



Executive Director's Report.

# CENTRAL TEXAS Regional Mobility Authority

Strategic Plan Relevance: Regional Mobility

Department: Executive

Contact: Mike Heiligenstein, Executive Director

Associated Costs: N/A

Funding Source: N/A

Action Requested: Briefing and Board Discussion Only

Summary:

Executive Director's Monthly Report

- A. Project Updates.
- B. San Gabriel signals.
- C. Park and Ride
- D. Mobility Transformation Advisory Council.

Backup provided: Executive Director's Report



# PROJECT UPDATES

#### **MoPac Improvement Project**



- CH2M construction resources have been maintained in size since last month.
- Drilled shaft foundation work for retaining walls and soundwalls is more than 60% complete. Approximately 15% of the soundwalls are in place.
- Construction activities related to the 42" City waterline relocation at Camp Hubbard and Camp Mabry are nearly complete. CH2M's current schedule shows a tie-in to the existing water system in February.
- Paving operations (except for the final driving surface) are nearly complete on the northern half of the project. The remaining paving operations are dependent on having consistently warmer, overnight temperatures because it is typically night work requiring major lane closures. Paving operations continue at specific locations on the south end to facilitate impending traffic shifts associated with the northbound undercrossing.
- A major traffic shift associated with the northbound undercrossing construction activities, including dropping one main lane for northbound MoPac across Enfield, is scheduled to take place in mid-February. This will allow more room to facilitate the excavation of the undercrossing. The traffic shift will not occur until the Mobility Authority authorizes the change.
- Discussions with TxDOT and FHWA are being held to receive federal approval of an additional 60 day time extension to the schedule in order to complete the partially-executed Change Orders.
- CH2M's schedule submitted with their latest draw request indicates a completion of the project in March of 2017. This schedule has not been accepted by the Mobility Authority.

- CH2M has formally submitted two claims. A
  formal Dispute Resolution Board (DRB) hearing
  for the claim associated with the 42" water line
  design delay is scheduled for February 11, 2016;
  a separate DRB hearing for the rock hardness
  claim is scheduled for March 2, 2016.
- CH2M continues to develop their cure response to the Notice of Default issuance by the Mobility Authority; the cure period ends on February 1, 2016.

### **183 North Mobility Project**

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- The draft Public Hearing Summary and Response report was submitted to TxDOT for review on December 18, 2015.
- The complete list of public hearing comments was posted to the project website on December 18, 2015.
- The 100% schematic design is pending resolution of design exception comments and signage updates; review and approval of design exceptions is being coordinated with TxDOT.
- A CAMPO 2040 Plan amendment has been proposed to revise the 183 North project description to include an extension of the fourth general lane and revise the total project cost to \$650 million. The plan amendment will be an action item at the February Transportation Policy Board meeting.
- The Mobility Authority, TxDOT, and the project team continue to meet regularly with City of Austin and other stakeholders to provide status updates. Opportunities for transit expansion are currently being evaluated and coordinated with Capital Metro. A technical meeting with Bicycle Advisory Council is planned for February 17, 2016.

#### **MoPac South Environmental Study**



- A fourth Open House and concurrent Virtual Open House was held in November. Six operational configurations were presented. All materials shown are archived and available through the project website.
- The project team began the development of the Open House summary and comment/response report. Public comments were potsed to the project website on January 7, 2015.
- The project team is working to develop evaluation criteria by which to determine a preferred alternative from the six operational configurations shown at the November 10, 2015 Open House.
- The Technical Work Group and the public will be engaged as this preferred alternative is identified and shared.

## **MoPac Intersections Environmental Study**

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 An environmental decision was received from TxDOT on December 22, 2015. TxDOT will now assume responsibility for final design and construction.

### SH 45SW Environmental Study



- The designer is currently addressing comments to the 90% design plans from the Mobility Authority and TxDOT.
- The design team included refinements which would reduce environmental impacts and improve safety. These design refinements required a reevaluation of the environmental impacts in the area of the changes. The areas of

- reevaluation were presented to the public in a virtual open house and at two community meetings. Official comments were received from August  $14^{th} 21^{st}$ , 2015. The reevaluation documents are currently at TxDOT ENV for review and determination.
- The Mobility Authority, TxDOT, and the design team continue to meet regularly with BSEACD, City of Austin, and Travis County to provide a status update and receive input on the design approach. There have been fifteen coordination or working meetings to date.
- The development of construction plans is anticipated to be complete in January 2016.
   Letting for construction is anticipated in April 2016, pending final TTC funding approval.

