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Reporting Accurate and Objective Information Based on Facts, not Agenda-Setting Theories

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Corridor 69

Why so Secretive?

In the early '60s two unlikely friends escaped their environment by traveling across country using the iconic [Route 66](#). Each week the Ivy Leaguer and his orphan friend from Hell's Kitchen experienced new adventures. Maybe it was just the times or possibly the Corvette they drove that prompted the catch phrase 'get your kicks on Route 66'.

However, we are now in the midst of the largest road construction project for the 21st Century...**Corridor 69 (I-69)** which will connect three countries (Mexico, USA and Canada.) This is an extremely controversial project and appears to have a lot of secrecy surrounding it. Why?

Although an alliance was formed in 1993, the announcement received very little media coverage until 2001 when Texas Governor [Rick Perry](#) announced the \$145 billion project. Multi-lane highways and railroads called the Trans-Texas Corridor will connect the USA with Mexico and Canada. HB 3588 gave the Texas Department of Transportation the nod of approval to make Corridor 69 a reality. Originally the corridor was called the Nafta Superhighway.

Contrary to popular belief, the Nafta Superhighway is not one road, but sections of a "network of new highways" with the expansion of existing roads. [Nine States](#) (Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan) are included in the original proposed 1600 miles.

The benefits of Corridor 69 (I-69) serving as main arteries of transportation are:

- linking the economic centers for manufacturing and agriculture;
- job creations; Federal Highway Administration says 35,000 jobs will result [with every billion dollars invested](#) in federal highway projects.travel time reduction, thus a cost-saving for fuel consumption;
- increasing the infrastructure of roads, highways and bridges to [aid economic recovery](#);

The downside of Corridor 69 (I-69) is:

- the lack of transportation standardization within the trucking industry among the countries; [Homeland Security Website](#): "Laredo, where five international bridges span the Rio Grande and connect the United States and Mexico, is the southern border's busiest commercial port of entry."

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- not knowing if it's cost-effective because it's a long-term project;
- we may not see this within our lifetime, but chances are the next generation will;
- the lack of transportation standardization within the trucking industry among the countries;
- it will fuel the illegal immigration unsolved problems;
- and it will assist the illegal drug and human trafficking trade.
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According to Governor Perry, private contractors would partially build and finance Corridor 69 and would receive all generated toll funds.

What is the reality of networking Mexico, USA and Canada?

Suggested Additional Reading:

[Interstate 69 Texas](#)

TxDOT [Rescinds Notice of Intent](#) on TCC Studies

[Trans-Texas Corridor](#)

I-69 and the [Trans Texas Corridor](#)

U.S. DOT [Project Reviews](#)

Ministry of Transportation FAQ: [Canada Hwy I-69](#)

[Hwy 69 Action Plan 2005](#)

[FHWA](#) Freight Management and Operations