

Texas Transportation Commission Minutes

Introduction

These are the minutes of the regular meeting of the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) held on July 30, 2026, in Austin, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Acting Chairman W. Alvin New with the following present:

Texas Transportation Commission

W. Alvin New, Acting Chairman

Robert C. Vaughn, Commissioner

Alejandro "Alex" Meade III, Commissioner

Steven D. Alvis, Commissioner

Pat Gordon, Commissioner

Administrative Staff

Marc D. Williams, P.E., Executive Director

Jeff Graham, General Counsel

Amanda Brown, Commission Chief Clerk

A public notice of this meeting containing all items on the proposed agenda was filed in the Office of the Texas Secretary of State at 4:10 p.m. on July 23, 2026, as required by Government Code, Chapter 551, referred to as "The Open Meetings Act."

Agenda

Item 1. Safety Briefing

Executive Director Marc D. Williams, P.E., directed the Dewitt C. Greer State Highway Building safety video be shown on the screens in the Ric Williamson Hearing Room.

Item 2. Opening Comments from Commissioners and Executive Director

The commissioners and executive director made opening remarks. The commission heard remarks from Federal Highway Administrator Sean McMaster.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes

Consider the approval of the June 24, 2026, regular meeting of the Texas Transportation Commission

Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III. The commission approved the minutes of the June 24, 2026, regular meeting by a vote of 5-0.

Item 4. Acknowledgement of Service

Recognize by resolution San Angelo District Engineer Christopher M. Cowen, P.E., for more than 26 years of service to the Texas Department of Transportation (department).

This resolution was presented by Chief Engineer Carl L. Johnson, P.E. Mr. Cowen thanked the commission and the department. The commissioners thanked Mr. Cowen and made additional remarks.

Item 5. Contracts

Consider the award or rejection of contracts for highway construction and maintenance, and construction and rehabilitation of buildings

a. Highway Improvements and Other Transportation Facilities

This item was presented by Construction Division Director Duane S. Milligan, P.E. The commission heard comments from Zenobia C. Joseph. Commissioner Steven D. Alvis made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III, and the commission approved Minute Order 117229 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117229 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

b. Routine Maintenance

This item was presented by Construction Division Director Duane S. Milligan, P.E. Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Steven D. Alvis, and the commission approved Minute Order 117230 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117230 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

c. Construction and Rehabilitation of Buildings

This item was presented by Support Services Division Director Brian Sweat, R.A. Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Steven D. Alvis, and the commission approved Minute Order 117231 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117231 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

Item 6. Discussion Item

Legislative Appropriations Request

This discussion was led by Financial Management Division Director Amanda Landry, CPA. The commission asked questions and discussed the topic. The commission heard comments from Montgomery County Judge Deputy Chief of Staff Jason Smith, Collin County Commissioner Darrell Hale, and Texas Transit Association Executive Director Allen E. Hunter.

Item 7. Public Transportation

Various Counties - Consider the award of federal and state funds to multiple entities for a variety of program-eligible purposes

This item was presented by Aviation Division Director Dan Harmon. The commission heard comments from REAL Transportation Director Martín Ornelas-Mata. Commissioner Steven D. Alvis made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro “Alex” Meade, III, and the commission approved Minute Order 117232 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117232 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

Item 8. Acquisition of Parcels

Galveston County - Consider the approval of the acquisition of parcels of land along the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway for dredge material placement

This item was presented by Maritime Division Director Geir Kalhagen. Commissioner Steven D. Alvis made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III, and the commission approved Minute Order 117233 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117233 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

Item 9. Transportation Corporation

Fort Bend County - Designate certain portions of State Highway (SH) 99 (Grand Parkway) located within Fort Bend County that have been agreed to be developed, operated, and maintained by the department, including Segment C-1, and a portion of Segment C-2, and a portion of Segment D (collectively the Fort Bend Segments), as a toll project on the state highway system; authorize the Grand Parkway Transportation Corporation (GPTC) to act on behalf of the commission in connection with the development, financing, refinancing, design, construction, reconstruction, expansion, operation, and maintenance of the Fort Bend Segments; authorize amendments to the toll rate agreement between the commission and the GPTC to include the Fort Bend Segments; authorize the department to execute a project agreement with the GPTC to provide for the allocation of responsibilities relating to the Fort Bend Segments; authorize the department and the GPTC to enter into, assign, and assume all contracts relating to the Fort Bend Segments and perform any function necessary for the exercise of powers delegated to the GPTC; and provide for the assignment of revenues of the Fort Bend Segments to the GPTC

