non-compliant elements found in the self assessment
 - Automatic generation tracking project updates

TxDOT Accessibility Management Enterprise System

Home Map Tracking

FHWA Dashboard Reporting

Dashboard Content Summary

Report Options

Choose User Type

District X

Home District

Dallas X

Fiscal Year

2024 X

Loaded

Download XLS

Dallas, 2024

Discard Edit Save

Information		Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Annual	Active in System
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Section 504							
I. Barriers	1. # of barriers identified (To Be Remediated)	41200	41572	41572		41572	41572
	2. # of barriers identified (In Progress)	8206	7846	7846		7846	7846
	3. # of barriers corrected (To Date)	0	262	262		262	262
	4. # of barriers observed in work environment during daily operations	0	0	0		0	
	5. # of barriers removed in work environment during daily operations	0	0	0	0	0	
II. Projects	6. # of Projects (Implementation)	21	20	22		22	22
	7. # of Projects (Planning)	213	203	203		203	203
	8. # of Projects (Design)	137	115	114		114	114
	9. # of Projects (Construction)	43	39	39		39	39
	10. # of Projects (Inspection)	5	12	12		12	12
	11. # of Projects (Completed)	0	10	10		10	10



Green Ribbon Program

GR



April 25, 2025





Program History

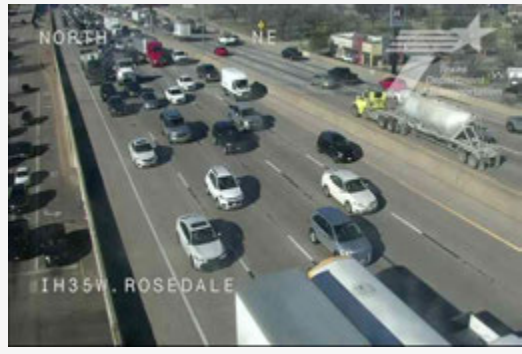
The **Green Ribbon Landscape Improvement Program (GRP)** was implemented in response to Rider 57 of the Department's Appropriation Bill for the 77th legislative session.

- The Rider requires expansion of the **Green Ribbon Project**, a private-public partnership, to eligible Districts in the state
- Allocates funds for landscaping and other enhancement activities to districts that have air quality nonattainment and near nonattainment counties.



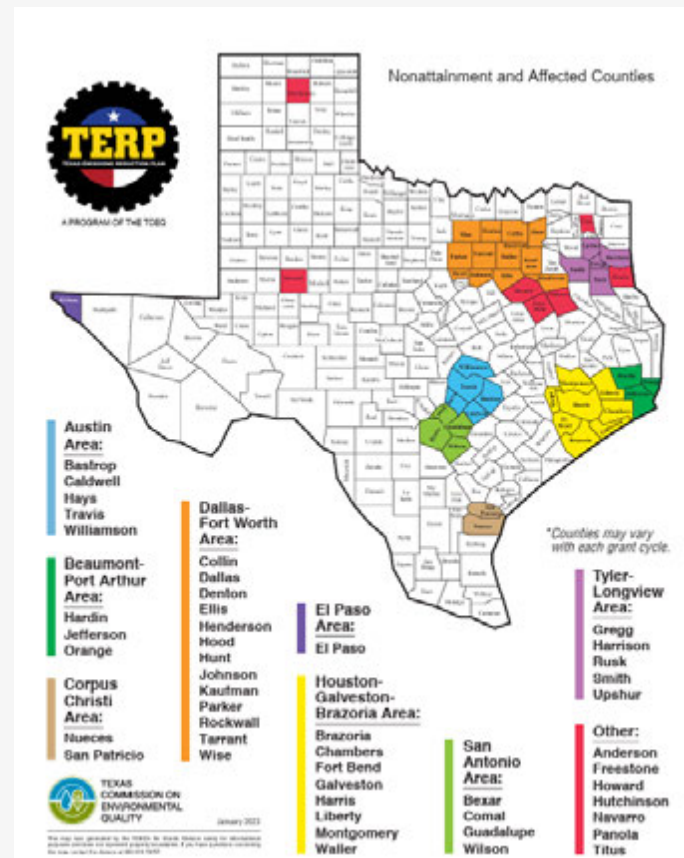
Air Quality

- **Nonattainment:** Counties classified by the EPA
- **Near nonattainment:** Counties identified by the Environmental Affairs Division



