



**CENTRAL TEXAS
Regional Mobility Authority**

AGENDA ITEM #16 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.

- A. Project Status Updates.
- B. Filing 2012 personal financial statements required by state law.

Attached documentation for reference:

Executive Director's Report

Contact for further information:

Mike Heiligenstein, Executive Director



REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS JANUARY 30, 2013

MIKE HEILIGENSTEIN - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PRIORITY ISSUES



Manor Expressway Toll Collection
Begins January 5th



183A Shared Use Path Phase II
Now Open

ADMINISTRATION

CAMPO

The CAMPO Transportation Policy Board met on January 14th and discussed a resolution stressing the importance of IH 35 corridor improvements through the CAMPO region. The unanimously approved resolution supports TxDOT as the lead agency in the effort to implement multimodal corridor solutions.

OPERATIONS

HIGHWAY EMERGENCY RESPONSE

OPERATOR (HERO)

This month, the Highway Emergency Response Operator (HERO) motorist assistance program expanded to include a 55-mile section of IH 35 that runs from the City of Kyle (Yarrington Road) to the City of Georgetown (SH 130 North) and a 12-mile stretch of US 183 between IH-35 and Lakeline Boulevard. On January 15th, the Hays County Commission approved a resolution allowing the Mobility Authority to operate HERO in Hays County. HERO patrols from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The program is being paid for through a combination of federal and state funds, and it costs roughly \$2.3 million a year to provide the service. We received extensive media coverage.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

MANOR EXPRESSWAY

US 183/US 290 DIRECT CONNECTORS

The first phase of the Manor Expressway opened in December 2012 and extends 1.5 miles from

US 183 to east of Springdale Road and includes flyover ramps between the Manor Expressway and US 183. Drivers were invited to try the facility toll free throughout the month of December. Tolling began on January 5th.

MANOR EXPRESSWAY

PHASE II PROJECT

Central Texas Mobility Constructors (CTMC) made considerable progress throughout December completing the interim milestone and opening another stretch of the eastbound frontage road between Springdale Road and Giles Road. To accommodate construction, CTMC had to close a turnaround in that area. The temporary closure is an inconvenience to residents of the Chimney Hills neighborhood and the Rosemont Apartments. The project team is working with the residents to address concerns.

MO PAC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The Mobility Authority continues to move forward with project development in anticipation of construction. The shortlisted, proposing Design/Build Teams (DW/Sundt, Abrams/Lane and CH2M HILL) submitted their Technical and Price Proposals this month. These proposals are being reviewed by a technical committee. We anticipate making a recommendation to the Board at the February Board meeting.

TxDOT is currently reviewing the Project Development Agreement (PDA). The PDA

clarifies the Mobility Authority and TxDOT's roles for final design, construction, operations and maintenance. We expect the Texas Transportation Commission's approval this month.

Notice to Proceed (NTP) for design and construction can occur as soon as the Design/Build Contract is finalized and approved by TxDOT and the Federal Highway Administration. This approval is anticipated to occur sometime this spring.

Every three months for the next three years, TxDOT will disburse \$16.5 million from the \$197.6 million in project funds to the Mobility Authority to cover design, construction and oversight costs. The first disbursement was received in December.

Construction of the Express Lanes will be disruptive to both drivers and nearby residents. The Mobility Authority is working diligently to help make the construction process go as smoothly as possible. The Design/Build Contractor will be required to keep all existing lanes on MoPac open between 5:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. each weekday, and there are stiff financial penalties in place for any lane closure outside this time period. However, while mainlane closures are only permitted at night, there will be significant work during the day. Frontage road lanes, shoulders and some cross street lanes will be allowed to be closed at limited times during the day. To encourage the contractor to minimize lane and shoulder closures, there will be a lane rental program in place that charges the contractor every time a lane or shoulder is closed.

183A EXTENSION CONSTRUCTION

In January, the Mobility Authority opened the second phase of the 183A Shared Use Path. The \$3.1 million, 5-mile project extends along the west side of 183A from RM 1431 north to Hero Way and connects with phase one, a 2.3-mile section that opened in 2011 and runs from South Brushy Creek to RM 1431. Also, the Mobility Authority and the City of Leander have

completed a project to connect the sidewalks at the intersection of Crystal Falls Parkway and 183A to the Shared Use Path to improve the intersection for pedestrians and cyclists.

BERGSTROM EXPRESSWAY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Public involvement and environmental activities for the study continue. In anticipation of the next Open House, scheduled for March 7th, the team continues to move forward with developing Context Sensitive Solutions that build upon ideas developed previously, including concepts from the Green Mobility Challenge. The process is considering enhancements that highlight art, music, native landscaping and bike and pedestrian facilities, with the goal of beautifying the corridor, creating a more cohesive community and promoting the Bergstrom Expressway as a gateway to Austin. In addition to these outreach efforts, the team continues to support TxDOT with the development of the study.

OAK HILL PARKWAY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The Oak Hill Parkway Environmental Study continues to move forward. The project team compiled the comments and surveys from the first Open House on November 15th and prepared a summary that is available at OakHillParkway.com. In addition to the open houses, the Mobility Authority and TxDOT are hosting a series of facilitated working group meetings with Oak Hill community members who expressed an interest. These meetings will cover multiple topics including environmental issues, general design, bicycle and pedestrian elements and context sensitive solutions. The first of these working group meetings is scheduled for January 31st. The area's elected officials are being kept informed.

Information collected from these meetings will be used to develop various, alternative ways to improve mobility, while protecting the character of the area and its sensitive environmental features. Additional meetings will be scheduled throughout the year as needed. The next Open House is tentatively planned for this upcoming May.