This item was presented by Project Finance Section Director Patrick Marotta. Commissioner Steven D. Alvis made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn, and the commission approved Minute

Order 117234 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117234 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

Item 10. Design-Build Contract

Harris County - Consider authorizing the department to issue a request for qualifications to design and construct the North Houston Highway Improvement Project 3C-2 Project (Project). The Project consists of non-tolled improvements of the Interstate (I) 45, I-10, and United States (US) Highway 59 /I-69 interchange in the downtown Houston area. The Project includes widening and realigning main lanes on I-45, realigning and reconstructing main lanes and adding non-tolled managed lanes on I-10, and realigning and reconstructing main lanes on US 59/I-69. The Project includes constructing associated ramps, bridges, utility bridges, rail line crossings, local collector roads, frontage roads, intersections, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The Project also includes constructing direct connectors to and from I-69 to the future Hardy Toll Road and realigning and reconstructing the existing ramps with termini at Jackson Street and Chenevert Street that extend to the Houston Metro reversible High Occupancy Vehicle/High Occupancy Toll Lane

This item was presented by Alternative Delivery Division Director Greg Snider, P.E. Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Steven D. Alvis, and the commission approved Minute Order 117235 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117235 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

Item 11. Promulgation of Administrative Rules Under Title 43, Texas Administrative Code, and Administrative Procedures Act, Government Code, Chapter 2001:

a. Rule Proposals

Chapter 25 - Traffic Operations

Amendments to §25.1, Uniform Traffic Control Devices

This item was presented by Traffic Safety Division Director George Villarreal, P.E. Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Pat Gordon, and the commission approved Minute Order 117236 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117236 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

b. Final Rule Adoptions

(1) Chapter 7 - Rail Facilities

New §§7.160-7.173, contained in new Subchapter H, concerning the Short Line Railroad Improvement State Fund Program

This item was presented by Rail Division Director Don Franks. Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III, and the commission approved Minute Order 117237 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117237 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

(2) Chapter 30 - Aviation**Amendments to §§30.202 - 30.203, §30.206, and §30.210
concerning Aviation Facilities Development Financial
Assistance Rules**

This item was presented by Aviation Division Director Dan Harmon. Commissioner Steven D. Alvis made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro “Alex” Meade, III, and the commission approved Minute Order 117238 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117238 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

(3) Chapter 30 - Aviation**Amendments to §30.502 and §30.503 concerning
Meteorological Evaluation Towers**

This item was presented by Aviation Division Director Dan Harmon. Commissioner Alejandro “Alex” Meade, III made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Steven D. Alvis, and the commission approved Minute Order 117239 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117239 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

Item 12. Water Supply Corporation Relocation Reimbursement

La Salle County - Consider the approval of a request from Fowlerton Water Supply Corporation to make the relocation of the Fowlerton Water Supply Corporation's utility facilities required by the SH 97 highway improvement project an expense of the state under Texas Transportation Code §203.092(a-4)

This item was presented by Right of Way Division Director Kyle Madsen, J. D. Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III, and the commission approved Minute Order 117240 by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117240 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

Item 13. Eminent Domain Proceedings

Various Counties – Consider the authorization of the filing of condemnation proceedings to acquire real property by eminent domain for non-controlled and controlled access highways

This item was presented by Right of Way Division Director Kyle Madsen, J.D. Commissioner Pat Gordon made a motion in accordance with §2206.053(e) of the Texas Government Code for the Texas Department of Transportation's use of eminent domain to acquire certain properties described in the minute order therein. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III, and Minute Order 117241 was approved by a vote of 5-0.

