

Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition

2377 Stemmons Freeway
6th Floor Auditorium
Dallas, Texas

September 5, 2008
11:00 a.m.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order/Introductions**
- II. Approval of Minutes of August 1, 2008 Meeting**
- III. Treasurers' Report and Approval of August Expenditures**
- IV. Focus Topic: Website Rollout**
- V. Committee Reports**
 - A. Finance
 - B. Legislative
 - C. Transportation
 - D. Communication
- VI. Agency Reports**
 - A. DCTA
 - B. DART
 - C. RTC
 - D. TxDOT
 - E. NTTA
- VII. Other Business**
 - A. Diversion Resolution
 - B. Legislative Consultant Update
- VIII. Adjournment**

**Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition
Executive Committee Minutes
August 1, 2008**

Executive Committee Members Attending:

Chad Adams (Ellis County)
Douglas Athas (Garland)
Bob Brown (TxDot)
Mike Cantrell (Dallas County)
William Cecil (Rockwall)
Rudy Durham (Lewisville)
Chris Florance (Rockwall County)
John Harper (Rowlett)
Mary Horn (Denton County)
Steve Mitchell (Richardson)
Ron Natinsky (Dallas)
Jayne Peters (Coppell)
Grady Smithey (Dallas County)
Rick Stopfer (Irving)
Steve Terrell

Ex-Officio Members Attending:

Charles Emery (DCTA)
Jorge Figueredo (NTTA) (Jeff Dailey)
Bill Hale (TxDot)
Michael Morris (COG/RTC)
Koorosh Olyai (DART)

Staff:

John Carpenter
Christene Wheeler

OPENING

Chairman Mike Cantrell called the meeting to order.

MINUTES- The first order of business was the approval of the minutes of the June 6th, 2008 DRMC Executive Committee meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT- Councilmember Rick Stopfer presented monthly reports for June and July and moved for approval. The treasurer's reports were approved unanimously.

GUEST SPEAKER-

-Senator John Corona

Senator Corona touched on the history and future of why the state is in the situation that it is facing in transportation. The problem is apparent at the state level and the federal level. He mentioned some of the issues that will be addressed in legislature this coming session such as:

- reducing or ending diversions in a constitutional amendment
- indexing of motor fuel tax and toll roads.

COOKSEY REPORT

Report given by Colby Walton.

- Results from the Working Retreat on June 20th.
- Draft Mission Statement.
- Draft list of key objectives to be pursued by DRMC.
- Specific work plan for 2008-2009 year.
- Drafting the website for DRMC.
- Clippings suggestions or comments are requested.

Commissioner Cantrell stated that the Mission Statement and key objectives. A motion was given and all approved.

AGENCY REPORTS

-NTTA

Report given by Jorge Figueredo.

- Economic difficulties are nationwide, however, North Texas is still ahead of the rest.
- System performance is 1.8% below the projected growth.
- The entire system is healthy for North Texas as of right now.
- Working on the SH-161 finance packet.
- September 1st NTTA is to take over 121 operations from TxDot.
- Ground breaking is scheduled for August 21st for the Eastern Extension.

Commissioner Cantrell asked for questions and there were none.

-DCTA

Report given by Charles Emery.

- Bus transit numbers are rising very well for DCTA.

Commissioner Cantrell asked for questions and there were none.

-DART

Report given by Koorosh Olyai.

- Ridership is up and continuing to increase.

- Signed off on construction documents for traffic signal priority.

- DART proposal for the region was selected by the USDot for Phase 2 funding.

- US 75 status.

 - Project is successful.

 - Has increased person throughput of the corridor by 30%.

 - Travel time savings is 18 minutes per day, two weeks per year.

 - Use has increased steadily. Reached 65% of capacity in 6 months.

Commissioner Cantrell asked for questions and there were none.

-RTC

Report given by Michael Morris.

- You will soon be able to see the latest changes on performance venues on riderships posted on the RTC website.

- Next month RTC will pick \$3.2 billion worth of projects.

- Cover letter in draft form from Linda Koop and Jungus Jordan.

- Meetings coming up:

 - August 12th, Funding 101 workshop that is open to all.

