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Construction Updates

Information about construction activities and lane closures on the 183A Extension and Manor Expressway projects can be found online or by calling our projects hotlines.



Website: www.183A.com
Hotline: 512-688-3256



Website: www.ManorExpressway.com
Hotline: 512-688-3256

Quick Contact



Phone
(512) 996-9778

Mobility Authority News

Mobility Authority Launches Green Mobility Challenge



The Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority and the Texas Department of Transportation are looking for innovative ways to build, operate and maintain new highways in a more sustainable way. To reach that goal, the two agencies partnered to launch the Green Mobility Challenge, a design competition aimed at soliciting the best and brightest ideas from inventive industry professionals and students. Ideas and concepts generated from the challenge will be implemented on regional transportation projects developed by the Mobility Authority.

Professional and student teams submitted ideas for two of Central Texas' most sensitive highway projects, the Oak Hill Expressway (US 290 West/SH 71 West) and the Manchaca Expressway (SH 45 Southwest). Six teams representing 12 different companies competed in the finals event Tuesday, November 15 at the LCRA Redbud Center.



Green Mobility Challenge Event



Green Mobility Challenge Presentations

A team of 12 celebrity judges, including Federal Highway Administration Division Director Janice Brown, Austin City Council Member Chris Riley and Mobility Authority Board Chair Ray Wilkerson heard presentations



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from each team before awarding first-place prizes of \$15,000 each to AECOM and a team made up of LJA Engineering, Coleman & Associates, Blanton & Associates and Construction Eco Services.

AECOM was recognized for their innovative ideas on the Manchaca Expressway, which included building a contiguous park with a shared use path along the entire corridor, implementing state-of-the-art intersection design to eliminate traffic signals, using green shoulders and bio filtration to protect the Edwards Aquifer and building special roadway crossings to serve as wildlife corridors.



Green Mobility Challenge: Manchaca 1st Place Winner

The LJA Engineering Team was recognized for proposing to relocate, clean up and restore Williamson Creek, to develop a regional park and to make mobility improvements that support creation of a town center. The LJA Team plans to donate their \$15,000 prize check to the fire victims' fund in Oak Hill.



Green Mobility Challenge: Oak Hill 1st Place Winners

Other innovative ideas that emerged from the Green Mobility Challenge included using bridge structures to span sensitive aquifer recharge areas, installing solar panels on the roadway surface, implementing high-efficiency LED lighting and creating a contiguous park and shared use trail along Williamson Creek through Oak Hill. A student group suggested using reversible "zippered lanes" that would reduce the need for paved areas over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone. All reasonable and feasible ideas presented as part of the Green Mobility Challenge will be considered for implementation on future Mobility Authority projects.

Second-place awards of \$10,000 each went to a team made up of Klotz Associates, J. Robert Anderson Landscape Architects and ACI Consulting and to Jacobs Engineering. A student team with members from Texas A&M and Rice Universities was also recognized with a \$10,000 scholarship.



Green Mobility Challenge: Student Winners

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HERO Program Update

HERO Program Celebrates First Anniversary

The Mobility Authority's Highway Emergency Response Operator (HERO) Program, a free roadside assistance program that provides aid to stranded motorists, minimizes traffic congestion and improves highway safety along Interstate 35 in Central Texas, celebrated its one-year anniversary in September. The service helps move disabled vehicles on to the shoulder of the roadway, provides basic repair services and assists first responders at accident scenes. More than 5,000 people received assistance from the program in its first year of operation.

Police officers and motorists alike have been very supportive of the mobility benefits on the IH-35 Corridor as a result of the program. "HERO has assisted me on countless occasions," says Senior Austin Police Officer George D. Burbank. "With their help, I can safely clear a disabled vehicle from the roadway in a fraction of the time it used to take. The less time you spend dealing with a situation on the side of the road, the less chance there is of something bad happening."

HERO vehicles patrol a 31-mile stretch of IH-35 from the Hays/Travis County Line to US 79 in Round Rock from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

For more information about the HERO program, visit www.MobilityAuthority.com.

183A Update

Mobility Authority Opens First Phase of 183A Shared Use Path

On September 29th, walkers, joggers and cyclists got their first look at a new shared-use path along the 183A toll road in Cedar Park. The first 2.2-mile section of the path opened to users following an inaugural ride featuring local leaders and cycling enthusiasts.



183A Shared Use Path Inaugural Ride, September 29, 2011

This first phase of 10-foot wide, concrete shared-use path runs from South Brushy Creek to RM 1431. A second section from RM 1431 to Hero Way in Leander is expected to open in spring 2012.



183A Shared Use Path Inaugural Ride, September 29, 2011

The Mobility Authority has partnered with Williamson County, Cedar Park and TxDOT to build a bridge across South Brushy Creek to link the 183A path with the Brushy Creek Regional Trail. That bridge should be completed in late 2012.

The Mobility Authority is currently seeking funding to extend the trail north from Hero Way to the South San Gabriel River with a link to the Capital Metro Rail Station in Leander.

For more information go visit www.MobilityAuthority.com.

Construction of 183A is 75% Complete

Construction continues to progress on the 183A Northern Extension. Roadway paving has been occurring across the project, and construction of the bridges at Scottsdale Drive has been completed. The new bridges opened to traffic in late October. Crews continue to make progress on toll gantry foundation work, sign column construction and construction of drainage facilities across the project area. The project is on schedule to open next spring.

For more information about the 183A Northern Extension, visit www.183A.com.

Manor Expressway Update

Construction Continues on the Manor Expressway

Construction continues on the first phase of the Manor Expressway from US 183 to Chimney Hill Blvd. Construction crews have been working on completing columns, placing beams and pouring bridge decks. Phase one is scheduled to open in the fall of 2012.

Work on Phase II from Chimney Hill Blvd. to just east of Parmer Lane began this summer. Central Texas Mobility Constructors, the joint-venture design-build contractor, has been clearing the corridor so crews can relocate utilities, install drainage structures and begin bridge work. Phase II is scheduled to open in late 2014.

For more information about the Manor Expressway, visit www.ManorExpressway.com.

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