



March 10, 2009

Dear DRMC Members,

**We need your help immediately!**

As you know, the Texas Local Option Transportation Act (SB 855/HB 9) is one of our key legislative agenda items. It is essential that we support the passage of this bill in order to address the transportation funding crisis in our region, and to give local voters a voice in proposed mobility solutions that affect them significantly.

The Senate Transportation and Homeland Security Committee has tentatively scheduled its first public hearing on the bill on **Wednesday, March 18, 2009, 2 p.m. in the Capitol Extension, committee room E1.016.**

**Now is the time for you to voice your support of the bill to your elected officials, and to mobilize support among your constituents and colleagues!**

**There are three ways to take action:**

1. If your schedule permits, please consider traveling to Austin to attend the hearing. While we do not need people to testify, we do need people to fill out a card indicating support for CSSB 855 (Committee Substitute of Senate Bill 855).
2. Please take the time to send a letter or e-mail to your state elected officials and, in particular, Sen. Carona, indicating your support of SB 855/HB 9. In addition, please mention support of HJR 9 or SJR 24, a constitutional amendment requiring a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate, which would allow local entities to use revenues from the vehicle registration fee or the motor fuels tax for purposes other than roadways, such as transit or rail (as contemplated in SB 855/HB 9).

Senator John Carona  
Senate Transportation and Homeland Security Committee  
445 Sam Houston Bldg.  
Austin, Texas 78711-2068  
[john.carona@senate.state.tx.us](mailto:john.carona@senate.state.tx.us)

For other legislator contact info: <http://www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us/>.

3. Post a copy of these instructions, as well as a copy of the attached TLOTA fact sheet, to any websites or blogs with which you are involved, and share them with e-mail lists you have for constituents and colleagues, to encourage their support. It is *crucial* that our legislators hear from as many constituents as possible.

Time is critical: **we'd like our legislators to receive letters of support and supportive e-mails by this Friday, March 13, 2009.**

Attached you will find a one-page document with background information making the case for TLOTA. Feel free to use that information in crafting your supporting letter or e-mail. This information can also be found on the DRMC website, [www.dallasmobility.org](http://www.dallasmobility.org).

Your voice is crucial in the legislative process. We ask you help us indicate the strong support of TLOTA by voicing your opinions to our legislative officials, and also encouraging others to do likewise.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

John Carpenter  
Executive Director  
Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition