

AGENDA ITEM # 18February 10, 1998\*

Consider approving letter of support to the Texas Transportation Commission supporting SH 71 (E), SH 71 (W), US 290, SH 130 and US 183 (N).

Moved: Commissioner Boatright

Seconded: Judge Doerfler

Motion: To approve letter of support to the Texas Transportation Commission supporting SH 71, (E), SH 71 (W), US 290, SH 130 and US 183 (N) with a letter being submitted from each commissioner suggesting that US 183 be a number one project.

Vote: Motion carried 4 - 1 With Commissioner Heiligenstein voting against the motion.

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# ATS AUSTIN TRANSPORTATION STUDY

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To: All jurisdictions within the ATS study area  
From: Michael Aulick, Director of ATS *MRA*  
Subject: Request for Letter of Support for the Delegation Appearance to the  
Texas Transportation Commission - February 26, 1998  
Date: January 27, 1998

The Austin Transportation Study (ATS), Capital Area Citizens for Mobility, and Georgetown are making a delegation appearance to the Texas Transportation Commission on Thursday, February 26th to request funding approval for the following proposed highway projects:

1. SH 71/US 290:

**SH 71 (E)** - Burleson Rd. to west of Riverside Drive. Construct freeway mainlanes and frontage roads. Cost: \$40.0 million.

Traffic on SH 71(E) is expected to increase quickly in the near term due to the nearly completed Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. Commercial and residential development in the area is also expected to increase quickly and will further aggravate traffic congestion. By improving this section of the roadway, access to the new airport and to existing and planned developments will be improved.

**SH 71 (W)/US 290** - East of Williamson Creek to west of FM 1826: Construct frontage roads. Cost: \$15.0 million.

Commercial and residential development in Southeast Austin has increased significantly since the late 1980's. Frontage road construction would increase the capacity of SH 71(W)/US 290 in this area and help alleviate traffic congestion.

2. SH 130: At IH 35(N) north of Georgetown to SH 21. Construct freeway/parkway.  
Cost: \$638 million.

SH 130 is a proposed vital NAF TA transportation corridor from Georgetown to Seguin - a distance of approximately 89 miles. It is intended to relieve congestion on IH 35 which runs north from Mexico through central Texas and on into the upper Midwest and Canada. Through ISTEA, \$5.2 million in federal funds were provided for feasibility studies, route studies, preliminary engineering and right-of-way acquisition for the SH 130 project. The approximate 50-mile section for which funds are being requested is located within the ATS area.

3. US 183: Hunters Chase Drive to north of RM 620. Construct freeway mainlanes.  
Cost: \$32.1 million.

In the southern (urbanized) area of Williamson County over the last fifteen years, substantial residential and commercial construction has occurred. That area's population and employment forecasts shows nearly a five-fold increase for the period 1995 to 2020. The US 183(N) mainlanes and frontage roads that have been completed so far (north of IH 35) are already heavily used. \$16.6 was approved by the Texas Transportation Commission for frontage roads in August 1997.

The ATS Policy Advisory Committee invites you to attend the Texas Transportation Commission meeting and to **send a letter of support for the projects** (a model letter of support is enclosed). The Commission meeting is at the following time and place:

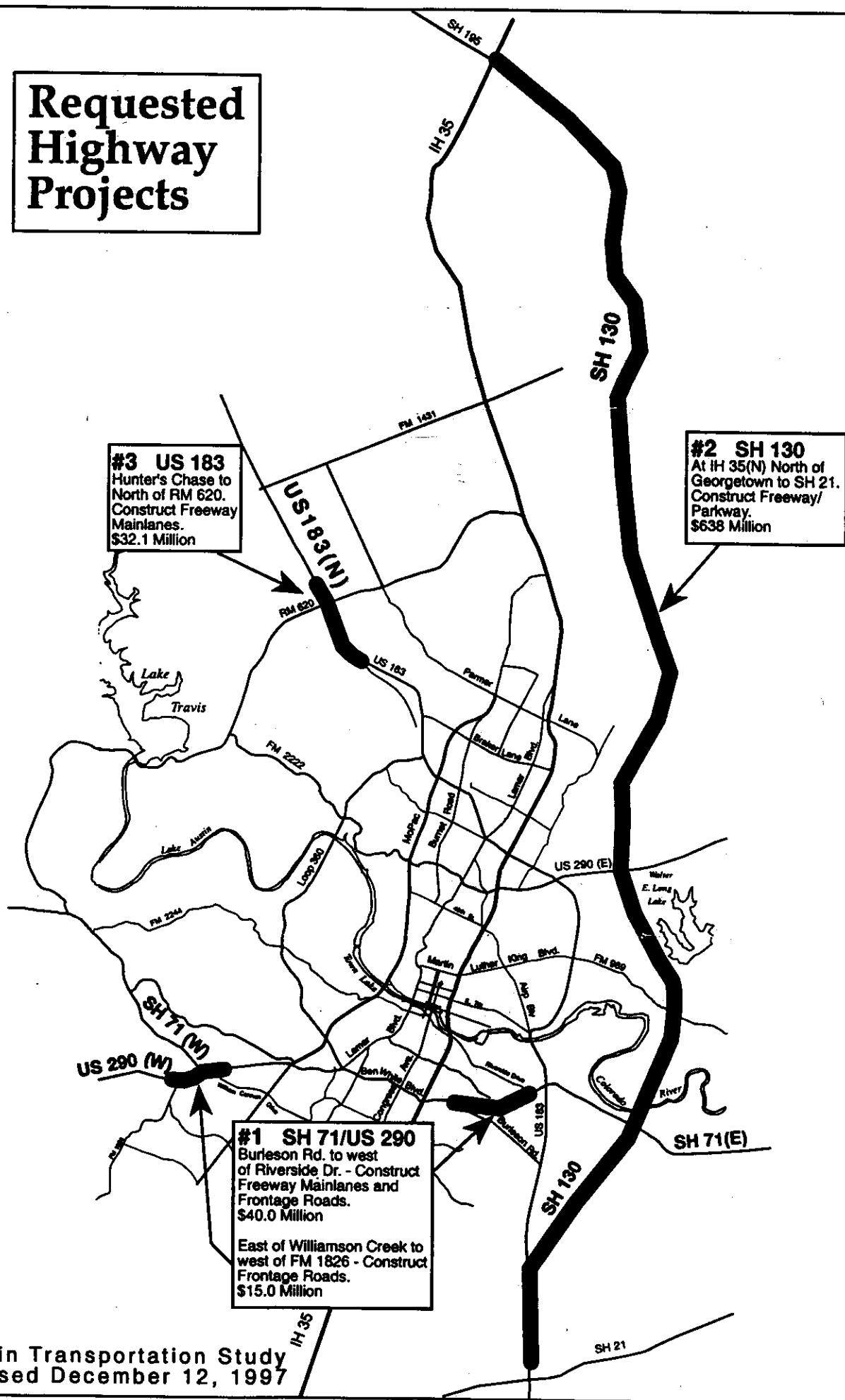
**Thursday, February 26th, 9:00-11:00 am?**  
(We will know the exact time on Feb. 12th)  
**Dewitt C. Greer State Building**  
**125 East 11th Street, 1st Floor, Austin**