Funding Allocations

- Funds allocated to Districts with counties in nonattainment & near nonattainment
 - Funds can be used for landscape projects in TxDOT right-of-way anywhere in eligible Districts
- Statewide funding levels determined in Annual UTP under Category 10
- Allocations for each FY must be spent within that FY



Program Administration

- Design Division administers the Program
 - Distributes funds to Districts
 - Districts responsible for project development
 - Funding increase from **\$20 million** to **\$36 million** for the next 10 years
- Funds do not carry over from one FY to the next
 - Must be expended within each fiscal year
- **Project change orders must be approved by the Design Division**

District	FY 2025	FY 2026
Amarillo	\$45,000	\$45,000
Atlanta	\$180,000	\$180,000
Austin	\$6,120,000	\$6,120,000
Beaumont	\$2,160,000	\$2,160,000
Corpus Christi	\$162,000	\$162,000
Dallas	\$6,300,000	\$6,300,000
El Paso	\$1,476,000	\$1,476,000
Fort Worth	\$8,100,000	\$8,100,000
Houston	\$4,140,000	\$4,140,000
Lufkin	\$855,000	\$855,000
Paris	\$126,000	\$126,000
Pharr	\$1,980,000	\$1,980,000
San Antonio	\$3,780,000	\$3,780,000
Tyler	\$450,000	\$450,000
Waco	\$81,000	\$81,000
Yoakum	\$45,000	\$45,000

What is “Landscape Enhancement”?

- Planting trees, shrubs, perennials, and grasses
 - Not including seeding or sodding for erosion control
- Soil preparation for planting
- Irrigation systems to support establishment of new planting
- Landscape Maintenance activities to support establishment of new planting

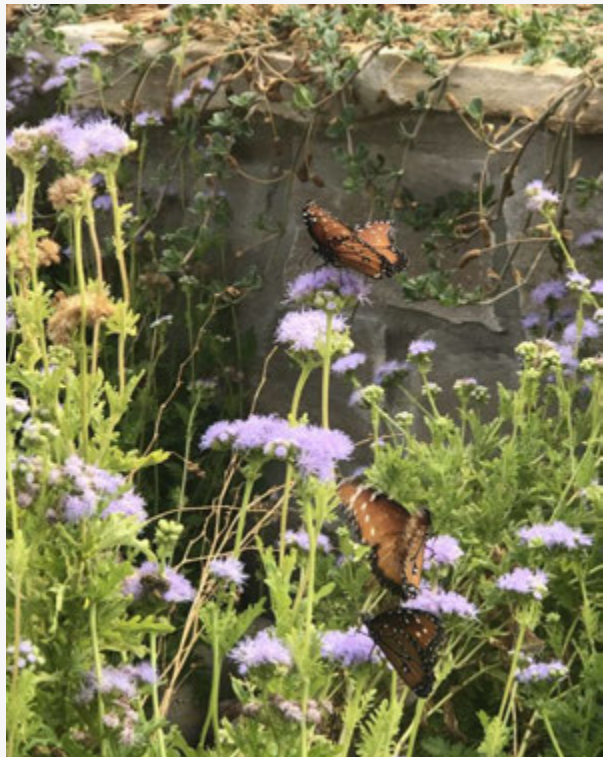


Design Principles

- Select plant species that are indigenous or adapted to region and climate
 - And species known to mitigate effects of air pollution where possible

