

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Chairman

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SELECT COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL
ECONOMIC STABILIZATION FUNDING

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Texas House of Representatives

FROM: Rep. Jim Dunnam
Chair, Federal Economic Stabilization Funding, Select

DATE: March 25, 2009

SUBJECT: TxDOT Obligation of Recovery Act Enhancement Project Funds

Today I received word from the Speaker's office informing me that the Texas Transportation Commission plans to meet tomorrow, at 9:00AM, at 125 East 11th Street, in Austin, to officially adopt staff recommendations on \$73.4 million in stimulus funds to be used for "transportation enhancement projects." Please see the attached documents.

I just wanted you to be aware that TxDOT will be taking action to obligate these stimulus funds tomorrow.

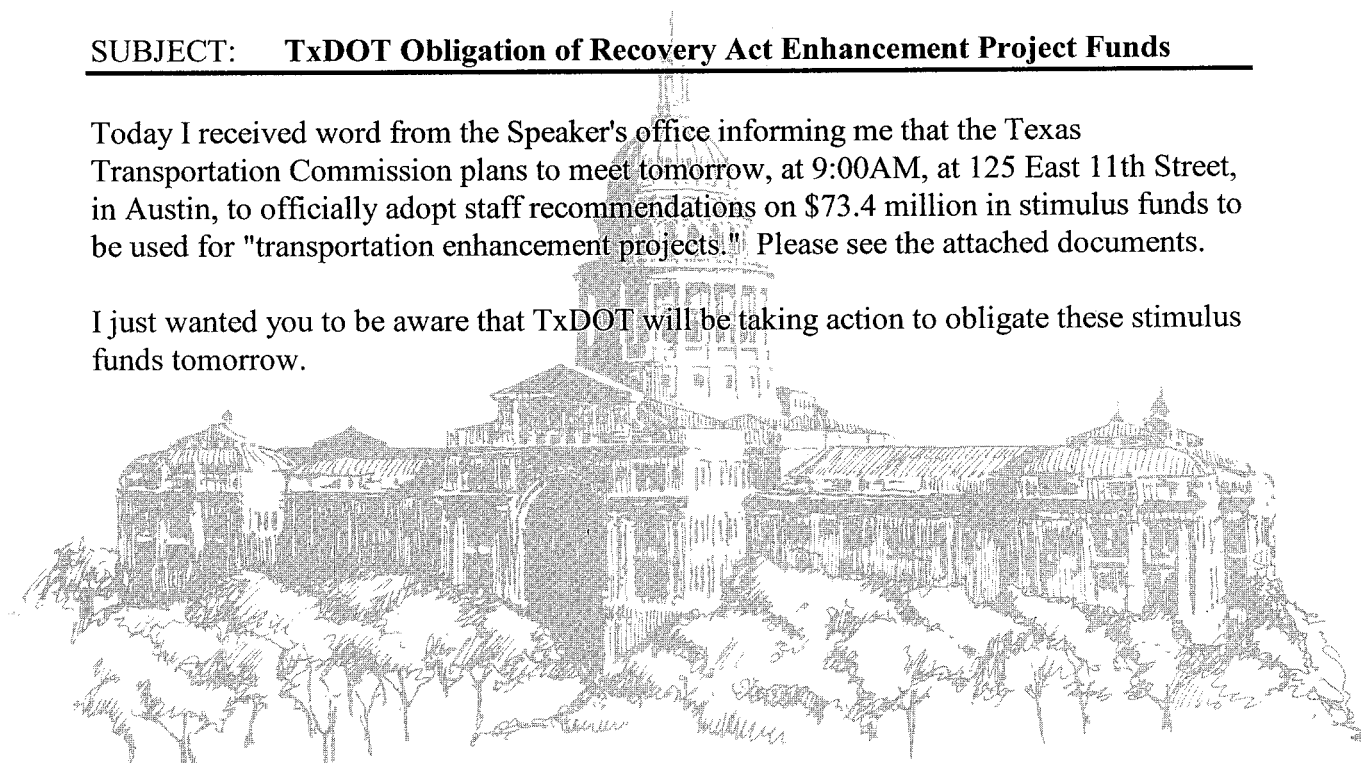


EXHIBIT A
AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT
TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

