



CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL  
**MOBILITY AUTHORITY**

November 20, 2019  
**AGENDA ITEM #19**

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Executive Director Board Report

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

Executive Director Board Report:

- A. Workforce update
- B. Funding Park & Ride facilities as part of Mobility Authority toll projects

Backup Provided: Presentation

## **Park and Ride Discussion Summary**

### **Legislative Authority**

The Mobility Authority is authorized under Section 370 of the Texas Transportation Code (with certain limitations) to implement a wide range of transportation projects; some of which include an intermodal hub, a transit system, a parking area/structure or facility.

### **Situational Analysis**

With urban roadway corridors heavily congested and high housing prices forcing many new residents to reside far from their places of employment, demand is growing for alternative ways to travel across the region. The Mobility Authority has been addressing the challenge by constructing new toll roads further into the suburbs and adding tolled express lanes on heavily congested corridors closer to the urban core. As the population continues to grow and traffic increases, the cost of using Express Lanes is expected to go up, increasing demand and need for alternatives such as Express Bus service.

### **Reasoning for Park and Ride Involvement**

The region's public transit providers have limited funding and cannot afford to construct all of the park and ride facilities that will be needed in the region. Converting Express Lane users to Express Bus Riders benefits the community by increasing the capacity of the Express Lanes and reducing the cost to use them. Providing an alternative to Express Lanes and tolls roads helps address environmental justice issues associated with tolling.

Likewise, there is synergy in coordinating the design and location of park and ride facilities in conjunction with the development of toll road projects. Therefore, the Mobility Authority has begun the process of engaging more actively in the park and ride discussion and is looking to take a more active role in developing, funding, and constructing park and ride facilities.

### **Park and Ride Involvement to Date**

- In 2016, the Board approved a Memorandum of Agreement with Capital Metro and Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization regarding development of a regional park and ride plan.
- In 2018, the Board approved a Strategic Plan that included several goals and strategies involving alternative modes of transportation.
- Under the Park and Ride Memorandum and in line with the strategic plan, the Mobility Authority conducted a comprehensive study of potential multi-modal/park and ride sites.

- In 2018, the Board was presented with initial findings for potential regional park and ride locations.
- July 2019, the Board was presented with six potential short term multi-modal/park and ride locations.
- October 2019 Workshop, the Board had an in-depth discussion about potential involvement in public transit and multi-modal facilities during an October 2019 workshop. Staff was directed to develop draft implementation agreements including Mobility Authority funding participation for Board consideration.

### **Recommendation for Enhanced Integration of Park and Ride**

Based on the discussion at the Board Workshop, Staff plans to consider funding for potential multi-modal facilities such as park and ride facilities, as part of the financial plan for all future toll projects. And, Staff intends to recommend inclusion of such multi-modal projects, where feasible. Staff is seeking Board discussion, to confirm that Staff correctly understands the Board's intent, regarding the inclusion of funding for these facilities, as part of the project financing, design and construction process.

# Existing and Proposed Park and Ride Locations

11/07/2019