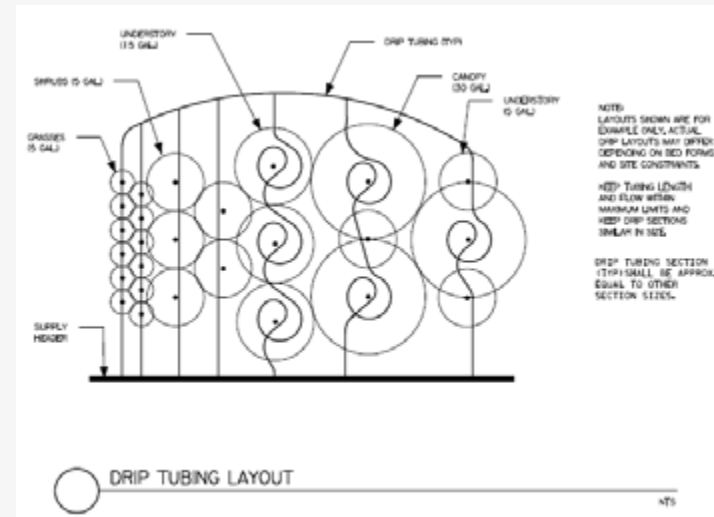


<https://www.wildflower.org/magazine/landscapes/natural-accent>s



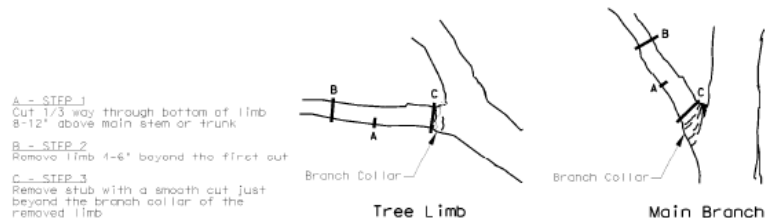
Design Principles

- Install irrigation systems or treatments to support establishment of new planting
 - Irrigation design should consider highest level of water efficiency possible (drip > spray)



Design Principles

- Perform plant establishment activities for 1 to 2 years following completion of landscape planting phase of project
 - Helps build more successful planting







PRUNING CUTS - LIMBS 2" IN DIAMETER AND GREATER

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - NOXIOUS WEED LIST

Click on the latin name for more information.

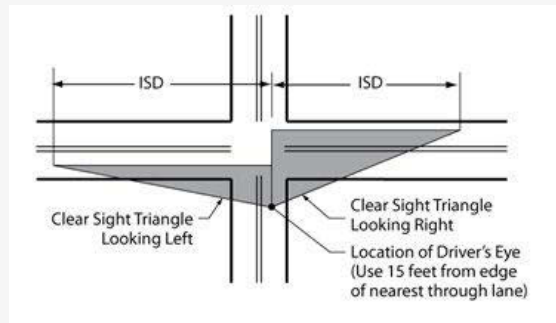
Records 1 to 10 of 37: [First](#) | [Previous](#) | [Next](#) | [Last](#)

SPECIES	FED	TDA	TPWD	IPAUS	IMAGE
Alhagi maurorum Camelthorn Fabaceae					
Alternanthera philoxeroides Alligatorweed Amaranthaceae (Amaranth Family)					
Arundo donax Giant reed Poaceae (Grass Family)					
Aschodelus fistulosus Onionweed Liliaceae					
Cahrsia scopulorum Hedge false bindweed Convolvulaceae (Morning-Glory Family)					
Commelina benghalensis Tropical Spiderwort Commelinaceae					

https://texasinvasives.org/plant_database/tda_results.php

Design Principles

- Meet safety requirements of the District and TxDOT
- Encourage public/private partnerships
- Work with Local Government to adhere to City or Regional Landscape Aesthetics Master Plan
- Developing Green Ribbon master plan is encouraged
 - By TxDOT or Consultant



For more Information...