CSJ	District	County	ARRA Funds	Construction Value	Project Description	Region
0508-03-075	BMT	Chambers	15,500,000	15,500,000	Safety Rest Area	East
0912-71-545	HOU	Harris	1,802,304	3,765,662	West White Oak Bayou Trail	East
0912-71-802	HOU	Harris	1,156,972	907,225	OST & Griggs Road Landscaping	East
0166-01-041	DAL	Navarro	15,501,391	15,501,391	Safety Rest Area	North
0918-45-354	DAL	Dallas	4,075,114	7,329,298	Santa Fe Trestle Bridge Trail	North
0918-45-533	DAL	Dallas	470,932	620,000	Lancaster Historic District	North
0918-45-640	DAL	Dallas	1,324,690	1,567,355	LBJ/Skillman Ped. Bridge	North
0918-45-642	DAL	Dallas	582,240	653,789	Spring Valley/Coit Amenities	North
0918-24-040	DAL	Collin	975,650	1,850,000	Richardson Trail	North
0918-45-861	DAL	Dallas	1,700,000	2,550,000	McKinney Ave. Trolley Ext.	North
0196-07-027	DAL	Dallas	16,700,000	43,000,000	Additional funds for Woodall Rodgers Deck Plaza	North
0902-38-049	FTW	Parker	3,225,932	4,032,415	Town Creek Hike and Bike Trail	North
0902-48-338	FTW	Tarrant	475,315	594,338	N. Richland Hills Multi-Use Trail	North
0902-49-032	FTW	Erath	1,773,134	1,773,135	Bosque River Trail	North
0902-49-033	FTW	Erath	874,877	1,093,596	Dublin Pedestrian Parkway	North
0902-49-034	FTW	Erath	165,542	206,928	Historic Grist Mill	North
0914-04-191	AUS	Travis	1,996,261	3,257,787	Northern Walnut Creek Trail	South
0914-05-122	AUS	Williamson	545,478	830,000	Cottonwood Trail, Phase 2	South
0904-40-010	AMA	Sherman	1,934,274	2,600,000	Stratford Main Street Project	West
2552-04-035	ELP	El Paso	1,457,143	1,871,429	Stanton St. Bridge/Piacita Park Land.	West
0907-24-028	SJT	Tom Green	1,200,000	1,200,000	Lone Wolf Historic Bridge/Ped. Bridge	West
			\$73,437,249	\$107,632,919		

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Transportation Stimulus Packages Comparison

TxDOT preferences are circled.

	House	Senate	Final
Total for Texas¹	Highway <u>\$2,420,703,000</u> Transit Urban <u>\$371,250,000</u> Transit Rural \$47,845,645 Aviation See below	Highway \$2,263,163,000 Transit Urban \$327,800,000 <u>Transit Rural \$53,587,122</u> Aviation See below	Highway \$2,250,015,000 Transit Urban \$301,055,797 Transit Rural \$42,181,107 Aviation See below
Texas Percentage	7.57% ² \$2,839,798,645	7.46% ² \$2,644,650,122	7.53% ² \$2,593,251,904

