

## **First in U.S. Dutch-Style Unsignalized Intersection Installed at Texas A&M University with Solar Luminescent Green ‘Paint’ Bicycle Pathways**

*By partnering with companies to bring technologies and innovation to the forefront of the campus transportation ecosystem, Texas A&M and TTI desire to provide transportation solutions to enhance the quality of life for everyone on campus.*

College Station, TX ([PRWEB](#)) October 04, 2016 -- Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) and Texas A&M University Transportation Services completed construction on a first-of-its-kind non-signalized, Dutch-style intersection Oct. 3. The protected intersection includes bright green solar luminescent pavement markings used to delineate the bicycle pathways—also a first use in the United States. In this innovation, the illuminating green pavement marking keeps the pathways lit for the cyclists by storing solar energy during the day and emitting light during nighttime.

The Dutch Junction, which was developed in the Netherlands and refined in other locations, moves bicyclists in front of vehicles at the intersection, increasing the protection for cyclists. The key to its design is the islands at the intersection corners, which separate cars and cyclists turning right; they also move cyclists traveling straight into the view of automobiles and away from their blind spot.

“The marriage of the Dutch Junction design and explicit delineation of the bike lanes, with advanced materials that are highly visible both day and night, embody the concept behind the technology initiative—to enhance the safety and mobility options across the Texas A&M University campus. This is the first of many implementations and technology demonstrations planned over the next year,” said Robert Brydia, Senior Research Scientist, Texas A&M Transportation Institute.

The protected intersection with solar luminescent bike lanes is located at the corner of Bizzell and Ross Streets, an unsignalized on-campus crossing with high pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle volumes. With nearly 70,000 students, faculty and staff traveling to and from campus daily, the intersection will enhance the safe flow of vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian traffic in this area.

“We are excited to bring this kind of innovation and technology to the Texas A&M campus,” said Associate Vice President Peter Lange, Transportation Services. “We are confident the protected intersection will provide an added level of safety for bicyclists and drivers traveling in this area on campus.”

This most recent project is another step taken by the university to ensure the safety of bicyclists on campus. In the fall of 2015, Texas A&M gained recognition for its overall effort to create a more bike-friendly environment (community) by garnering the prestigious Bike Friendly University designation.

“This is an excellent example of opportunities for real-world, high-impact learning that we provide to our students,” said M. Katherine Banks, vice chancellor and dean of Texas A&M Engineering. “This innovative transportation approach is being deployed for the first time in the United States and our students will play a critical role in the implementation.”

The solar pavement markings are one of the first implementations under the Texas A&M Transportation Institute’s Campus Transportation Technology Initiative, which explores new technologies to advance campus transportation operations and future planning priorities. By partnering with companies to bring technologies and

innovation to the forefront of the campus transportation ecosystem, Texas A&M and TTI desire to provide transportation solutions to enhance the quality of life for everyone on campus. The goals of this initiative include greater mobility, improved safety, enhanced connectivity and more efficient services.

A key component of the [Campus Transportation Technology Initiative](#) is student involvement. More than 3,000 Texas A&M Engineering undergraduate students will use the implementation as a case study of a civil engineering design challenge. The students will have the opportunity to go through the intersection as a motorist, pedestrian, or bicyclist and answer a short survey about their opinions on the innovations in the intersection design and delineation.

Additionally, upperclassmen in a research methodology course at the Texas A&M College of Architecture's Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning will perform a class project on the effectiveness of the Dutch junction on intersection safety and mobility for cyclists and pedestrians.

#### About Texas A&M Transportation Institute

Texas A&M Transportation Institute develops solutions to the problems and challenges facing all modes of transportation. The Institute conducts over 700 research projects annually with over 200 sponsors at all levels of government and the private sector. In the laboratory and the classroom, TTI researchers help prepare students for transportation careers. Recognized as one of the premier higher education-affiliated transportation research agencies in the nation, TTI's research and development program has resulted in significant breakthroughs across all facets of the transportation system. TTI research is widely known as an excellent value with a proven impact of saving lives, time and resources.

#### About Texas A&M Transportation Services

Texas A&M Transportation Services is an empowered team of professionals dedicated to providing efficient, dynamic and innovative fleet, parking and transit services to the Texas A&M University community. Transportation Services supports the teaching, research and public service mission of Texas A&M University, with focus on customer service and communication.



**Contact Information**

**Michelle Canton**

Texas A&M Transportation Institute

<http://tti.tamu.edu>

+1 (979) 847-8724

**Rick Davenport**

Texas A&M Transportation Institute

<http://tti.tamu.edu>

(979) 862-3763

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