- Refer to our Crossroads page
 - Program Guidelines
 - Current memorandums (funding allocations by FY)
- Contact: **Clint Kainer, RLA**
 - Green Ribbon program coordinator
 - Clint.Kainer@txdot.gov

Divisions / Design Division (DES) / DES sections / Landscape Architecture Branch

Green Ribbon Program

Landscape Architecture Branch

Gateway Monument Program

Governor's Community Achievement Awards

Green Ribbon Program

Green Ribbon Landscape Improvement Program

Statewide Pedestrian Program - Pedestrian Planning

Statewide Pedestrian Program - Design and Construction

Brief History

Division and District Contacts


Funding reports

Landscape Architectural History

Historic Texas Highway Department Manuals

About

The Green Ribbon Landscape Improvement Program (GRP) was implemented in response to Rider 57 of the Department's Appropriation Bill for the 77th legislative session. The Rider requires expansion of the Houston District's Green Ribbon Project concept to other areas of the state and the allocation of funds for landscaping and other enhancement activities to districts that have air quality, non-attainment and near non-attainment counties.



Resources

- [Program guidelines](#)
 - Current memorandums
 - [FY 2023-2024](#)
 - [FY 2025-2026](#)
- Sample projects

Contacts

Search table

Name	Title	Phone	Email
Clint Kainer, RLA	Transportation Landscape Architect	713-448-0530	Clint.Kainer@txdot.gov

<https://crossroads/divisions/des/sections/landscape-architecture/green-ribbon-program.html>



Governor's Community Achievement Awards

2025 WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED IN APRIL

Governor's Community Achievement Awards

GCAA



April 25, 2025

Program Objective

- **To construct a landscape project on State right-of-way**
 - **Fulfills the winning City's expectations**
 - **Meets TxDOT's design, safety, maintenance, and funding requirements.**

Program History

1986

- Texas Transportation Commission authorizes funding for Governor's Community Achievement Awards (GCAA) - \$700,000 in highway landscape projects is shared between 8 winning KTB communities

1989

- Additional population category is added for a total of 9 winning communities

1998

- Texas Transportation Commission increases funding level to \$1,000,000.

2009

- Texas Transportation Commission increases funding level to \$2,000,000 and adds additional population category for a total of 10 winning communities.

2025

- 373 Landscape projects have been authorized to date – totaling **\$52,400,000**.

Population Categories

- Award amounts determined by Population Category
- Last increase to awards or adjustment to Population Categories was **2009**, about 16 years ago
- We are making efforts to increase the award amounts and adjust the population categories

	Population Category	Project Authorization
1	Up to 3,000	\$90,000
2	3,001 – 5,500	\$110,000
3	5,501 – 9,000	\$130,000
4	9,001 – 15,000	\$160,000
5	15,001 – 25,000	\$180,000
6	25,001 – 40,000	\$210,000
7	40,001 – 65,000	\$250,000
8	65,001 – 90,000	\$270,000
9	90,001 – 180,000	\$290,000
10	180,001+	\$310,000

Annual Awards Process



Project Development

- Winning Communities form a committee and designate a spokesperson
 - Serves as decision making body during development phase of project
- Committees are encouraged to reach out to their TxDOT contact person
 - Contacts provided at Winner's Webinar



