# AGENDA ITEM #5 SUMMARY



Executive Director's Update.
Presentation of Executive Director's Report.

Executive Director's Update - Presentation of the Executive Director's Report.

**Department: Administrative** 

**Associated Costs: None** 

**Funding Source: None** 

**Board Action Required: No** 

**Description of Matter:** 

The Executive Director's Report is attached for review and reference and includes the following:

- A. Green Mobility Challenge
- B. Project Updates
- C. 2011 Annual Report

Attached documentation for reference:

**Executive Director's Report** 

Contact for further information:

Mike Heiligenstein, Executive Director



# REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS **DECEMBER** 7, 2011

Mike Heiligenstein - Executive Director

# PRIORITY ISSUES



STP-MM Funding for Mobility Authority projects



**Revised Collections and Court** 

# **ADMINISTRATION**

#### 2012 STRATEGIC PLAN

Six years ago, the Mobility Authority drafted and published its first Strategic Plan as required by our governing statute. While adequate for our early history, it has become readily apparent that a new, more sophisticated document was needed. We are becoming a more defined agency, offering the region a solution for one of our most vexing problems, congestion. It is important that we have an integrated strategic plan that defines who we are moving forward. For a plan to be functional, it must represent the policy goals of the Board and provide operational direction to the staff. Last month the Board reviewed, evaluated and provided input on the draft plan that was developed by staff. The current draft plan states our core philosophy must include the following: integrity, accountability, credibility and innovation. The plan also proposes four strategic initiatives: economic vitality, regional mobility, sustainability and innovation. As represented in our core purpose statement, we must: "be the provider of high quality regional mobility services in Central Texas," and we hope this plan helps guide us there.

#### GREEN MOBILITY CHALLENGE

Six teams representing 12 different companies competed in the Green Mobility Challenge Presentations and Awards event Tuesday, November 15th at the LCRA Redbud Center. A team of 12 celebrity judges, including FHWA Division Director Janice Brown, TTI Executive Director Dennis Christensen, Austin City Council Member Chris Riley and our own Board Chair Ray Wilkerson heard presentations from each team before awarding a first place prize of \$15,000 for the Manchaca Expressway to AECOM. The first place prize for the Oak Hill Expressway went to a team consisting

of LJA Engineering, Coleman & Associates, Blanton & Associates and Construction Eco Services. The second place prize of \$10,000 was awarded to Jacobs Engineering for the Oak Hill Expressway and to a team made up of Klotz Associates, J. Robert Anderson Landscape Architects and ACI Consulting for the Manchaca Expressway. A student team with members from Texas A&M and Rice Universities participated in the student category and was also recognized with a \$10,000 scholarship. The shortlisted presentations and photos from the event will be available on GreenMobilityChallenge.com

# TOLL ROAD DELEGATION VISIT

A delegation made up of members from the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority, Tampa-Hillsbourough Expressway Authority and Georgia State Road and Tollway Authority recently visited the Mobility Authority to learn best practices relative to our back office processes and Pay By Mail program.

#### CAMPO UPDATE

The CAMPO Transportation Policy Board met on November 14th and took action on STP-MM funding applications. We submitted 4 project applications, and two of the projects – HERO and the 183 North Express Lanes environmental study – were approved as part of the regional projects group. The CAMPO Board agreed to allocate a pro rata share of the remaining STP-MM fund balance to each county. Since our other two projects – Loop 1 South Express Lanes environmental study (Travis) and the 183A Shared Use Path construction from Hero Way to the South San Gabriel River (Williamson) – are county specific, they could be funded if the those respective counties choose to prioritize them. Each counties' allocation decisions will be presented to the CAMPO Board and will require CAMPO Board approval at their December meeting.

### **OPERATIONS**

# UPDATE ON COLLECTIONS AND COURT

#### Processes

Beginning in September, we expanded our efforts to encourage payment of tolls by reducing the number of violations needed before entering the court process. By bringing these violators in to the court process earlier, we hope to resolve these cases more efficiently and at less expense to both the customer and the agency.

Some of our efforts include:

- . Beginning collection activities after 105 days of non-payment instead of 240
- . Randomly selecting court eligible customers from multiple levels of unpaid tolls
- . Mailing last chance letters by first class and certified mail
- . Filing one charge of failure to pay instead of three

# Project Development

#### MANOR EXPRESSWAY

### 183 Interchange Construction

Construction progressed on schedule throughout November. Crews focused on completing the frontage road paving required to switch traffic to the east bound side of the project in mid-December. This will allow for the closure and demolition of the existing westbound mainlanes and additional construction required in that area. Bridge construction also continues to advance. 70% of the bridge beams have been placed, and 38% of the bridge decks have been poured.

# Manor Expressway

## ROADWAY DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

Central Texas Mobility Constructors (CTMC) continues to focus on completing the design. Staff has reviewed and approved the 100% plans from US 183 to east of Arterial A and is currently reviewing 100% plans from east of Arterial A to west of SH 130.

100% of the right-of-way needed for construction has been acquired. In terms of construction, crews have focused their efforts on the western end of the project to complete the interim work necessary to open the interchange. This includes earthwork and embankment, bridge foundation and drainage structure installation.

# MoPac Improvement Project

## PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The MoPac Improvement Project environmental study remains on schedule. FHWA has completed its review of the updated environmental document including revised design exceptions and has found it satisfactory.

The project team continues its outreach with various neighboring communities as well as the bicycle and pedestrian community. The Texas Transportation Institute is reviewing signing plans and holding focus groups with drivers to determine the effectiveness of the proposed signing. The team is working to develop the toll system and associated intelligent transportation system infrastructure needs. The final phase of the public involvement program will begin early next year with a series of open house meetings followed by a public hearing. After that, the completed environmental document will be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration for final review.

# 183A EXTENSION

#### CONSTRUCTION

Webber continues to make progress on the 183A Extension focusing the majority of their efforts on the area around Scottsdale Drive where 183A is being constructed below grade, and a bridge has been built to link the northbound 183A frontage roads with Scottsdale Drive. That bridge and the connection to Scottsdale Drive opened to traffic on October 24th. Crews have also been working on mainlane roadway paving, placing concrete bridge railing, toll gantry foundation work, sign column construction and drainage facility construction. Toll system equipment housing was also delivered and is being installed.

# SCHEDULE OF OUTREACH ACTIVITIES FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIP MEETINGS

- · KXAN Town Hall Meeting
- · IBTTA Board of Director's Meeting
- · Texas Transportation Institute Advisory Council Meeting
- Central Texas Working Group meeting
- Green Mobility Challenge
- Mobility Investment Priorities (MIP)

# Presentations

- · Opportunity Austin Economic Development Presentation
- · Regional Transportation Meeting