## CENTRAL TEXAS

## MEDIA ALERT

For Immediate Release:
March 6, 2015
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**Regional Mobility Authority** 

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## 183 North Open House Rescheduled for March 10 Express Lanes Alternative to be Presented for Public Review and Comment

(Austin, Texas) – The Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority and the Texas Department of Transportation will host an Open House meeting for the 183 North Mobility Project Environmental Study on Tuesday, March 10 at Westwood High School from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. At the Open House, the Express Lanes Alternative will be presented for public review and comment. The event was originally scheduled for March 5 and postponed as a result of Round Rock ISD winter weather closures. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

The project proposes the addition of two new high-speed, tolled Express Lanes in each direction, in the median of US 183 North between SH 45 North and MoPac to help provide a reliable route. Variable toll pricing is used to manage the amount of traffic and help maintain a constant speed in the Express Lanes by increasing the toll when traffic is heavy and lowering it when traffic is light. If approved, the improvements will be funded by drivers who choose to use the new Express Lanes through tolls. Express Lanes are always toll-free for public transit buses, registered vanpools and emergency vehicles. The same number of taxpayer-funded, non-tolled travel lanes that are available today will remain available, in accordance with state law.

The Express Lanes concept would also extend the fourth non-tolled general purpose lane through areas where only three exist now, and would include approximately \$5 million in enhancements to bicycle and pedestrian accommodations in the corridor.

Attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about the environmental study process, review and comment on the Express Lanes Alternative, and discuss the collaborative approach to transportation design and engineering known as Context Sensitive Solutions. Project staff and consultants will be available to answer questions. No formal presentation will be given, and attendees are invited to come and go at their convenience. To learn more about the project, visit www.183North.com.

For those unable to attend in-person, a Virtual Open House will be available at <a href="www.183North.com">www.183North.com</a>. It will provide the same information available during the Open House and visitors will have the opportunity to submit comments or questions. The Virtual Open House will be available from March 6 - 20, 2015.

WHAT: 183 North Mobility Project Open House

**WHO:** Mobility Authority and TxDOT officials, project planners and engineers

WHEN: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

WHERE: Westwood High School (cafeteria)

12400 Mellow Meadow Drive

Austin, Texas 78750

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