#### **183 South Project**



- Colorado River Constructors (CRC), Flour / Balfour Beatty, our design/build contractor for the 183 South Project, received NTP 1 on September 10 which allows design to commence. Design activities have begun and preliminary design submittals started to arrive in late October.
- NTP2 was issued to CRC on November 30, 2015.
   This permits the contractor to move forward on construction related activities. Active construction is anticipated to launch in late spring 2016.
- A facilitated Executive Partnering Session was held on December 8, 2015. A follow-up Design Leads Partnering Session was held on January 7, 2016. These Partnering Session have been very effective in strengthening the overall team communications and relationships.
- Weekly Technical Working Group (TWGs)
   Meetings are held between the oversight team

- and CRC to successfully work through many of the design, right-of-way and utility challenges on this project.
- CRC is completing submittals for their 30%
   Design plans. Approximately 75% of the 30%
   design process is completed as CRC continues to
   work on plan development for the upcoming
   65% plan submittal phase. The oversight team
   continues to review and provide comments for
   each of these submittals.
- CRC continues to submit required deliverables for their approaches in both design and construction. The oversight team reviews and comments on these plans as they are made available.
- The 183 South Community Relations Program
   Plan was drafted during the reporting period.
- The community relations team also met with CRC regarding their involvement in the overall community relations program on December 2, 2015. CRC's major role in the program is to manage the telephone hotline and provide construction activity information.
- Staff has completed scoping and negotiation efforts to contract firms for Construction Inspection, Survey, and Materials Acceptance Testing. These contracts were executed and Notice to Proceeds issued in late December/early January. These consultants will begin to be integrated into the oversight team in January 2016.
- Project Funding activities were completed on November 18, 2015.
- The team updated the Initial Finance Plan based on TIFIA participation and received concurrence and approval by TxDOT and FHWA.
- Federal Project Authorization and Agreements (FPAA) were issued on November 30, 2015.
- CRC is completing submittals for their 30%
   Design plans. Approximately 75% of the 30%
   design process is completed as CRC continues to

- work on plan development for the upcoming 65% plan submittal phase.
- ROW Acquisition continues in efforts to complete acquisition prior to the March 8, 2016 deadline specified in the D/B contract.
- Utility coordination remains a key function of schedule success as CRC is working with 15 different utility companies in securing the necessary agreements for relocations.

### Kellam Road, Phase I Project



Kellam Rd. open to traffic

- Replacement of plantings in the ponds after flooding and dead trees was completed.
- Signal construction on Pearce was completed in January and will undergo a 30-day test period once Austin Energy installs the transformer.
- Flooding damage to slopes on the south end of the project were repaired.
- Final surveying of ponds is underway to determine conformance to plans. Some re-work to ponds will be required as part of final punch list.

## 290 East Toll (Manor Expressway) Phase II



 CTMC is finalizing the non-conflict utility relocations required by the project to obtain Final Acceptance. Anticipated completion early February.

- CTMC is submitting final documentation to achieve Final Acceptance.
- A Dispute Resolution Board hearing has been scheduled for February 23rd to resolve the drainage claim issue raised by CTMC.

## 290 East Toll Interim Intersection project

- The 290 East Toll/SH 130 Operational Interim Improvements was posted for letting on November 3. The bid opening was held December 11; we received two bids. The selected bidder will be announced for board approval at the January 2016 board meeting. Construction should begin in March. We anticipate that the interim improvements could be open to traffic as early as summer 2016.
- Ultimately, when funding is identified, the Mobility Authority anticipates constructing up to three direct connector bridges between the SH 130 and 290 Toll facilities. These bridges will give drivers a free-flowing direct connection and free up mobility on the frontage road intersection underneath the toll facilities. We advertised for a Design Firm on November 13, held a pre-proposal meeting December 7, and received nine (9) statements of qualifications on January 12. We anticipate awarding a contract at the March 2016 Board Meeting.

#### Oak Hill Parkway Project



- Efforts with TxDOT and the City of Austin continue for potential off-site water detention facilities.
- The design level schematics for both Alternatives A and C have been refined as a result of continued stakeholder outreach and public comment from the sixth open house and are ready for the detailed analysis phase of the NEPA process.
- The environmental study team has begun the robust analysis of Alternatives A, C, and the No

- Build Alternative against the phase three evaluation criteria. The results of this analysis will indicate the preferred alternative. We anticipate the evaluation results as well as the full Draft Environmental Impact Statement being made available for public review and comment in 2017.
- The public involvement team will continue to work with the community during 2016 on landscaping, tree re-location possibilities, context sensitive design of structures, Williamson Creek enhancements, funding, and noise. A public hearing is anticipated to be held in the first quarter of 2017.

#### SH 71 Toll Lanes



- Coordination meetings between McCarthy and the Toll Integrator continue.
- McCarthy has completed the Design Phase.
- Earthwork activities at the SH 130 interchange continue.
- SH 71 bridge deck work over SH 130 has been completed and rail work has begun.
- The Onion Creek Bridge deck was completed.
- Work on walls near Presidential and Spirit of Texas is ongoing.
- Utility adjustments are complete.
- Traffic switch for northbound FM 973 to the new route was completed
- Next traffic switch will be for the eastbound frontage road near FM 973 planned in the next month.
- Emphasis is to complete the FM 973 interchange; some of the drill shafts have been completed.