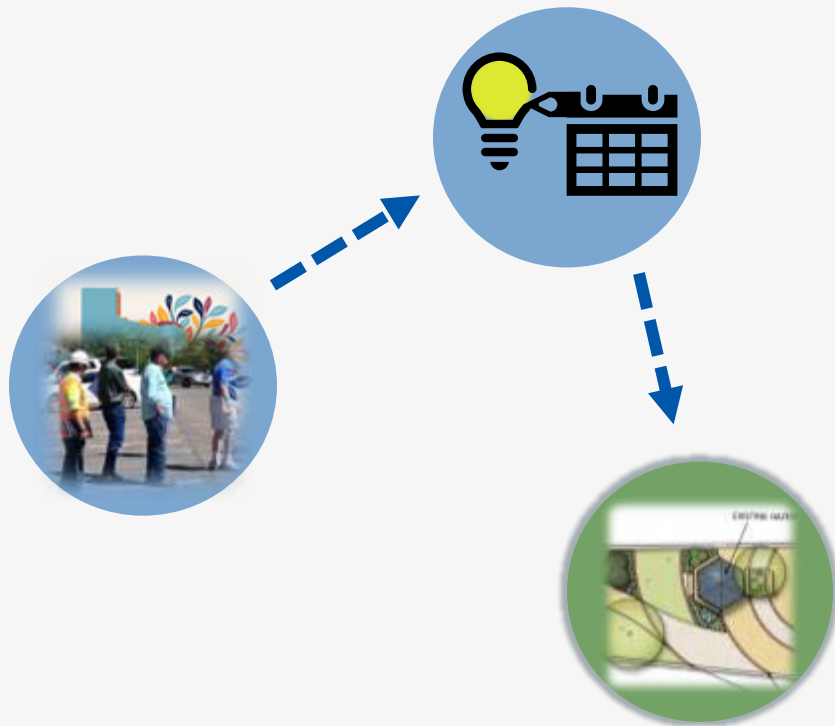
Project Development

- We encourage inclusion of local Public Works or Parks Dept. employees
- Committees meet with TxDOT, coordinate to decide project scope and location
 - This can sometimes be a long process



Project Development

- TxDOT Districts coordinate with Landscape Architect/designer and community to program project and schedule letting date
 - Schedule accommodates coordination with local government groups
 - Spend funding within 5 years



Work Program in TXDOT Connect

- [last 2 digits of Award year]10LI
 - **Example)** GCAA won in 2022, project is letting in 2024. **Work Program = 2210LI**
 - Proper input helps keep track of the funding

Award amount (fixed)

Construction

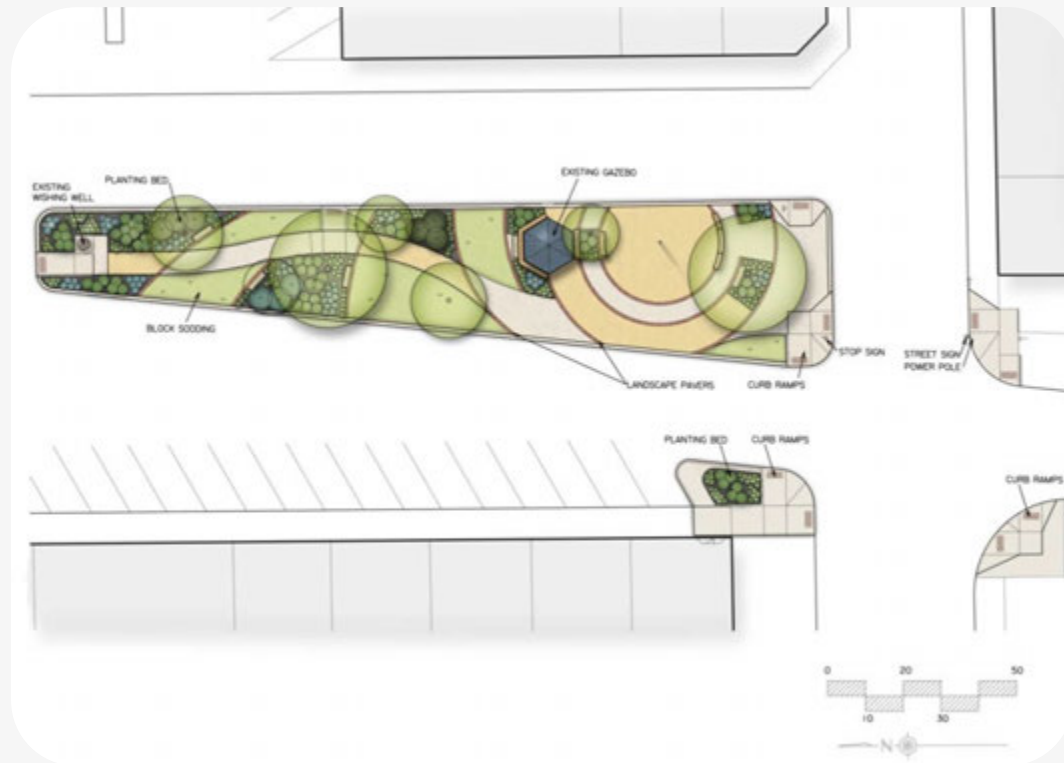
Funding line cannot be deleted when UTP is in Statewide Review

