

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

TRAVIS County

MINUTE ORDER

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AUSTIN District

The Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority (CTRMA) was created pursuant to the request of Travis and Williamson Counties and in accordance with provisions of the Transportation Code and the petition and approval process established in Title 43, Texas Administrative Code, §26.01, et seq.

In Minute Order 110190, dated August 25, 2005, the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) authorized the Texas Department of Transportation (department) to negotiate and develop an agreement with the CTRMA for the planning, financing, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the 290E toll project within the median of US 290 from east of US 183 to east of FM 734.

The department and the CTRMA have worked together to identify an approach to provide for the funding and development of certain transportation system improvements within the jurisdictional limits of the CTRMA.

Transportation Code, §370.033(f) authorizes a regional mobility authority to develop a project within its boundaries on behalf of the department. On March 24, 2009, the CTRMA submitted a request to allow the CTRMA to make improvements to US 290 by constructing an interchange direct connection ramp at US 183 (project). The interchange direct connection ramp will connect with the 290E toll project to be constructed by the CTRMA. The authority is required to comply with applicable federal, state, and department requirements in making such improvements.

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The ARRA created an economic stimulus package that provides \$64.1 billion nationwide for infrastructure projects, including \$27.5 billion for highway and bridge construction, and \$1.5 billion for surface transportation grants to be administered by the Secretary of Transportation. On March 5, 2009, by Minute Order 111734, the commission authorized and directed the department to commit \$90,000,000 in ARRA funds to the project.

The commission finds that the CTRMA is fully capable of awarding and managing the construction contract for the improvement of the state highway system in a cost effective and timely manner, consistent with applicable federal and state laws and regulations, and finds that the CTRMA's improvement of the state highway system will provide for the expeditious completion of a critically needed project within the US 290 corridor that will relieve traffic congestion on the existing state highway system and improve mobility in Travis County.

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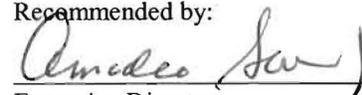
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that pursuant to Transportation Code, §370.033(f), the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority is authorized to construct improvements to the state highway system in connection with the design and construction of the US 290 interchange direct connection ramp at US 183, and the executive director is authorized to enter into a project agreement with the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority that provides for such improvements to the state highway system.

Submitted and reviewed by:



Director, Texas Turnpike Authority Division

Recommended by:



Executive Director

111746 MAR 26 09

Minute
Number

Date
Passed