

**MARCH 30, 2011 CTRMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Summary Sheet**

AGENDA ITEM # 11

Executive Director's Update – Presentation of the Executive Director's Report

Department: Administrative

Associated Costs: None

Board Action Required: No

Description of Matter:

The Executive Director's Report is attached for review and reference.

Contact for further information: Mike Heiligenstein



REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MARCH 30, 2011

MIKE HEILIGENSTEIN - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PRIORITY ISSUES



Manor Expressway Design/Build
CDA negotiations



Regional Mobility Authority
Legislation

ADMINISTRATION

UPDATE ON THE 82ND LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The 82nd Session of the Texas Legislature is well underway. Friday, March 11th marked the deadline for filing new bills. A total of 5,873 bills and resolutions were filed this session, including many of interest to the Mobility Authority. Filed legislation would extend the authority for Regional Mobility Authorities to enter into comprehensive development agreements for the design, construction and financing of projects. Senator Watson filed legislation that would provide the Mobility Authority with limited authority to utilize a public-private partnership for the MoPac Improvement Project and the Bergstrom Expressway.

Legislation clarifying the powers and duties of Regional Mobility Authorities and legislation expanding the purposes for which a transportation reinvestment zone may be used has already been voted favorably from the House Transportation Committee.

The Senate Transportation and Homeland Security Committee has voted out legislation that would ensure that Regional Mobility Authorities have primacy in the development of projects in their jurisdictions. The Mobility Authority continues to actively monitor these important legislative efforts.

OPERATIONS

CAMERON COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY

Staff continues to support the efforts of the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority in implementing their first project, SH 550. Our toll system integrator, Televent, installed their toll system, and our toll bill processor, MSB, continues to work with our communication and marketing consultant, Hahn, Texas, to implement the Pay by Mail program. SH 550, which opened to traffic on March 10th, is going through extensive system testing during the promotional period. CCRMA will begin collecting tolls May 10th.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

MANOR EXPRESSWAY PHASE 1

CONSTRUCTION

After setting the first bridge beams for the Manor Expressway interchange at US 183 on January 27th, Webber has focused its efforts on placing beams and forming bridge decks throughout the month of March. Webber also started concrete paving on the overpass ramps.

MANOR EXPRESSWAY PHASE 2

DESIGN/BUILD COMPREHENSIVE

DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

The Mobility Authority has entered into negotiations with Central Texas Mobility Constructors. Staff kicked off negotiations on March 3rd and completed a draft agreement on March 22nd. If approved by the Board this month, the agreement must also be approved by the Attorney General of Texas prior to execution.

RIGHT-OF-WAY

Right-of-way acquisition and negotiations with affected property owners continues for the Manor Expressway between US 183 and Parmer Lane. Only two outstanding parcels remain for Phase 1 of the Manor Expressway from US 183 to Chimney Hill Drive. The Mobility Authority has also acquired the three existing gas stations in this area. Building demolition and underground storage tank removal has been completed for one of the facilities and commenced for the other two. Appraisals for the majority of parcels for Phase 2 of the Manor Expressway from Chimney Hill Drive to Parmer Lane have been completed, and several offers have been made.

MoPac Improvement Project

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Staff met with representatives from Union Pacific Railroad to discuss the MoPac Improvement Project and the use of UPRR right of way to construct refuge bays in the median of the proposed express lanes on MoPac. UPRR representatives gained a better understanding of the project, and both entities were able to improve upon already good working relationships. Staff is also meeting with representatives of the major utilities along the corridor to reduce the number of utility relocations.

The Mobility Authority submitted a Letter of Interest to the TIFIA program requesting an \$82 million loan that would enhance the project funding package. While in Washington D.C. at the IBTTA Legislative Conference, Mike met one on one with TIFIA representatives.

CONTEXT SENSITIVE DESIGN COMMITTEE

The Mobility Authority, TxDOT and the City of Austin have invited the original aesthetics committee members and recruited some new members to re-initiate the Context Sensitive Design effort for the MoPac Improvement Project. These members include representatives from the Texas Historical Commission, MoNAC Neighborhood Association, Deep Eddy Neighborhood Association, Highland Park West Neighborhood Association, Old Enfield Neighborhood Association, Allendale Neighborhood Association, Northwest Austin Civic Association, Old West Austin Neighborhood Association, Brykerwoods Neighborhood

Association, Balcones West Neighborhood Association, Highland Park West Balconies Area Neighborhood Association and Austin State School. Using the original aesthetic committee's work as a guideline, the committee will help recommend design guidelines for items such as sound walls, bridge structures, retaining walls and landscaping. The first of three meetings was held on March 24th.

Staff is also working with the bike and pedestrian community on possible improvements to the City's bike and trail facilities along the MoPac corridor. Mike also met with representatives from Camp Mabry about the MoPac Improvement Project.

183A EXTENSION

CONSTRUCTION

Webber continues to make progress on the 183A Extension and has focused on placing bridge deck panels at New Hope Drive. Work continues on bridge structure construction, material excavation, drainage facility construction and retaining walls. In order to construct an overpass at Scottsdale Drive, Webber will be temporarily closing the Scottsdale Drive crossover to the Blockhouse Creek neighborhood sometime in the next 60 days. Work to complete the Scottsdale Bridge is expected to take about four months.

SHARED USE PATH

Construction of the 183A shared use path from South Brushy Creek to FM 1431 is 58% complete, and the path is on schedule to open this summer. Since the Mobility Authority received CAMPO funds for the development of this project, TxDOT recently conducted a project audit to review local implementation of the federal aid funds. The audit produced positive results.

Design of the South Brushy Creek Pedestrian Bridge that will connect the 183A Shared Use Path with Williamson County's Brushy Creek Trail is nearing completion. The Mobility Authority should receive design plans in early April, and construction is anticipated in Spring 2012.