

## August 28, 2024 AGENDA ITEM #7

Approve the maximum speed limit on SH 71 Toll and corresponding amendments to Mobility Authority Policy Code §301.015

Strategic Plan Relevance: Stewardship

Department: Engineering

Contact: Mike Sexton, Director of Engineering

Associated Costs: N/A

Funding Source: N/A

Action Requested: Consider and act on draft resolution

#### Previous Actions & Brief History of the Program/Project:

Section 301.014 of the Policy Code requires that guidelines established by Texas Department of Transportation Procedures for Establishing Speed Zones, current edition, will be used in conducting Speed Zone Studies and establishing Speed Limits on authority operated toll roads. The data collected during the Speed Zone Studies are analyzed to determine the 85th Percentile Speed. The 85th Percentile Speed is the speed at which 85% of the traffic at a specific test site is traveling at or slower. The 85th Percentile Speed will be the basis for how the posted speed limit is determined.

Currently, the Policy Code does not specify the maximum speed on SH 71 Toll. Staff had a speed zone study performed for the toll lanes which confirmed the existing posted speed limit of 65 miles per hour. Separately staff reviewed Section 301.015 of the Policy Code and determined there is repetitive language for each Mobility Authority facilities that could be streamlined.

Financing: N/A

#### **Action requested/Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that the Board designate a maximum speed of 65 miles per hour for SH 71 Toll. Staff further recommends that Section 301.015 of the Policy Code be modified as proposed in the Board backup by consolidating the speed limits for each

facility into a tabular format.

**Backup provided**: Draft resolution

Proposed Policy Code revisions for Section 301.015

# GENERAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 24-0XX**

### APPROVING MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS FOR SH 71 TOLL AND RELATED AMENDMENTS TO MOBILITY AUTHORITY POLICY CODE SECTION 301.015

WHEREAS, Chapter 370 of the Transportation Code and other applicable law authorizes the Board to establish speed limits on Mobility Authority roadways; and

WHEREAS, Section 301.014 of the Policy Code provides guidelines for establishing speed limits on Mobility Authority roadways; and

WHEREAS, Section 301.015 of the Mobility Authority Policy Code publishes the speed limits for certain Mobility Authority toll facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed and considered the "SH 71 Toll Speed Limit Study" dated November 15, 2023, prepared by AtkinsRéalis USA, Inc. and on file in the Mobility Authority office; and

WHEREAS, based on the SH 71 Toll Speed Limit Study, the Board finds that a maximum speed limit of 65 miles per hour is a safe and reasonable speed for those who travel on SH 71 Toll, and that it is in the best interest of the Mobility Authority and those who travel on SH 71 Toll to establish a maximum speed limit of 65 miles per hour; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board accepts the SH 71 Toll Speed Limit Study and hereby approves the recommended maximum speed limit of 65 miles per hour on SH 71 Toll, as set forth in the SH 71 Toll Speed Limit Study; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby amends Section 301.015 of the Mobility Authority Policy Code to promulgate a maximum speed limit for the SH 71 Toll and make other clarifying edits to Section 301.015 of the Mobility Authority Policy Code as set forth in Exhibit A hereto.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of August 2024.

Submitted and reviewed by:	Approved:	
James M. Bass	Robert W. Jenkins, Jr.	
Executive Director	Chairman Board of Directors	

## Exhibit A

## MOBILITY AUTHORITY POLICY CODE

## 301.015 Speed Limits for Specific Roadways

The maximum and minimum, as applicable, speed limits for motor vehicles is specified in the table below. The limits shown are applicable except within construction, transitional, or reduced speed zones, or during any period of adverse atmospheric or weather conditions.

Roadway	Maximum Speed Limit	Minimum Speed Limit
183A Toll	75mph	n/a
183A Frontage Road	60mph	n/a
290 Toll	75mph	n/a
Mopac Express Lane	70mph	55mph
45SW Toll	70mph	n/a
183 Toll	75mph	n/a
SH 71 Toll Lane	65mph	n/a

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a lesser transition maximum speed limit may be displayed to incrementally increase or decrease speeds for a motor vehicle as they enter or exit a main toll lane to an adjacent facility of differing maximum speed limit.

## MOBILITY AUTHORITY POLICY CODE

## 301.015 Speed Limits for Specific Roadways

(a) The maximum and minimum, as applicable, speed limits of a for motor vehicles is specified in the table below 301.015. on the main tolled lanes of the 183A Turnpike is limited to 75 miles per hour The limits shown are applicable except within construction, transitional, or reduced speed zones, or during any period of adverse atmospheric or weather conditions.

Roadway	Maximum Speed Limit	Minimum Speed Limit
183A Toll	<u>75mph</u>	<u>n/a</u>
183A Frontage Road	<u>60mph</u>	<u>n/a</u>
290 Toll	<u>75mph</u>	<u>n/a</u>
Mopac Express Lane	70mph	55mph
45SW Toll	70mph	<u>n/a</u>
183 Toll	<u>75mph</u>	<u>n/a</u>
SH 71 Toll Lane	65mph	n/a

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a lesser transition maximum speed limit may be displayed to incrementally increase or decrease speeds for a motor vehicle as they enter or exit a main toll lane to an adjacent facility of differing maximum speed limit.

<sup>(</sup>b) The maximum speed of a motor vehicle on the main toll lanes of the 290 Toll is limited to 75 miles per hour except within construction, transitional, or reduced speed zones, or during any period of adverse atmospheric or weather conditions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a lesser transition maximum speed limit for a motor vehicle that is entering or exiting a main toll lane of the 290 Toll is established as identified on the strip map attached

### MOBILITY AUTHORITY POLICY CODE

as Appendix C to the September 8, 2014, Speed Zone Study, on file in the Mobility Authority offices.

- (c) The maximum speed of a motor vehicle on the MoPac Express Lanes is limited to 70 miles per hour except within construction, transitional, or reduced speed zones, or during any period of adverse atmospheric or weather conditions. The minimum speed of a motor vehicle on the MoPac Express Lanes is limited to 55 miles per hour except within construction, transitional, or reduced speed zones, or during any period of adverse atmospheric or weather conditions.
- (d) The maximum speed of a motor vehicle on the on the main toll lanes of the 45SW Toll is limited to 70 miles per hour except within construction, transitional, or reduced speed zones, or during any period of adverse atmospheric or weather conditions.
- (e) The maximum speed of a motor vehicle on the on the main toll lanes of the 183 Toll is limited to 75 miles per hour except within construction, transitional, or reduced speed zones, or during any period of adverse atmospheric or weather conditions.
- a. (d) The maximum speed of a motor vehicle on the on the main toll lanes of the SH 71

  Toll is limited to 75 miles per hour except within construction, transitional, or reduced speed zones, or during any period of adverse atmospheric or weather conditions.