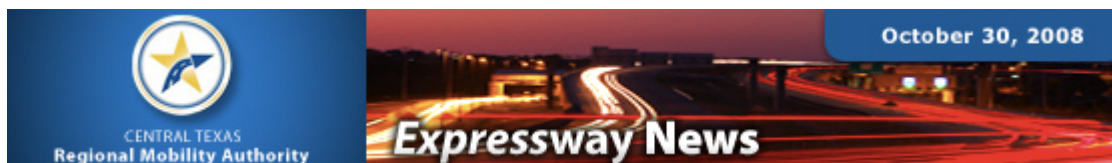


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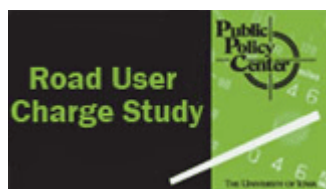
TxTag



Learn more, sign up or manage your account [here](#).

In the Spotlight

Central Texas Chosen as Site for Mileage-Based Road Financing Study



The University of Iowa Public Policy Center is conducting a national study to evaluate public response to the idea of replacing the gas tax with a system that would charge drivers based on the number of miles they drive. Experts have known for some time that the gas tax was becoming less reliable as a funding source for transportation. As a result, in 2005, Congress authorized the mileage based financing study that is now getting underway.

To facilitate the study, the University of Iowa selected Central Texas, San Diego, Baltimore, Boise, parts of North Carolina and Eastern Iowa to participate in the research.

[Click here](#) to find out more about the study and how you can volunteer to participate.

In Depth

Federal Transportation Trust Fund Bankrupt



This fall the Federal Highway Trust Fund

This Month's Feature

Mobility Authority Launches Scratch and Win Promotion

To help make drivers aware of the transition to all-electronic toll collection on December 1st, the Mobility Authority is launching a scratch and win promotion that will give Texans a chance to win up to \$100 in prepaid TxTag tolls.

During November, scratch and win tickets will be given to drivers who use the cash lanes at the 183A Park Street Main Toll Plaza. Tickets will also be available without purchase at the TxTag Customer Service Center and by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority, located at 301 Congress Avenue, Suite 650, Austin, TX 78701.



Tickets can also be obtained by attending one of two upcoming radio remote events:

Date: Saturday, November 1, 2008

Time: 11am-1pm

Location: Lowe's, 1495 Hwy 183 Leander, TX, 78641

Date: Saturday, November 15, 2008

Time: 11am - 1pm

Location: Circuit City, 1335 E. Whitestone Blvd., Cedar Park, TX 78613

The Contest begins November 1, 2008 and ends December 1, 2008 or when all tickets have been distributed. Prizes must be claimed no later than December 31, 2008. No purchase is necessary to win.

[Click here](#) for more information and a complete list of contest rules.

Latest News

183A Is Going Cashless December 1st!

Beginning December 1st, the Mobility Authority is shutting down its cash booths and going all-electronic. Cash will no longer be accepted as a form of payment on the 183A toll road. All customers will have the choice to either pay their tolls electronically using TxTag or to Pay-By-Mail. Pay-By-Mail

ran out of money and Congress had to pass an emergency funding bill to pay for projects that are already under construction. Money for the \$8 billion rescue package came from the General Fund, which increased this year's federal deficit. The rescue package was a temporary fix, and a long term solution for the problem still needs to be found.

[Click here](#) for to view a Washington Post Editorial on the issue.

Reminder

Pay-By-Mail on 183A

Tourists and drivers who prefer not to use TxTag can already pay their tolls using the convenient Pay-By-Mail option. There is no need for drivers to prepay or register. They simply use the toll road and wait for a bill to show up in the mail.

Pay-By-Mail customers are charged a slightly higher rate than TxTag customers and incur a \$1.00 convenience charge per bill. Each bill covers a 15 day period of toll road use. Customers have 30 days to pay their bill either in person, via check, online or over the phone. If the bill is not paid, additional fees are assessed, and the customer can, if necessary, be charged with a misdemeanor.



For more information about Pay-By-Mail tolling, [visit our Web site](#)

Quick Contact



Phone
(512) 996-9778

Fax
(512) 996-9784



Address
301 Congress Ave.
Suite 650
Austin, TX 78701

Email
info@ctrma.org

customers don't need to prepay or register. They simply use the toll road and wait for a bill to show up in the mail.



"85% of our customers are paying with TxTag. With such widespread adoption of electronic tolling, it no longer made sense to keep the cash booths open," said Mike Heiligenstein,

Executive Director of the Mobility Authority. "By going cashless, we can improve mobility and safety while eliminating needless idling that wastes fuel and increases vehicle emissions."

Both TxTag and Pay-By-Mail offer added convenience to drivers, eliminating the need to slow down or stop to pay their toll. In addition, the Mobility Authority expects the transition to save more than \$1 million annually on operating costs, which can be utilized for other priority projects, including the northern extension of 183A.

For more information about the transition to cashless tolling, [visit our Web site](#).

Mobility Authority Continues Effort to Bring More Roads to Central Texas

The Mobility Authority is making progress on plans to further improve mobility for the region. Recent actions by the Mobility Authority board include the authorization of design and engineering work on a northern extension of 183A and on the US 290 East (Manor Expressway). Together, the completion of these two projects will result in an investment of more than \$725 million in local transportation infrastructure. The Mobility Authority developed the first phase of 183A for \$238 million.

The approximately 4.5 mile, \$101 million 183A extension will run from FM 1431 north to at least FM 2243 and could be under construction by 2009.

"We are very pleased to be driving the early extension of the 183A toll road," said Mike Heiligenstein, Executive Director of the Mobility Authority. "Initially, the extension was not expected to be completed until 2017 but traffic on 183A has consistently exceeded projections since opening day. Customer demand for the extension and our commitment to customer service has made this project a priority for the Mobility Authority."



The Mobility Authority is also making progress on the \$624 million Manor Expressway, a 6.2-mile limited-access toll road, intended to alleviate congestion in the US 290 East corridor between US 183 and Parmer Lane. Construction is expected to begin by late 2009 and the new expressway could be open to traffic by 2013.

“Given the severe transportation financing limitations our nation is facing, we are proud to be able to make the investment needed to bring these critical projects to the region,” said Heiligenstein.

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