Minute Order 117241 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

Item 14. Routine Minute Orders and Reports

This item was presented by Executive Director Marc D. Williams, P.E. Commissioner Robert C. Vaughn made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Steven D. Alvis, and the commission approved Minute Orders 117242-117250 by a vote of 5-0.

a. Donations to the Department

Various Counties – Consider the acknowledgment of donations with a value of \$500 or more, including donations of money, materials, services, or real property, that are made to the department for the purpose of assisting the department in carrying out its functions and duties or for improving access to or from a highway on the state highway system

Minute Order 117242 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

b. Real Estate Dispositions

(1) Bastrop County - SH 95/State Highway Loop 109 -

Consider the sale of right of way to an abutting landowner

Minute Order 117243 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

(2) Travis County - Ranch to Market Road 1431 - Consider the exchange of a drainage easement as part of a transaction to acquire a drainage easement needed for a state highway purpose

Minute Order 117244 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

(3) Williamson County - US 183/Toll Road 183A - Consider the sale of right of way to the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority

Minute Order 117245 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

c. Reports

(1) Compliance Division Report

The written report was provided to the commission.

(2) Letting Allocation Report

Quarterly report on the FY 2026-2027 letting allocation, the actual allocation utilized through the quarter, and proposed remaining highway maintenance and construction contract letting for the fiscal year

The written report was provided to the commission.

(3) Quarterly Cash Report

Quarterly report on FY 2026 State Highway Fund 6 cash activity

The written report was provided to the commission.

d. Finance

Investment Policy and Investment Strategies

Various Counties - Consider approving the annual review and any changes to the investment policy and investment strategies applicable to all funds of the commission not otherwise required to be invested by the comptroller

Minute Order 117246 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

e. Highway Designations

(1) Nueces County - In the city of Corpus Christi and Nueces County, consider removing State Spur (SS) 407 from the state highway system

Minute Order 117247 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

(2) Wharton County - In the city of Wharton, consider removing a segment of Farm to Market Road (FM) 102 from the state highway system

Minute Order 117248 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

f. Land Acquisition

Oldham County - Consider the grant of authority to the department to acquire real property for facilities

Minute Order 117249 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

g. Speed Zones

Various Counties – Consider the establishment or alteration of regulatory and construction speed zones on various sections of highways in the state

Minute Order 117250 is on file with the commission chief clerk.

Item 15. Executive Session Pursuant to Government Code, Chapter 551 §551.071 – Consultation with and advice from legal counsel regarding any item on this agenda, pending or contemplated litigation, or other legal matters

The commission did not meet in executive session.

Open Comment Period

At the conclusion of all other agenda items, the Texas Transportation Commission will allow an open comment period, not to exceed one hour, to receive public comment on any other matter that is under the jurisdiction of the Texas Department of Transportation. No action will be taken. Each speaker will be allowed a maximum of three minutes. Speakers must be signed up prior to the beginning of the open comment period.

The commission heard comments from Montgomery County Judge Chief of Staff Jason Smith on county projects needing commission assistance; City of Pasadena Mayor Thomas Schoenbein spoke about Highway 225 updates; City of Brownsville Commissioner Nurith Galonsky thanked the commission for their support; City of Eagle Pass Assistant City Manager spoke about Eagle Pass area projects, Highway 57 and Patsy Winn Boulevard; City of Eagle Pass City Engineer Eduardo Soto spoke about the City of Eagle Pass infrastructure; Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership President Brian Freedman spoke about Bay Area Houston's transportation needs; Transportation Advocacy Group – Houston Executive Director Christina Cabral spoke about Houston 2 Gulf Coast Regional needs; Galveston Economic Development Partnership Joshua Owens spoke about the Pelican Island Bridge and harbor dredging; BayTran Chairman and former City of Pearland Mayor Kevin Cole spoke about projects in the Houston district; Alliance for I-69 Texas Executive Director Jennifer Shepard spoke about the development of I-69; and Zenobia C. Joseph spoke about the Road to Zero Pedestrian Safety Action Plan. The commission received no further comments.

Adjournment

Commissioner Steven D. Alvis motioned adjournment and Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" Meade, III seconded the motion. The commission voted 5-0 to adjourn. The regular meeting of the Texas Transportation Commission was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Approved by the Texas Transportation Commission on August 26, 2026.



W. Alvin New, Acting Chairman
Texas Transportation Commission

Certification of Minutes

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing pages constitute the full, true, and correct record of all proceedings and official records of the Texas Transportation Commission at its regular meeting on July 30, 2026, in Austin, Texas.



Amanda Brown, Commission Chief Clerk
Texas Department of Transportation