



Central Texas Regional
Mobility Authority

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
January 31, 2006
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Mobility Authority to Test Toll Equipment for 183A *Temporary Test Site Being Installed on MoPac at Braker Lane*

(Austin, Texas) – Motorists traveling southbound on Mopac (Loop 1) may notice some new equipment overhead at the Braker Lane bridge starting today. The area is being used as a temporary location to test and calibrate electronic toll equipment that will eventually be moved to the new 183A toll road in western Williamson County.

Probe vehicles equipped with toll tags will make repeated trips through the test site over the next nine months. The vehicles will be equipped with a range of toll tags including those used in Dallas and Houston. The testing will insure the system developed here is highly reliable and will be fully interoperable with the rest of the state.

Other than some brief lane closures during overnight hours to install the equipment, the test should have little or no impact on traffic along Mopac. Caseta Technologies, the firm contracted to provide a comprehensive toll collection solution for the US 183A toll road, will be testing the electronic system from February through October.

“The 183A toll road will open in just one year,” said Mike Heiligenstein, Executive Director for the Mobility Authority. “This testing is a critical step in establishing the toll-collection process. This is proven technology; Caseta is simply fine-tuning the system so we can implement it quickly when 183A is ready and offer the best service possible to our future customers.”

The test equipment will be installed on the underside of the Braker Lane bridge that passes over southbound Mopac. Installation of the test equipment began Sunday, January 29th, and will continue through Thursday, February 16th. Construction crews will work nightly from 8 p.m. – 6 a.m. in order to reduce disruptions to traffic.

Once the testing is complete the equipment will be removed.

About 183A

Scheduled to open to traffic in March 2007, 183A is the first project to be financed and constructed by the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority. The 11.6-mile roadway extends from U.S. 183 at RM 620 to U. S. 183, north of Leander. The road will feature a state-of-the-art electronic toll collection system that will allow customers to drive continuously on the roadway without slowing down or stopping at toll plazas. The project is being designed and built by Hill Country Constructors under a comprehensive development agreement with the Mobility Authority. The existing US 183 will remain toll free.

About The Mobility Authority

The Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority (CTRMA) 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 CTRMA is the state's first Regional Mobility Authority, created in January 2003 to serve Travis and Williamson Counties. Texas RMAs were enabled by the Legislature as part of a package of initiatives to meet the state's various transportation needs in new, better, and more efficient ways.

WHAT:	Photo and Interview Opportunity
DATE:	Wednesday, February 1, 2006
WHEN:	9:00 a.m.
WHERE:	MoPac @ Braker Lane
INTERVIEWS:	Steve Pustelnyk, Director of Communications for the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority
MEDIA OPPS:	Photograph installation

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