- North Texas is the 4th largest region in the nation behind Chicago Metropolitan Area.

- SH 161 is setting all sorts of construction records.

- Getting questioned over Rail by the public. The public wants it to move very quickly.

- Executive Summary of the Mobility Plan is being published soon.

Commissioner Cantrell asked for questions and there were none.

-TxDOT

Report given by Bob Brown.

- Projects scheduled for letting in August are listed on the handout.

- The district will have over \$700 million in contract lettings and awards for this year. This is a record for the area.

- LBJ's adjusted due date is September 15 and the Commission will announce the best value developer at the October meeting in Dallas.

- Near completion on the repairs of I-30 bridge.

- TxDOT is restructuring to become more efficient.

Commissioner Cantrell asked for questions and there were none.

OTHER BUSINESS

-Legislative Consultant

Report given by Mike Cantrell

- Meetings are happening, however nothing concrete has been decided.
- Looking to bring more information to the September meeting.

-792 Update

Report given by Grady Smithey.

- Hearing in San Antonio on July 22, 2008.
 - Important to review the resolution that DRMC passed in regards to 792.
 - Everyone is experiencing slowness with Environmental Impact Statements. The office is overwhelmed with statements and is creating the back up.
 - North Texas MPO recognized as one of the best in the state.
- The largest issue in the committee is primacy.
- There will be a hearing in Dallas during the Transportation Summit.

Commissioner Cantrell reminded all of the September 5th.

ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted,

Grady Smithey
Secretary, DRMC

Date

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE DISCONTINUATION OF THE DIVERSION OF
TRANSPORTATION USER REVENUES TO NON-TRANSPORTATION USES
AND THE APPROPRIATION OF ALL REVENUE GENERATED FROM HIGHWAY
USER FEES AND TAXES TO FUND TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS.**

- WHEREAS,** The Texas Transportation Institute estimates that Americans spend 38 additional hours in travel time annually due to inadequate and undersized infrastructure; and
- WHEREAS,** The additional congestions wasted 2.9 billion gallons of fuel and cost over \$78 billion in time and fuel; and
- WHEREAS,** The additional 38 hours in congestion equates to almost five vacation days that would be better spent with friends and family, an increase from 14 hours wasted in 1982; and
- WHEREAS,** Transportation Excellence for the 21st Century (TEX-21) is a statewide coalition of cities, counties, private businesses, and other interested transportation related agencies, collectively representing approximately 70 percent of the population of the State of Texas, focused on improving Texas' transportation infrastructure and organized as a private not for profit corporation in the State of Texas; and
- WHEREAS,** maintaining aging highway infrastructure throughout Texas and expanding the highway system for statewide connectivity and maintaining urban mobility requires far greater investment in transportation infrastructure than is possible with current transportation revenues; and
- WHEREAS,** It is estimated that over **\$14 Billion dollars** has been diverted from State Highway Fund 006 revenues since 1986; funds that are badly needed for infrastructure improvements to address infrastructure needs throughout the State of Texas; and
- WHEREAS,** Because the quality of life for Texans today and in the future will not be measured by an increase number of hours in congestion, it is no longer sound public policy to divert existing transportation revenues to non-transportation uses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF _____;

THAT The City of _____, Texas supports the discontinuation of the diversion of transportation revenues to non-transportation sources and the appropriation of all revenues from highway user fees and taxes to fund transportation.

DULY PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF _____,
TEXAS, ON THIS ____ DAY OF _____ 2008.

MAYOR

ATTESTED TO AND
CORRECTLY RECORDED BY:

