



CENTRAL TEXAS
Regional Mobility Authority

April 5, 2017

Mayor Roxanne McKee
City of Rollingwood
403 Nixon Drive
Rollingwood, TX 78746

Dear Mayor;

Thank you for reaching out to me concerning the very important MoPac South Project and its impact on your community. I look forward to meeting with you and your advisors, first to clearly ascertain your immediate concerns, and then to make sure we provide valuable feedback.

Concerning the information you requested, and as a result of our discussions on January 26, we have contracted with CDM Smith, a nationally respected traffic modeler, to study the impact on the intersections you referenced.

I can assure you the RMA does not take any design options lightly, nor will we dismiss good ideas. Many of the added features of the existing alternatives have come from our public outreach efforts with citizens and public bodies just like yours, and in fact, Rollingwood has made several good suggestions. I concur and personally have experienced the “event” congestion that you have referenced, but I am confident this project will help relieve congestion not just on event days, but also for everyday congestion. The issue with four tolled express lanes without direct access to Cesar Chaves remains how an express lane would exit to downtown from the center of the corridor, across three lanes of existing roadway, without causing even more congestion and backup. Also the issue of optimizing the alternative of express transit needs to be considered, and the weaving of buses from the express lanes to exit downtown.

It is important to remember that we are not talking about more traffic on MoPac due to the new lanes, no matter what their configuration. It is about how to provide some reliability in the corridor, and to improve the mobility of both non-tolled and Express lane traffic. Traffic on MoPac will only get worse in the future as more folks move to the greater Austin region. We have already been delayed over a year due to the lawsuit. During that time there have been no credible alternatives suggested.

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An interim analysis should be complete by late-May, and I look forward to meeting and reviewing the results. If you would also like a pre-study meeting to review all the alternatives, and perhaps better understand the process, we will make ourselves available at your convenience.

Again Mayor, thanks for your input and I know that your highest concern is for your community – I respect and understand that position. I also look forward to proving to you that we will leave no stone unturned in our effort to address your concerns.

Sincerely yours



Mike Heiligenstein
Executive Director

cc: Senator Kirk Watson
Representative Donna Howard
Chairman Ray Wilkerson