PRESS RELEASE



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Free Period Ending for Drivers on Manor Expressway

(**Austin, Texas**) – The free period will end for drivers of the new, 1.5-mile stretch of the Manor Expressway on January 5, 2013. The toll road, which is located in the median of US 290 northeast of downtown Austin, has been toll-free since opening in phases during December 2012.

"We wanted to give drivers a chance to try out and experience the new expressway over the holidays," says Ray Wilkerson, Chairman of the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority, which is building the Manor Expressway.

Eventually the Manor Expressway will extend 6.2 miles from US 183 to east of Parmer Lane in the City of Manor. Construction of the entire \$426 million toll road continues, and the full project is expected to open in 2014.

"We expedited the completion of this first section to allow drivers to bypass some heavily congested intersections at Tuscany Way and Springdale Road," says Wilkerson. "We are already getting positive feedback from motorists who appreciate the option of avoiding those intersections."

According to Wilkerson, even drivers who stay on US 290 and choose to go through the signalized intersections at Tuscany Drive and Springdale Road will benefit from the project.

"In addition to building the Manor Expressway, we are reconstructing US 290 and widening it from two lanes to three lanes," says Wilkerson. "With the added capacity of the Manor Expressway and the new lanes on US 290, delays at the traffic signals on US 290 should be greatly reduced."

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 with a TxTag will pay 50-cents to use the new expressway. Drivers who use the flyover bridges between US 183 and the Manor Expressway will be charged an additional 50-cents. There are no cash tollbooths on the Manor Expressway. Drivers without a TxTag will be sent a bill in the mail at slightly higher toll rates with an administrative billing fee. All drivers are encouraged to get a TxTag for their vehicle and enjoy lower rates with no administrative billing fees.

About the Mobility Authority

The Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority is a local, independent government agency created to improve the regional transportation system. Its mission is to implement innovative solutions that reduce congestion and create transportation choices that enhance quality of life and economic vitality. The Mobility Authority was the state's first Regional Mobility Authority, created in October 2002 to serve Travis and Williamson counties. The Mobility Authority operates the 183A toll road in Williamson County, is constructing the 6.2-mile Manor Expressway east of Austin and will begin an 11-mile Express Lane project on the MoPac Expressway in 2013. For more information about the Mobility Authority, visit www.MobilityAuthority.com.