



**CENTRAL TEXAS
Regional Mobility Authority**

AGENDA ITEM #14 SUMMARY

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.

Attached documentation for reference:

Executive Director's Report

- A. Ridesharing Pilot Program.
- B. Disabled veterans toll exemptions.
- C. FHWA Environmental document for the MoPac Improvement Project.
- D. Action by the Texas Transportation Commission on the financial assistance agreement for the MoPac Improvement Project.

Contact for further information:

Mike Heiligenstein, Executive Director



REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUGUST 29, 2012

MIKE HEILIGENSTEIN - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PRIORITY ISSUES



183A Brushy Creek Pedestrian Bridge
Opening Mid September



Bergstrom Expressway
Open House Scheduled
September 18th

ADMINISTRATION

REGIONAL EXPRESS LANE WORKSHOP

The Mobility Authority is hosting a one-day, facilitated workshop for regional representatives and key stakeholders on how Express Lanes can be part of a regional solution to address Central Texas' mobility challenges.

With the introduction of this concept to Central Texas, the workshop will focus on the evolution of express lanes, issues and challenges and their use in Central Texas. We'll also hear from a panel of national experts who are utilizing them today in their communities. The workshop is being held Thursday, September 27th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Austin in the Foothills Ball Room.

OPERATIONS

183A VALUE PRICING

PILOT PROGRAM

The Mobility Authority, TxDOT, CAMPO and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute submitted a joint application to the US DOT's Value Pricing Pilot Program and we were awarded \$765,000 to develop a project titled "Real-time Ridesharing Technology to Support Differential Tolling by Occupancy." The program would use a mobile application to help link up people who want to carpool and then provide them with a toll discount for sharing a ride. The concept will be studied on 183A as part of the pilot program, and if successful, could be deployed on all Mobility Authority projects.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

MANOR EXPRESSWAY

US 183 INTERCHANGE PROJECT

Over the last month, the contractor finished placing the remaining steel girders and completed placement of all of the supporting concrete bridge beams and steel girders. Crews are now focused on finishing the remaining bridge decks and concrete work for the eastbound mainlanes and westbound bridge approaches.

Work completed this month allowed for the re-opening of the US 183 southbound entrance ramp, which was closed early in the project.

MANOR EXPRESSWAY

PHASE II PROJECT

In preparation for the completion of the US 183 Interchange Project, Central Texas Mobility Constructors (CTMC) has focused their efforts on completing construction of the eastbound mainlanes and westbound frontage road between the US 183 interchange and Springdale Road. CTMC completed construction of the eastbound frontage road between the US 183 interchange and Giles Road in late June, allowing for the traffic switch necessary to complete the first phase of the project. Construction efforts this month include subgrade preparation for pavement, retaining wall construction and bridge construction at Tuscany Way and Springdale Road. The interim construction work also includes the demolition of the old westbound

US 290 bridges to allow for construction of new, higher and wider bridges to accommodate the westbound US 290 frontage road.

The Public Involvement team met with the Chimney Hills subdivision homeowners association to discuss the proposed landscaping plan for the portion of Chimney Hills Boulevard being impacted by construction. The team also met with the Park Springs Neighborhood Association to discuss the overall Manor Expressway project and held a quarterly business owners roundtable meeting to discuss issues affecting businesses along the corridor.

MO PAC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The Federal Highway Administration issued a finding of “no significant impact” for the MoPac Improvement Project on August 23, 2012. The finding means TxDOT and the Mobility Authority kept our promise to complete the Environmental Assessment in just two years and it clears the way for construction to begin in 2013. Previously, the Board approved the following short list of potential Design/Build teams for the MoPac Improvement Project: DW/Sundt, Abrams/Lane and CH2M HILL. These teams have been reviewing and commenting on the draft Request for Detailed Proposals (RFDP) as well as preparing Alternative Technical Concepts for the project as a way to provide value and reduce costs. We anticipate issuing the official RFDP next month.

At their August 2nd meeting, the Austin City Council approved two interlocal agreements in support of the MoPac Improvement Project. This included \$100,000 in Proposition 1 funds to be allocated to the project as well as approval to use the City’s right-of-way along Great Northern Boulevard for proposed soundwalls.

183A EXTENSION

CONSTRUCTION

Final touches on the 183A Northern Extension continue. Current work includes miscellaneous concrete and hardscape activities, various punchlist items and landscaping. The Shared Use Path and

additional aesthetic enhancements are also being completed.

As approved by the Board at our July meeting, the speed limit on 183A was raised from 70 mph to 75 mph on August 9th. The limit was increased in response to a new state law that increased the maximum limit allowed on roads like 183A.

US 183 BERGSTROM EXPRESSWAY

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Work on the Bergstrom Expressway Environmental Study continues. The Public Involvement Team has begun advertising the first Open House on September 18th at the Delco Center and is finalizing materials. The team is also developing the context sensitive solutions process, continues to evaluate financing options and has submitted a TIFIA Loan Application. Staff is meet with local officials and various stakeholders to make them aware of the start of the study and the public involvement process.

US 290W/SH 71W ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

In preparation for the start of the environmental study in the Oak Hill area we are inviting a small group of community members to participate in a facilitated envisioning mobility workshop to discuss Oak Hill’s values and vision for mobility improvements in the area and to help us identify potential names for the project. The workshop will occur on August 29th from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at ACC’s Pinnacle Campus.

The information collected at this workshop will be used to develop a list of potential names intended to create a new, distinctive identity for the mobility improvements that will be considered and studied over the next several years. Following the workshop, we will share the list of possible names with the larger community and encourage everyone to vote on their favorite name via an online poll. Once a preferred name is identified we will be creating a web site, holding a press conference to