

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 Loop 375 at FM 659 from 0.61 miles northeast of Loop 375 on FM 659, to 0.63 miles south of FM 659 on Loop 375 (Loop 375 and FM 659 interchange project). 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.

Transportation Code, §370.033(f) authorizes a regional mobility authority to develop a project within its boundaries on behalf of the department. On July 16, 2010, the CRRMA submitted a request to allow the CRRMA to develop and construct direct connectors for the Loop 375 and FM 659 interchange project. The CRRMA is required to comply with applicable federal, state, and department requirements in making such improvements.

The CRRMA proposes to use revenue from a city transportation reinvestment zone to finance through a combination of bonds and loans, including a possible state infrastructure bank loan, a majority of the Loop 375 and FM 659 interchange project development and construction costs. The commission finds that monies are available under Category 2, Metropolitan Area (TMA) Corridor Projects, of the 2010 Unified Transportation Program, approved by Minute Order 112237, dated April 29, 2010, for partial funding of development and construction and possible pass-through toll financing on behalf of the CRRMA for a portion of the Loop 375 and FM 659 interchange project. This order recognizes that the CRRMA may apply for a related state infrastructure bank loan and pass-through toll financing, but does not constitute approval of those future applications.

The commission further 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 Loop 375 and FM 659 corridors that will relieve traffic congestion on the existing state highway system and improve mobility in El Paso County.

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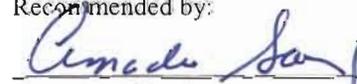
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that pursuant to Transportation Code, §370.033(f), the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority is authorized to develop and construct improvements to the state highway system in connection with the design and construction of the Loop 375 and FM 659 interchange 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
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