



## **Bexar County Commissioners Court**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Blanco Road expansion north of Loop 1604 provides much needed relief**

Bexar County and state officials on Thursday celebrated the official completion of the Blanco Road expansion project, funded through a 'Pass Through Finance Agreement' with the Texas Department of Transportation. The 3.8-mile expansion outside of Loop 1604 turned the two-lane road into four continuous travel lanes with dedicated turn bays and bicycle lanes.

Blanco Road is part of the state system, maintained by TxDOT, but the expansion project was not expected to begin until 2017. So Bexar County officials, under the leadership of then-Commissioner Lyle Larson, entered a 'Pass Through Financing Agreement' with TxDOT to expedite the project.

"If it weren't for the ingenuity of my predecessor Lyle Larson, we would still have bumper-to-bumper traffic out here for the foreseeable future," Commissioner Kevin A. Wolff said. "But in his true fashion, Lyle brought everyone together to figure out a way to move this much needed expansion along."

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Under the agreement, Bexar County is responsible for the total initial cost, with TxDOT agreeing to reimburse the County 70 percent of the cost over a 10-year period. Advanced Transportation District sales tax revenue funded the remainder of the cost.

Additional funding for upgraded gas, electric and water utilities came from the San Antonio Water System, BexarMet and CPS Energy.