

## Webber completes IH-35 Waco construction project five months ahead of schedule

- Largest construction project led by TxDOT when awarded
- Largest hard-bid project in Webber's history

**Waco, TX Nov. 10, 2022** – Webber, along with representatives from TxDOT, the cities of Waco and Bellmead, McLennan County and Baylor University, celebrated substantial completion of the **IH-35 Waco construction** project with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Nov. 9.

Event speakers included Texas Transportation Commission Chairman J. Bruce Bugg, Jr., Waco Mayor Dillon Meek, McLennan County Judge Scott Felton, Baylor University President Linda Livingstone, Ph.D., Regional Director Jeff Williford of U.S. Senator John Cornyn's office, and Webber Area Manager Paloma Fernandez Ruiz.

TxDOT awarded the **\$341.2** million hard-bid project to Webber in 2018. The project will reach substantial completion five months ahead of schedule, thanks to strategic planning, value engineering and continuous improvements to the traffic control plan, built-in incentives and TxDOT's flexibility in the build process. Webber's construction team completed two major milestones ahead of schedule, one in 2021 and the other in August, which helped push up the construction schedule despite the height of the pandemic occurring a year into the project.

"The most challenging aspect of this project was the coordination of all moving parts to align with the same goal," said Area Manager Paloma Fernandez, who has overseen the project since the beginning. "About 200 Webber employees and another 300 workers from more than 25 subcontractors were involved in the different construction phases."

Webber began construction on the Waco portion of the corridor known as Main Street Texas (4B Section of the IH-35 Construction Project, also referred to as My35 Waco Project) in April 2019. The contract included widening and reconstructing 6.7 miles of IH 35 from Craven Road to 12th Street, a section of which crosses over the Brazos River. Among the highlights of the project:

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- Construction of 22 bridges;
- Removal of the existing concrete main lanes in both directions, replacing them with four lanes of 15” continuously reinforced concrete pavement (north and southbound);
- Reconstruction of existing concrete frontage roads; and
- Installation of more than 132,000 linear feet of reinforced concrete box culverts and pipe, electrical, concrete flatwork, landscape, irrigation, and pavement markings throughout the corridor.

Due to the project’s location near the Baylor University campus, retail and residential areas, minimizing disruptions to the traveling public and local businesses was critical. Webber worked closely with TxDOT, Baylor University and community stakeholders through the IH-35 Steering Committee to accomplish construction as efficiently and safety as possible during the pandemic, and through the post-COVID lockdown transition, to provide effective access to business owners and residents.

“Since this project started, our team has worked strategically and diligently to create a plan that is adaptable for community demands when needed,” said Jose Carlos Esteban, President & CEO of Webber. “They brought the whole project team together to ensure the successful and timely completion of the project. We are proud of how our work and collaboration with all parties involved will stimulate the continued development of the IH-35 corridor, which is so vital to Waco.”

### **About Webber, LLC**

Founded in 1963, Webber is a leading construction company that specializes in heavy civil, waterworks, energy and infrastructure services and is dedicated to safely providing intelligent solutions to its clients and community. As a wholly owned subsidiary of Ferrovial S.A., an international company based in Madrid, Spain, Webber has access to a global network of skilled engineers, best-in-class technology and vast resources. Webber is headquartered in Houston, Texas, with regional offices in South, North and Central Texas, as well as in Fairfax, VA., Atlanta, GA., Florida and Canada.

For more information, please visit [www.webber.com](http://www.webber.com).