



News Release

Contact: Steve Pustelnyk
512.996.9778
www.ctrma.org

For Immediate Release:
March 9, 2005

Groundbreaking Ceremony Marks Beginning of Construction *183A to open to traffic in March 2007*

(Cedar Park, Texas) -- The Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority (CTRMA) Board of Directors has officially kicked off construction of the \$238 million 183A toll road project in Williamson County. The start of construction was celebrated with a ceremonial groundbreaking Wednesday, March 9, 2005, that attracted many state and local officials including Texas Transportation Commission Chairman Ric Williamson. The 11.6 mile 183A toll road will extend from RM 620 in North Austin and Cedar Park to US 183 north of Leander and will provide local residents with an attractive alternative to traffic choked US Highway 183.

"This long awaited project will do much more than just relieve serious traffic congestion problems. It will be an economic stimulus for Western Williamson County. 183A will be the economic backbone that ties Cedar Park, Leander and Liberty Hill together with new jobs, expanded commercial tax base and improved quality of life," stated CTRMA Chairman Bob Tesch.

"The CTRMA is pleased that through our tremendous partnership with TxDOT and using the tools made available by the legislature, the benefits of this project will be enjoyed by the community and the region almost five years earlier than would be possible using conventional methods," Tesch added.

From the beginning, the 183A project was a community driven project. Williamson County Commissioners first appeared before the Texas Transportation Commission in the mid 1980's to promote the project. In 2001, TxDOT received final approval for the project from Federal Highway Administration. The road officially became the first project of CTRMA in January 2003.

“183A will bring much needed congestion relief to this fast growing region,” said Mike Heiligenstein, CTRMA Executive Director.

The project is being designed and built by Hill Country Constructors (HCC) under a comprehensive development agreement (CDA) with the CTRMA. The terms of the CDA set both the cost of the project and the required time of completion.

About 183A

The 183A toll road will feature a state of the art electronic toll collection system that will allow customers to pay tolls at highway speed without the need to stop and wait at a toll plaza. Drivers who use the electronic toll collection system will also receive a discount. The tolls on 183A make possible the construction of the entire 11.6 miles.

For more information regarding the 183A project, visit www.183A.com or call the project hotline at (512) 485-183A.

###