GENERAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. 13-060

ACKNOWLEDGING THE NEED FOR COLLABORATION WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT), CAPITAL AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (CAMPO), CAPITAL METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (CMTA) AND OTHER REGIONAL PARTNERS TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR THE MOKAN CORRIDOR

WHEREAS, the Mobility Authority was created in 2002 to improve the transportation system in Williamson and Travis counties; and

WHEREAS, our mission is to implement innovative, multi-modal transportation solutions that reduce congestion and create choices that enhance quality of life and economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, "Project Connect" is currently undergoing the public/stakeholder outreach phase of the North and Central Corridor Studies which include the MOKAN right of way; and

WHEREAS, "Project Connect" is seeking input from participating agencies; and

WHEREAS, population in the CAMPO region is projected to more than double over the next 25 years; and

WHEREAS, Austin ranks fourth nationwide as the most congested metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, Interstate 35 (IH 35) is now the number one most congested corridor in the State (2013); and

WHEREAS, the Establishing Mobility Investment Priorities under TxDOT Rider 42: Modeling Long-Term Scenarios for IH 35 though Central Texas Report indicates that less than 1% of the region's trips are through trips; and

WHEREAS, through the last 25 years, right of way (ROW) has been acquired along the old MOKAN railroad route with scarce funding from several municipal and county entities in Williamson and Travis Counties and dedicated to TxDOT in hopes of developing another alternative for the IH 35 corridor; and,

WHEREAS, those same entities have seen unprecedented growth and increasing congestion throughout the region, especially within the north/south regional corridor; and,

WHEREAS, the purchased ROW continues to be encumbered by numerous encroachments and has become surrounded by nearby development, thereby, making it imperative that a study of the MOKAN corridor for this transportation alternative commence as soon as possible, led by the owner of the ROW (TxDOT) in collaboration with key transportation stakeholders, especially the public entities along the route that have contributed to the purchase of that ROW and/or border the ROW,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority Board of Directors requests that TxDOT initiate the necessary study of the MOKAN corridor for the purpose of developing the corridor as an alternative to the already congested IH 35. This study shall include input from various transportation agencies, in particular the CTRMA, CAMPO and CMTA, to determine what modes best fit the corridors opportunities. This study should include, but not be limited to, a "fatal flaws" study for such determination and recommendation.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority on the 2nd day of October, 2013.

Submitted and reviewed by:

Andy Martin

General Counsel for the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority Approved:

Ray A. Wilkerson

Chairman, Board of Directors Resolution Number 13-060

Date Passed: 10/2/2013