

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

EL PASO County

MINUTE ORDER

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EL PASO District

In Minute Order 110573, dated June 29, 2006, the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) authorized the creation of the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority (CRRMA), for the City of El Paso, Texas (city).

The Texas Department of Transportation (department) and the CRRMA, in coordination with the city and the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (EPMPO), developed the 2008 Comprehensive Mobility Plan (plan) that provides for the funding and development of certain transportation system improvements within the jurisdictional limits of the CRRMA, including the addition of direct connectors at the intersection of I-10 at Loop 375 on Loop 375 from 0.15 miles north of North Loop to 0.44 miles north of Bob Hope Drive and on I-10 from FM 659 to 0.19 miles west of Eastlake Boulevard. The plan was approved by the EPMPO on July 25, 2008 and a Memorandum of Understanding to implement the plan was executed by the department, the city, the EPMPO, and the CRRMA.

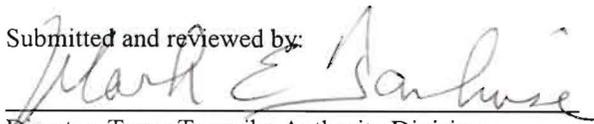
On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The ARRA created an economic stimulus package that provides \$64.1 billion nationwide for infrastructure projects, including \$27.5 billion for highway and bridge construction, and \$1.5 billion for 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 \$75 million in ARRA funds to the I-10 and Loop 375 interchange project.

Transportation Code, §370.033(f) authorizes a regional mobility authority to develop a project within its boundaries on behalf of the department. On April 16, 2009, the CRRMA submitted a request to allow the CRRMA to develop and construct direct connectors for the I-10 and Loop 375 interchange project. The CRRMA is required to comply with applicable federal, state, and department requirements in making such improvements.

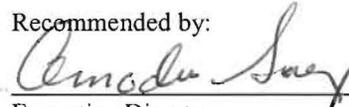
The commission finds that the CRRMA is fully capable of awarding and managing the construction contract for the improvement of the state highway system in a cost-effective and timely manner, consistent with applicable federal and state laws and regulations, and finds that the CRRMA's improvement of the state highway system will provide for the expeditious completion of a critically needed project within the I-10 and Loop 375 corridors that will relieve traffic congestion on the existing state highway system and improve mobility in El Paso County.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that pursuant to Transportation Code, §370.033(f), the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority is authorized to develop and construct improvements to the state highway system in connection with the design and construction of the I-10 and Loop 375 interchange project, and the executive director is authorized to enter into a project development agreement with the Camino Real 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

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Minute Number Date Passed