Highways

	House	Senate	Final
Funds Distribution	Based on share of FY '07/'08 appropriations	Allocated through STP ³	Half allocated through STP ³ Half based on share of FY '07/'08 appropriations
Allocations	55% to TxDOT \$1,331,386,650 45% STP ³ \$1,089,316,350 10% Enhancements \$108,931,635 90% Remaining to be divided: 62.5% to MPOs \$612,740,447 37.5% to TxDOT \$367,644,268 (Total to TxDOT \$1,699,030,918)	<u>60% to TxDOT \$1,244,740,000</u> <u>5% for CMAQ projects \$113,158,000</u> <u>40% allocated to MPOs \$905,265,000</u> (Total to TxDOT \$1,244,740,000)	67% to TxDOT \$1,507,510,000 30% allocated to MPOs \$675,005,000 <u>3% Enhancements \$67,500,000</u> (Total to TxDOT \$1,507,510,000)
Allocation Timeline	TxDOT: First 50% obligated in 90 days or redistributed <u>Second 50% obligated by August 1, 2010 or redistributed</u> MPO: First 50% obligated in 75 days TxDOT would have 15 days to obligate unused funds Second 50% by June 1, 2010	TxDOT: <u>First 50% obligated in 180 days or redistributed</u> Second 50% obligated in 12 mos or redistributed MPO: 100% obligated in 12 months	TxDOT: First 50% obligated in 120 days or redistributed Second 50% obligated in 12 mos or redistributed MPO: 100% obligated in 12 months
TIFIA	None	<u>\$200 million nationwide possible</u>	\$200 million nationwide possible
Discretionary	None	\$5.5 billion discretionary grant program	\$1.5 billion discretionary grant program
Flexibility	None	<u>Can mix funds among modes</u>	Can mix funds among modes
Set-Asides	10% of MPO money for enhancements	<u>5% for CMAQ</u>	3% for Enhancements
Private Activity Bonds	<u>Permanently repeals the AMT⁴</u>	AMT ⁴ fix only applies in 2009 and 2010	AMT ⁴ fix only applies in 2009 and 2010
Streamlining	None	None	None
Project Completed⁵	3 years	2 years	3 years

Transit

	House	Senate	Final
Allocations	<u>Urban \$371,250,000</u> Rural \$47,845,645	<u>Urban \$327,800,000</u> Rural \$53,587,122	Urban \$301,055,797 Rural \$42,181,107
Allocation Timeline	First 50% obligated in 90 days <u>Second 50% obligated in 21 months</u>	<u>First 50% obligated in 180 Days</u> Second 50% in 12 months	First 50% obligated in 180 Days or redistributed Second 50% in 12 months or redistributed

Aviation

	House	Senate	Final
Allocations	\$ 3 billion discretionary grants made by FAA	\$1.3 billion discretionary grants made by FAA	\$1.1 billion discretionary grants made by FAA
Allocation Timeline	First 50% obligated in 90 days Second 50% obligated in 24 months	<u>No use it or lose it provision</u>	First 50% obligated in 120 Days Second 50% in 12 months

¹ All numbers contained in this document are estimates. Final numbers may vary.
² Texas percentage is calculated based on the total infrastructure funding available via traditional formula funding for highways and transit. The state, transit and rail operators, and aviation compete for additional grant funding.
³ Surface Transportation Program
⁴ Exempts interest on PABs from the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT)
⁵ Priority given to projects completed in this time.



Craig Chick came by our office this morning to deliver a list of \$73.4 million in stimulus money for transportation "enhancement" projects. He said he ran into you last night and mentioned this to you and you suggested he talk to us.

The actual amount of stimulus money awarded to Texas for "enhancement" projects is \$67.5 million but the agency believes these projects will come in under budget and within that amount.

TxDOT plans to adopt this attached list of projects TOMORROW at its commission meeting. We asked him how all the other members of the legislature would find out about the action scheduled for tomorrow, and he called TxDOT while he was in our office and told them to distribute the list to all members' offices today.

Craig said TxDOT told him these were the ONLY "shovel ready" projects and that, when the agency put the call out in October or November for all "shovel ready" projects, the call included "enhancement" projects in addition to highway construction and maintenance.

Craig said the agency told him these projects are all in economically distressed areas with the exception of the Collin County and perhaps the Williamson County projects. Craig said there will be additional allocations of enhancement money in 2010 and 2011 that the state will receive under the traditional federal appropriations that we always get.