



**CENTRAL TEXAS
Regional Mobility Authority**

AGENDA ITEM #14 SUMMARY

Executive Director's Report.

Strategic Plan Relevance: Regional Mobility

Department: Executive

Associated Costs: N/A

Funding Source: N/A

Board Action Required: No

Description of Matter:

Executive Director's Monthly report

- A. Project Updates
- B. Direct connect between SH 130 southbound to 290 East
- B. Update on MoPac Express Lanes education program
- C. Update on proceedings before the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
- D. Briefing on consideration of indirect and cumulative effects of proposed roadways in an environmental review of a transportation project

Reference: Executive Director's report

Contact: Mike Heiligenstein, Executive Director



PROJECT UPDATES

MoPac Improvement Project

◀◀ MOPAC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ▶▶

- Contractor is working to accelerate productivity by bringing on additional resources and assessing opportunities to expedite delivery of the Project.
- Boring activities for three large tunnels associated with drainage pipes for the undercrossings near downtown are complete. Work on the fourth and final tunnel is 60 % complete.



First span of 525-foot bike/ pedestrian bridge now in place over Union Pacific tracks southbound (April 9)

- Easements and environmental clearances have been obtained for the relocation of the City 42" waterline. Construction is scheduled to begin late April.
- Lane striping in the corridor is being evaluated on a weekly basis; no recent comments received from the public.
- Installation of sound wall columns and panels on the wall near 10th Street is near completion. Construction of other sound walls will follow.

183 North Mobility Project



- Technical Memoranda continues to be prepared for social, economic, and environmental impact evaluations.
- Technical Working Group meeting was held on Feb. 24.
- Open House #3 was held on March 10. Approximately 80 members of the public attended. The Express Lanes alternative was presented along with the additional corridor improvements that includes a consistent 4-lane section from McNeil to MoPac to address bottleneck conditions in the corridor, bike/pedestrian improvements identified, and Context Sensitive Solution alternatives were presented that allowed the public to convey their preference of landscaping, hardscape, water quality, bicycle/pedestrian connectivity and public art.
- More than 300 community members visited the Virtual Open House, which was available at www.183North.com through March 20.
- Project status meetings were held in April with the Austin Fire Department and Travis County EMS, Seton Northwest and the City of Cedar Park.
- 60 % Schematic Design scheduled for submittal and GEC review on April 15.
- Comments received from TxDOT on the Design Exception package are being addressed.
- Initial traffic analysis for operations and environmental evaluations is complete; refinement continues.
- Initial EA submittal is planned for early 2015 with Public Hearing planned for late 2015.

MoPac South Environmental Study



- There has been significant interest in this project since the Open House on February 26.
- The public Open House and the Virtual Open House, available on www.MoPacSouth.com between Feb. 26 and April 2, generated more than 330 comments during the official comment period. The team continues to receive and respond to comments from the website. Mobility Authority staff responded to 46 comments in March after the close of the Open House comment period.
- In response to community feedback for additional public involvement, the Mobility Authority is extending the environmental study process to allow for additional community input and engineering analysis on the project. The Mobility Authority will hold an additional Open House in August and a new schedule is being developed for the study's timeframe.
- Mobility Authority staff and consultants presented at several neighborhood meetings during the month of March, including the March 31 community meeting hosted by Travis County Commissioner Brigid Shea, Austin Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo, and AISD representatives. More than 300 community members attended.
- An online Context Sensitive Solutions survey was visited by 284 people who shared their preferences on several design considerations.
- Refinement of schematics and traffic models continues.

MoPac Intersections Environmental Study

- The draft of the environmental document was submitted to TxDOT in February 2015 and review comments are being addressed.
- The document will be available for public review this summer with a Public Hearing planned

approximately one month following release of the document.

- Stakeholder outreach and public communication will continue as the project approaches the target Public Hearing date.
- Once environmentally cleared, TxDOT will take over final design and construction of the project.

SH 45SW Environmental Study



- A Record of Decision on the Environmental Impact Statement was issued on March 4, allowing the project to move forward with design and construction.
- The Mobility Authority's Design Team completed the majority of fieldwork and is working on the 30% design plans. Remaining fieldwork includes geotechnical borings for pavement and bridge design and a design survey at FM 1626 to capture recently completed construction.
- Stakeholder meetings and Context Sensitive Solutions efforts will be initiated as the project design progresses.
- The development of construction plans is anticipated to take approximately six to eight months.

Bergstrom Expressway Project



- Atkins anticipates the Best Value Selection of a design/build contractor in May 2015. Construction should launch late 2015.
- The request for proposals from public involvement services providers launched on April 3, with proposals expected by April 24. The remaining procurements for construction

inspection, survey and materials testing teams will launch in May 2015.

- The team continues to meet with stakeholders as the project transitions from the environmental phase to construction.
- The website redesign process has launched. Unveiling of the construction-focused site is anticipated to launch July 2015.
- A baseline public opinion survey will be conducted in late April with report of findings to be complete in May or June.
- A traffic noise barrier workshop is anticipated to occur in summer 2015.
- Project programming activities continue as the team works to finalize project funding agreements with TxDOT and FHWA.
- The team has submitted to and received comments from FHWA on the Project Management Plan and the Initial Finance Plan in order to meet federal requirements. The team is addressing FHWA comments and will re-submit final versions.
- Financing activities continue as Atkins develops updates for the TIFIA Program, continues the Investment Grade Traffic & Revenue Study and completes an application for a SIB Loan request from TxDOT.
- ROW Acquisition and early utility coordination activities for items with long lead times continue.

Maha Loop/Elroy Road, Phase I Project



Maha Loop Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Dedication March 27

- A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held March 27. The road was open to traffic that same afternoon.
- Final grading of ponds is complete; placement of rock riprap, filtration material, and plantings are ongoing.
- Final signing and striping is complete.
- Placement of matting and seeding is ongoing for the east ditch.
- The change order to add turn lanes on SH 71 has been approved by Travis County and work is underway; the change order to add signals is under negotiation.

290 Toll (Manor Expressway)



- CTMC is finalizing the non-conflict utility relocations required by the project to obtain Final Acceptance.
- CTMC is submitting final documentation to achieve Final Acceptance.

Oak Hill Parkway Project



- Efforts with TxDOT and the City of Austin continue for potential regional detention facilities.
- The design level schematics for both concepts moving forward into the alternatives analysis phase continue to be refined as the engineering aspects are reviewed.
- The second CSS workshop was held April 7th, and the team continues to work towards

additional issue-specific workshops in advance of the summer Open House.

- Mobility Authority and TxDOT participated in the Keep Austin Beautiful event on April 11 to help clean Williamson Creek in the project area.
- A Value Engineering Study including agency stakeholders was held the week of April 13.
- The team continues to meet with stakeholders with concerns regarding regional water detention and ROW acquisition; this effort will continue for several months.

SH 71 Express



- Coordination meetings between McCarthy and the Toll Integrator continue.
- Atkins and Schneider Electric continue to review design submittals and attend comment resolution meetings.
- McCarthy continues to progress design activities from 60% to Final Design.
- Drilled shafts and caps are completed on the Onion Creek Bridge.
- Earthwork activities at the SH 130 interchange continue.
- McCarthy is currently installing drilled shafts for the bridge at SH 130.
- McCarthy has commenced construction of the joint communications trench.