

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority For Immediate Release: December 3, 2007 Contact: Steve Pustelnyk 512-996-9778 (office) 512-680-9997 (cell)

## **Mobility Authority Cracking Down on Toll Cheats**

(Austin, Texas) – Beginning Monday, December 3, 2007 the Cedar Park Police Department will begin issuing toll violation citations to drivers who fail to pay a toll on the 183A toll road. The enforcement efforts will take place at the Park Street Main Toll Plaza and the Brushy Creek Ramp Plazas.

The toll plazas are equipped with sensors that detect when a vehicle does not pay a toll. Officers monitoring the toll road are alerted by lights that flash when a violation occurs. When an officer observes a driver violating, they pull the driver over and run the vehicle's license plate through the Mobility Authority's violation database. If the vehicle has four or more previous violations, a citation will be issued. The citations carry a fine of \$214.00. The Mobility Authority will receive \$25.00 from each paid citation to cover the cost of the enforcement program.

"Each day thousands of people drive 183A and obey the law by paying their toll," says Steve Pustelnyk, Director of Communications for the Mobility Authority. "Our customers expect that we are enforcing the law and making sure everyone pays their fair share."

The on-road enforcement effort is intended to target habitual violators and create a visual deterrence. The vast majority of 183A users pay their tolls. However, the Mobility Authority has identified more than 1,000 chronic violators who have not responded to previous violation enforcement efforts.

"Since the road opened we have taken a customer friendly approach, offering free and discounted periods and even issuing gentle reminders to occasional violators," says Pustelnyk. "But now that 183A has been opened for eight months and drivers have become accustomed to the road, we feel its time to let people know we are serious about enforcement."

(more)

## About the 183A Project

183A is an 11.6 mile, \$238 million toll road constructed by the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority, a government agency serving Travis and Williamson counties. The project was funded primarily through the sale of toll revenue bonds. The road, which runs from RM 620 at US 183 to US 183 at the South San Gabriel River, features highway speed all-electronic tolling, which allows drivers with a TxTag sticker to pay tolls without slowing down or stopping. A portion of 183A near Lakeline Mall Drive only accepts electronic payments, meaning customers are required to have a TxTag, Dallas TollTag or Houston EZ-Tag to use that portion of the roadway.

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