



February 24, 2016  
AGENDA ITEM # 19

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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. Public Information Coordinator.

Backup provided: Executive Director's Report



# PROJECT UPDATES

## MoPac Improvement Project



- CH2M construction resources have maintained size since last month.
- Drilled shaft foundation work for retaining walls and soundwalls is nearly 70% complete. Approximately 19% 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 nearing completion on the northern half of the project. 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 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 extension to the schedule.
- CH2M's most recent schedule submitted indicates a completion of the project in November of 2016. This schedule has not yet been accepted by the Mobility Authority, and is contingent upon input from CH2M regarding cost and resources yet to be provided.

- CH2M formally submitted two claims. A formal Dispute Resolution Board (DRB) hearing for the claim associated with the 42" water line design delay was held on 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. At the request of CH2M, the cure period was extended to February 15, 2016.

## 183 North Mobility Project



- The project team is preparing the final Environmental Assessment for submittal to TxDOT, which includes the Public Hearing Summary and Response report.
- Compiled public hearing comments were 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.
- On February 8, 2016, the CAMPO Transportation Policy Board approved a 2040 Plan amendment that modifies the 183 North project description to include an extension of the fourth general purpose lane and revises the total project cost to \$650 million.
- 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.
- An environmental decision on the project is expected in spring 2016.

### MoPac South Environmental Study



- The MoPac South Technical Work Group (TWG) met on February 5, 2016. Mobility Authority and consultant staff shared progress on project developments including potential water quality initiatives, park and ride sites, and bicycle and pedestrian components.
- Draft evaluation criteria, developed by the project team, was reviewed with the TWG. Comments generated at the meeting are under evaluation for possible inclusion in final evaluation criteria.
- Work on technical memorandum for the Environmental Assessment continues as the project team works toward the identification of a configuration for the Express Lane(s) Alternative.

### MoPac Intersections Environmental Study

- 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 submitted final plans for concurrence by 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 14th – 21st, 2015. The team is addressing TxDOT’s comments on the reevaluation and will send to TxDOT for approval by February 12th, 2016.

- The Mobility Authority advertised for a Construction Engineering & Inspection consultant and will soon advertise for an Independent Environmental Compliance Management consultant. Letting for construction is anticipated in May 2016.

### 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, ROW and utility challenges on the project.
- CRC is completing submittals for their 30% Design plans. Approximately 90% of the 30% design process is completed as CRC is beginning to submit 65% plans. 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.
- ROW Acquisition continues in efforts to complete acquisition prior to the March 8, 2016 deadline specified in the D/B contract. Currently 10 of the 12 land acquisitions are complete and 5 of the 6 easements have been acquired.
- 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. Currently the contractor has reached agreements (MUAAs) with 4 utility companies. Work continues to develop and agree on an InterLocal Agreement (ILA) between City of Austin Water and Wastewater and the Mobility Authority.
- The community relations team worked to improve branding and other graphics as well as toward finalization of the overall outreach plan.
- Stakeholder outreach has continued. The project team presented project information to approximately 40 people in attendance at Councilwoman Ora Houston's Town Hall Meeting on January 16. Other meetings are being coordinated.
- Preparation efforts continue for a Groundbreaking Ceremony to be held in April 6, 2016.
- Regarding public engagement, we had 12 new sign-ups for construction alerts, 4 inquiries via the website, and 3 new twitter followers in January. We anticipate these numbers increasing as construction starts in earnest.

### **Kellam Road, Phase I Project**



*Kellam Rd. open to traffic*

- Signal construction on Pearce was completed in January and will undergo a 30-day test period once Austin Energy installs the transformer.
- Final surveying of ponds was completed. K. Friese prepared a report determining the non-conforming items to go on the final punch list.
- Meeting with County set to review and comment on report before delivering to contractor.

### **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 in early March.
- CTMC is submitting final documentation to achieve Final Acceptance.
- A Dispute Resolution Board is being scheduled for the April/May timeframe for the outstanding drainage issues.

### **290 East Toll Interim Intersection Project**

- An Advanced Funding Agreement for the Interim Improvements has been executed allowing access to TxDOT's right of way.
- A construction kick-off meeting was held February 19 to set a path forward.
- The 290 East Toll/SH 130 Operational Interim Improvements construction should begin in March. We anticipate the interim improvements could be open to traffic 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 ten (10) statements of qualifications on January 12. Shortlist interviews were held February 18. 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. A public hearing is anticipated to be held in the first quarter of 2017.
- Stakeholder outreach has continued. The City of Dripping Springs invited the project team for a stakeholder meeting on February 2 for residents to learn more about the project; 30 members of the public attended.
- The project team continues to work on the draft October 29 Open House Summary and Comment/Response Report; this effort is being led by TxDOT.

## SH 71 Toll Lanes



- Coordination meetings between McCarthy and the Toll Integrator continue with a focus on construction now that the design is complete.
- The headers at the SH 130 interchange were completed and riprap was poured.
- SH 71 bridge deck work over SH 130 has been completed and rail work has begun; the bridge decks are being checked for ride quality with mitigation measures where necessary.

- Work on walls near Presidential and Spirit of Texas is ongoing.
- Eastbound frontage road near FM 973 was completed to final base grade. Once hot mix is complete, traffic will be switched to the new eastbound frontage road; the temporary traffic signal at FM 973 and the new eastbound frontage road was completed.
- Emphasis is to complete the FM 973 interchange; some of the drill shafts have been completed.
- Placement of conduit for the illumination began in January as well as some of the drill shafts for the illumination poles.
- McCarthy has begun pouring the concrete driveways in areas where the frontage road is at final grade.