City Secretary

Cities

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Beasley | 27. Ingram | 53. Oak Ridge |
| 2. Blanket | 28. Iowa Park | 54. Omaha |
| 3. Blooming Grove | 29. Iredell | 55. Orange Grove |
| 4. Boerne | 30. Jones Creek | 56. Ore City |
| 5. Bogata | 31. Jonestown | 57. Paint Rock |
| 6. Brownsboro | 32. Jourdanton | 58. Pecan Hill |
| 7. Callisburg | 33. Kilgore | 59. Plains |
| 8. Carrizo Springs | 34. Kountze | 60. Pleasant Valley |
| 9. Cedar Hill | 35. Lacy Lakeview | 61. Pottsboro |
| 10. Center | 36. La Marque | 62. Primera |
| 11. Cisco | 37. Leonard | 63. Prosper |
| 12. Cooper | 38. Liberty Hill | 64. Sanctuary |
| 13. Cushing | 39. Los Fresnos | 65. Santa Anna |
| 14. Denison | 40. Lyford | 66. Seminole |
| 15. Driscoll | 41. Mabank | 67. Seven Points |
| 16. Early | 42. McKinney | 68. Tatum |
| 17. Escobares | 43. Meadowlakes | 69. Tenaha |
| 18. Forsan | 44. Megargel | 70. Thorndale |
| 19. Friendswood | 45. Melissa | 71. Troy |
| 20. Godley | 46. Melvin | 72. Weimar |
| 21. Grapeland | 47. Mexia | 73. Wickett |
| 22. Hawk Cove | 48. Mineral Wells | 74. Windom |
| 23. Hamlin | 49. Mont Belvieu | 75. Wink |
| 24. Hewitt | 50. Naples | 76. Winnsboro |
| 25. Honey Grove | 51. New Fairview | 77. Wortham |
| 26. Howe | 52. Niederwald | |

Counties

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Aransas | 7. Fayette | 13. Nueces |
| 2. Blanco | 8. Hockley | 14. Pecos |
| 3. Brazos | 9. Hutchinson | 15. Stephens |
| 4. Chambers | 10. Johnson | 16. Val Verde |
| 5. Crane | 11. Llano | |
| 6. Dickens | 12. Nolan | |

Those entities that have indicated their support:

Collin County (Agenda 8/26/08)

City of Dallas (working with Linda Koop)

County of Dallas (working with Mike Cantrell)

City of Friendswood (Agenda 8/18/08)

City of Nolanville

City of Plano (Agenda 8/25/08)

City of Roman Forest (Agenda 8/21/08)

Rockwall County

City of Taylor

Travis County (Agenda week of 8/25/08)

**FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION
AUGUST 28, 2008**

Harper-Brown: "We Will Stop Diversions of State Highway Fund 6."

(Austin, TX) - Last week, Governor Perry, Lt. Governor Dewhurst and Speaker Craddick declared their commitment to "Implement a plan that sets a definitive course to end the practice of funding the Department of Public Safety with gas taxes that are needed for road construction and return to funding the DPS with general revenue." Rep. Harper-Brown, having vetted and advocated this issue through the course of her committee work states, "Now that we have the courageous support of our Heads of State, we will stop diversions of State Highway Fund 6."

Rep. Harper-Brown, widely recognized to be a principle expert on transportation in Texas and throughout the nation, has been investigating this and many other areas of transportation policy as Chair of the House Appropriations Interim Subcommittee on Transportation Issues. During a hearing early this month at the Texas Transportation Summit in Irving, she conducted a detailed examination of Fund 6. Along with the Comptroller, the Legislative Budget Board, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), and various leaders in transportation and finance, Rep. Harper-Brown thoroughly analyzed the funding and revenue portions of Fund 6, identifying potential revenue sources that could be appropriated specifically for building state highways. Transferring non-transportation related agenda items from Fund 6 to General Revenue could mean an increased allotment of over \$1 billion dollars per biennium to resolve our state's transportation infrastructure dilemmas as presented in the Sunset Advisory Commission Staff's Report on TxDOT.

Rep. Harper-Brown has been involved in Texas' transportation policy for over 15 years at multiple levels. She is committed to minimizing the burden to taxpayers by exhausting every option within the state's budget to most efficiently fund the transportation system, and furthering Texas' economic growth. Rep. Harper-Brown represents the 105th District of Texas. In addition to her work on the House Appropriations Committee, she is currently the Chairman of Budget and Oversight for the House Transportation Committee, and serves on the Sunset Advisory Commission as they currently review TxDOT.

Please contact Rep. Harper-Brown with any questions or concerns at (972) 401-8825 or by email at linda.harper_brown@house.state.tx.us.