Status	Amt	Cat	Wrk Pgm	PID
Approved	\$160,000.00	10	2210LI	LIA

Last 2 digits of year award was won (2022)

Project Design

- TxDOT will provide design services and structural design at no cost to the community
 - By District or Division Landscape Architects
 - Communities may elect to hire a design consultant, however GCAA funds cannot pay for design



What can GCAA fund?

This is a frequent question from both communities and fellow TxDOT employees.

- Landscape
 - planting, irrigation, establishment items



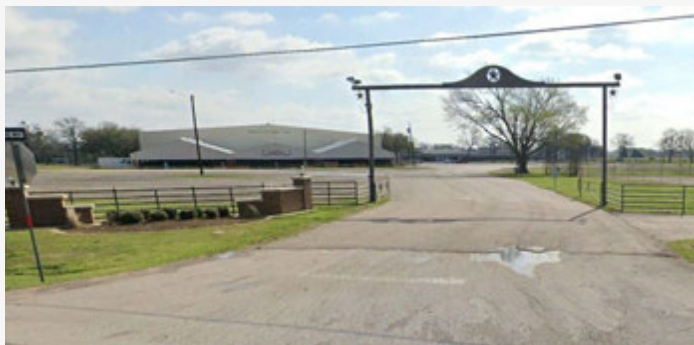
What can GCAA fund?

- Hardscape
 - Sidewalk
 - Decorative pavement
 - Seating



What can GCAA fund?

- Hardscape
 - Fence
 - Railing



What can GCAA fund?

- Hardscape
 - Retaining walls
 - Free-standing walls
 - Other aesthetic elements



What can GCAA fund?

- Lighting
 - Pedestrian level, low-impact
 - Must not interfere with traffic safety



What can't GCAA fund?

- **Gateway Monuments**
 - See Contract Service Division's (CSD) SharePoint page for more info on Gateway Monuments:
 - <https://txdot.sharepoint.com/sites/office-cs/SitePages/CSD-Home.aspx>
- Anything else that is not permitted in state right-of-way



Combining Funds

- Green Ribbon (GR)
 - We encourage the addition of GR funding on a GCAA project when possible
 - GCAA funds are fixed (generally cannot cover cost overruns above the award amount)
- Local Funds
 - Local municipalities may contribute funding to the project through an Advanced Funding Agreement (AFA)



For more Information...

- Refer to our Crossroads page
 - Guidelines
 - List of Winning Communities
 - Annual Winner's Presentation
 - Annual Winner's Handout
- Contact: **Jennifer Loa, RLA, LI**
 - GCAA program coordinator
 - Jennifer.loa@txdot.gov


Divisions / Design Division (DES) / DES sections / Landscape Architecture Branch

Governor's Community Achievement Awards (GCAA)

Landscape Architecture Branch

About

The Governor's Community Achievement Awards (GCAA) Program, also known as the Incentives Awards Program, is a joint effort between TxDOT and Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB). Through a competition administered by KTB, winning cities receive a landscape development project within their city along state right-of-way.



Resources

- [Program Guidelines](#)
- [List of Winning Communities](#)
- [Annual Winner's Presentation \(2024\)](#)
- [Annual Winner's Handout \(2024\)](#)

Contacts

Name	Title	Phone	Email
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<https://crossroads/divisions/des/sections/landscape-architecture/governors-community-achievement-awards-gcaa.html>

Questions?

