



CENTRAL TEXAS  
Regional Mobility Authority

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Mobility Authority Partners with Williamson County to Enhance 183A Bicycle and Pedestrian Path; Project will Create Important Link to Regional Trail Network**

(Austin, Texas) – The Mobility Authority’s plans to construct a bicycle and pedestrian path along the 183A toll road took another step forward on Tuesday when the Williamson County Commissioners Court voted to approve a partnership with the agency to pursue funding for a bridge across South Brushy Creek to connect the existing Brushy Creek Regional Trail with the planned 183A shared use path. The resolution passed by Williamson County pledges their support for the Mobility Authority as it prepares to submit an application for federal funding from the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program.

Williamson County will be the local government sponsor of the application and will provide up to \$65,000 to help fund the project. The Mobility Authority Board of Directors is expected to consider a similar \$65,000 contribution at their December 18, 2009 meeting. In addition to a financing match for the project, the Mobility Authority will provide environmental, design and construction services. Other project partners include the Texas Department of Transportation and the cities of Austin and Cedar Park.

“This bridge and the partnerships behind it represent a huge win for mobility and quality of life for the citizens of our region,” said Mobility Authority Executive Director Mike Heiligenstein.

“This bridge and the planned 183A bike and pedestrian path will connect and extend the regional trail network, providing safe access and travel from residential areas to schools, employment, entertainment and shopping. We are excited to bring this project online and appreciate the support and participation of partners in helping make this a reality.”

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The planned 183A bicycle and pedestrian path is an integral component of a developing network of trails that provide connections between the communities of Cedar Park, Austin and Leander. Once completed, the 10.3-mile path will run from the north bank of South Brushy Creek and extend northward to the San Gabriel River. Construction on phase 1 of the project, from South Brushy Creek to FM 1431, should begin in spring 2010.

#### **About the Mobility Authority**

The Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority is a local, independent government agency created to improve the regional transportation system. Our mission is to implement innovative solutions that reduce congestion and create transportation choices that enhance quality of life and economic vitality. The Mobility Authority is the state's first Regional Mobility Authority, created in January 2003 to serve Travis and Williamson counties. The Mobility Authority currently operates the 183A toll road in Williamson County and is currently working to extend the 183A project and construct the US 290 East (Manor Expressway) project.

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