

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

BEXAR County

MINUTE ORDER

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District SAN ANTONIO

Pursuant to Chapter 370 of the Transportation Code, and 43 TAC Chapter 26 (RMA Rules), Bexar County (county) petitioned the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) for authorization to form a Regional Mobility Authority (RMA) in Bexar County. The petition was filed on September 3, 2003.

By letter dated October 8, 2003, the Texas Department of Transportation (department) notified the county that the petition met the requirements of §26.11 of the RMA Rules.

The petition identifies an approximate 50-mile toll road network as the initial project for development by the RMA. The network includes new capacity on Loop 1604 from FM 471 (Culebra Road) to IH 35 (north), new capacity on US 281 from Loop 1604 (north) to the Comal County line, and new capacity in the Northeast (IH 35) Corridor from Loop 1604 (north) to the Central Business District. The RMA will implement additional capacity on the network and improve interchange operations on Loop 1604 at IH 10 and at US 281 with the inclusion of new, direct connection ramps.

The board of directors of the RMA, as set forth in the petition, will be composed of seven members, with six members appointed by the Bexar County Commissioners Court, and the presiding officer appointed by the Governor.

On October 28, 2003, the department conducted a public hearing in Bexar County, pursuant to §26.12 of the RMA Rules, to receive public comment on the proposed formation of the RMA. Notice of the public hearing was published in the *Texas Register* and in a newspaper of general circulation in Bexar County.

At the public hearing, several individuals spoke in favor of the creation of the RMA. One individual spoke against the development of toll roads. Several individuals submitted written comments, primarily opposing the development of toll roads.

The commission finds that the creation of the RMA has sufficient public support. The commission bases this finding on: (1) the support indicated at the public hearing; and (2) resolutions of support from the San Antonio - Bexar County Urban Transportation Study Steering Committee, which serves as the metropolitan planning organization for that urbanized area, the City of San Antonio, and the San Antonio Mobility Coalition.

The commission finds that creation of the RMA will result in direct benefits to the state, local governments, and the traveling public, and will improve the efficiency of the state's transportation systems. The RMA will benefit the state by constructing needed roadway projects, such as the network identified in the county's petition, as the county's initial project. The RMA will benefit local governments by increasing local control over transportation planning and through additional transportation projects that may be funded through surplus revenue earned by the RMA. The traveling public will also benefit through improved mobility and traffic safety throughout the region encompassed by the RMA. The RMA will improve the efficiency of the state's transportation systems through the construction of the initial project, which will enhance mobility and safety within these segments of the state highway system and through the development and financing of additional projects in the future.

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The commission finds that the initial project is: consistent with the approved Texas Transportation Plan; included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program; and included in the approved plan of the Metropolitan Planning Organization. Subject to commission approval of the project under §26.43 of the RMA Rules, the commission also finds that the project will benefit the traveling public.

The commission finds that the composition of the board as described in the petition will adequately represent affected political subdivisions.

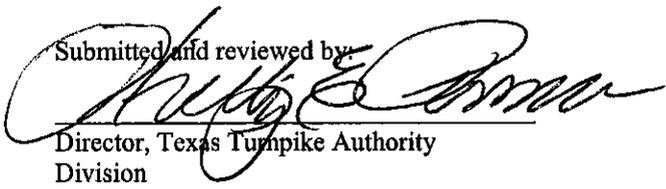
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the commission authorizes the creation of the RMA.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the area encompassed by the RMA shall be the entire geographic area of Bexar County, Texas.

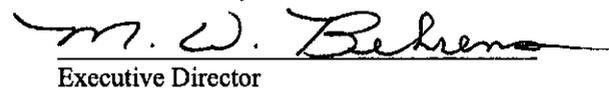
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the initial project to be developed, maintained, and operated by the RMA shall be the network identified above. This order does not constitute final commission approval of the project, which must be obtained pursuant to Chapter 370 of the Transportation Code and the applicable provisions of the RMA Rules.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the initial board of directors shall be comprised of seven members, with six members appointed by the Bexar County Commissioners Court, and the presiding officer appointed by the Governor.

Submitted and reviewed by:

  
Director, Texas Turnpike Authority  
Division

Recommended by:

  
Executive Director

**109523 DEC 18 03**

Minute Number      Date Passed

San Antonio-Bexar County



## metropolitan planning organization

Commissioner Lyle Larson, Chair  
Councilman Julián Castro Vice Chair  
Joanne Walsh, Administrator

### AN MPO RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF A REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY

**WHEREAS**, in August 1977, the Governor of the State of Texas designated the San Antonio - Bexar County Urban Transportation Study (SABCUTS) Steering Committee as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for this urbanized area; and

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the MPO is to conduct a coordinated, comprehensive and continuous (3C) metropolitan transportation planning process; and

**WHEREAS**, transportation is a fundamental function of government critical to the region's economic vitality and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, vehicle miles traveled daily in the San Antonio metropolitan area will increase by 60% from 35 million to 56 million miles between now and 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, San Antonio's traffic congestion growth rate from 1994 to 2000 was higher than any of the 75 major metropolitan areas in the United States; and

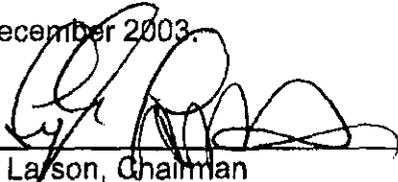
**WHEREAS**, federal and state traditional sources of transportation revenues, motor fuel taxes and vehicle registration fees, are not expected to increase in the foreseeable future to provide the necessary additional funding for transportation projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the San Antonio metropolitan area has identified a \$5.3 billion shortfall in funding for required major added capacity transportation projects between now and 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, tolled facilities may be built to provide some congestion relief sooner than pay-as-you-go added capacity projects;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SAN ANTONIO - BEXAR COUNTY URBAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY STEERING COMMITTEE** that the Metropolitan Planning Organization supports the formation of a Regional Mobility Authority.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 1st day of December 2003.

  
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Lyle Larson, Chairman  
San Antonio-Bexar County

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