

The Big Dig, By Rick Reynolds

The Impact On Traffic

Earth Day 2021

What is the Big Dig?

The Big Dig was a project designed to help reduce the flow of traffic, and to help traffic congestion. The Big Dig's construction began in 1980's and was completed in 2007.



The problem Why the Big Dig?

The focus on the Big Dig was to reduce the flow of traffic and improve mobility. The Big Dig was also built to protect and improve the environment. It left urban renewal, green spaces, parks, and other accomplishments.

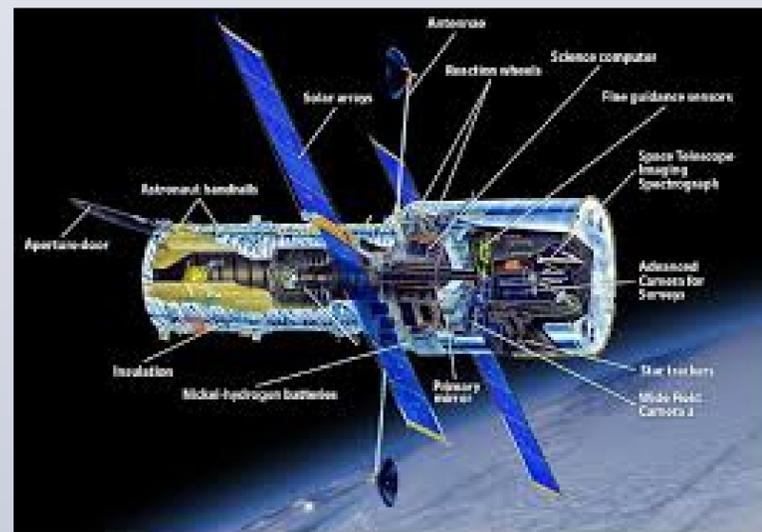
Quick Fact: The highway system going into Boston was congested for more than 10 hours a day, plus accident rates were 4 times the national average.



Did the project work?

The project was overall a success, it helped the process of cars moving faster

Many new parks and green spaces were created to help the environment



How expensive was the Big Dig?

The total cost of the Big Dig was about \$24.6 billion. It was considered one of the more expensive projects of the highway infrastructure in the U.S. There were other large projects that were less expensive:

- ❖ The Hubble Space Telescope- \$4.5 to \$6 billion
- ❖ Large Hadron Collider- \$6 billion
- ❖ Airbus A380- \$15 billion
- ❖ Eurotunnel's Channel Tunnel- \$21 billion

Engineering Marvels Of The Big Dig

The Big Dig was known not only for its costs, but its massive problems:

- The deepest underwater connection
- The usage of ground freezing
- The world's widest cable- stayed bridges
- The largest tunnel-ventilation system in the world



Facts about the Big Dig

- The Boston Big Dig was completed in December 31,2007
- The project was to be completed in 1998, but took longer to complete
- It took over 541,000 truckloads to move dirt
- The project placed 3.8 million cubic yards of concrete
- The project included 161 miles of highway and included 4 major highway interchanges in a 7.5 mile corridor

Works Cited

<https://projectcostsolutions.com/lessons-learned-about-the-big-dig/>

<https://interestingengineering.com/7-big-facts-about-the-big-dig>