



Central Texas Regional
Mobility Authority

AGENDA ITEM #18 SUMMARY

Executive Director's Update.
Presentation of Executive Director's Report.

Department: Administrative

Associated Costs: None

Funding Source: None

Board Action Required: No

Description of Matter:

The Executive Director's Report is attached for review and reference and includes the following:

- A. Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) update
- B. Update on future CTRMA transportation projects and proposals

Attached documentation for reference:

Executive Director's Report

Contact for further information:

Mike Heiligenstein, Executive Director



REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS JANUARY 25, 2012

MIKE HEILIGENSTEIN - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PRIORITY ISSUES



183A Phase II opening



Rider 42 Funding for MoPac
Express Lanes south

ADMINISTRATION

CAMPO UPDATE

During their January 9th meeting, the CAMPO Board elected Hays County Commissioner Will Conley as Board Chair and Travis County Commissioner Sarah Eckhart Vice Chair. Their one-year terms began immediately following the vote.

RIDER 42 FUNDING

RECOMMENDATIONS

On February 23rd, the Texas Transportation Commission will take action on the first wave of Rider 42 funding recommendations in preparation for a March/April bond issue. Rider 42 required the Texas Transportation Institute to identify the best way to allocate more than \$300 million to study improvements to the most congested urban roadways in Texas. The Austin region has \$31 million in Rider 42 funds available to support engineering, feasibility studies and right-of-way acquisition. Senator Kirk Watson lead a working group of local transportation leaders and entities to develop our region's priority projects. The Mobility Authority is anticipating receiving over \$16 million to complete the Express Lanes environmental study on MoPac south. This is in addition to the STP-MM funding we received from CAMPO in November to complete the 183 North Express Lanes environmental study.

I-35 EXPRESS LANES IN HAYS COUNTY

On December 15th, I met with Hays County Commissioner Will Conley and San Marcos City Manager Jim Nuse to discuss the possibility of improving mobility between Hays County and Austin by implementing Express Lanes. Discussions were very preliminary, and I will update the Board as information is available.

OPERATIONS

OPERATIONAL TESTING

Our General System Consultant, MSX, has completed their independent testing of Caseta's toll collection system. To be deemed successful, various components needed to have 99.9% accuracy or better. The final report concluded that in the toll lanes:

- Out of over 26,000 transactions, our automated vehicle classification (axle counting system) was 99.94% accurate, meaning that out of every 10,000 vehicles that use our lanes, the equipment identifies the correct number of axles 9,994 times out of 10,000.
- Out of over 9,000 transactions, our automated vehicle identification system (TxTag readers) correctly read every tag, achieving 100% accuracy.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

MANOR EXPRESSWAY

183 INTERCHANGE CONSTRUCTION

Construction progress was slowed throughout December due to weather and holidays. Crews

focused on completing the frontage road paving required to switch traffic to the east bound side of the project. The traffic switch will occur in February. This will allow for the closure and demolition of the existing westbound mainlanes and additional construction required in that area. Bridge construction also continues to advance. 79% of the bridge beams have been placed, and 47% of the bridge decks have been poured.

MANOR EXPRESSWAY

ROADWAY DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

Central Texas Mobility Constructors (CTMC) continues to focus on completing project design. Staff has reviewed, approved and released for construction the plans from US 183 to approximately Giles Road and is currently reviewing plans from Giles Road to west of SH 130. In terms of construction, crews have focused their efforts on the western end of the project to complete the interim work necessary to open the interchange. This includes earthwork, bridge foundation and drainage structure installation. The contractor continues to work toward a fall 2012 opening of the section between US 183 and Giles Road.

MO PAC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The MoPac Improvement Project environmental study remains on schedule. FHWA is reviewing the updated environmental document including revised design exceptions. If found satisfactory, the study will be available for public review, and a public hearing could be held as early as this spring.

Prior to the public hearing, the Mobility Authority is hosting two open houses to make sure everyone

who lives along the corridor or drives through it has an opportunity to ask questions and provide input before the public hearing. The Board is invited to attend either or both of the open houses, which are scheduled for:

Thursday, March 1, 2012 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
O. Henry Elementary School, Cafeteria
2610 West 10th Street
Austin, Texas 78703

Tuesday, March 6, 2012 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Jewish Community Association of Austin
7300 Hart Lane
Austin, TX 78731-2407

The project team continues its outreach with the neighboring communities, bicycle and pedestrian community and elected officials. In December, the Texas Transportation Institute held focus groups with drivers to determine the effectiveness of the proposed signing. Study results are expected this spring. The team is also working on plans for the toll system and associated intelligent transportation system that will be needed to successfully operate the Express Lanes.

183A EXTENSION

CONSTRUCTION

Webber continues to make progress on the 183A Extension focusing the majority of their efforts on mainlane roadway paving across the project. Crews have also been working on placing sign columns, installing electrical conduits, constructing gantries and finishing drainage facilities. The contractor has presented an updated schedule that shows the project not being completed early as originally anticipated. The project is expected to open in late April.