Please send a letter of support to the Austin Transportation Study by February 23rd (we need to receive the letter by the 23rd). Letters can be mailed or faxed to ATS at the following address:

**Austin Transportation Study**  
**P.O. Box 1088-Annex**  
**Austin, Texas 78767**  
**Attn: Nancy Ledbetter**  
**Fax: 499-6385**

If you would like to send a letter directly to the Commission the address is listed on the model letter. The Commission must receive the letter by February 24th. Thank you for your support and please call me at 499-6441 if you have any questions.

# Requested Highway Projects



**Model Letter of Support for**  
**SH 71(E) and SH 71(W)/US 290**  
**SH 130**  
**US 183(N)**

The Honorable David M. Laney  
Chairman, Texas Transportation Commission

The Honorable Anne S. Wynne  
Member, Texas Transportation Commission

The Honorable Robert L. Nichols  
Member, Texas Transportation Commission

Dewitt C. Greer State Highway Building  
125 East 11th Street  
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to thank you for allowing the Austin Transportation Study, the Capital Area Citizens for Mobility, and Georgetown to present before you on February 26, 1998. I am keenly interested in improving SH 71 (E) from Burleson Road to west of Riverside Drive and SH 71 (W)/US 290 from east of Williamson Creek to west of FM 1826, constructing SH 130 as a freeway/parkway, and constructing the mainlanes on U.S. 183 from Hunters Chase to north of RM 620. These projects are important because of high traffic volumes, needed access to the new Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, and because of increased NAFTA truck traffic on IH 35.

The (City) (County) of \_\_\_\_\_ expresses its appreciation for the funding the Commission has previously approved for the U.S. 183 and U.S. 290 projects.

Our area has experienced phenomenal population growth and is expected to double its population over the next 20 years. The completion of these three facilities is crucial to the economic vitality of our region as well as allowing for safe and efficient travel.

I ask that the Texas Transportation Commission and the Texas Department of Transportation support and fund our requests for the improvements of SH 71 (E) and SH 71 (W)/US 290, construction of SH 130, and improvements to US 183 (N).

Thank you very much for your consideration of this most worthwhile investment.

Sincerely,

**John C. Doerfler**  
County Judge  
Williamson County



WILLIAMSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
710 MAIN, SECOND FLOOR  
GEORGETOWN, TEXAS 78626  
(512) 930-4456

The Honorable David M. Laney  
Chairman, Texas Transportation Commission

The Honorable Anne S. Wynne  
Member, Texas Transportation Commission

The Honorable Robert L. Nichols  
Member, Texas Transportation Commission

Dewitt C. Greer State Highway Building  
125 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
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The County of Williamson expresses its appreciation for the funding the Commission has previously approved for the U.S. 183 and U.S. 290 projects.

Our area has experienced phenomenal population growth and is expected to double its population over the next 20 years. The completion of these three facilities is crucial to the economic vitality of our region as well as allowing for safe and efficient travel.

I ask that the Texas Transportation Commission and the Texas Department of Transportation support and fund our requests for the improvements of SH 71 (E) and SH 71 (W)/US 290, construction of SH 130, and improvements to US 183 (N).

Thank you very much for your consideration of this most worthwhile investment.

Sincerely,

*John C. Doerfler 2-10-98*  
John C. Doerfler

AGENDA ITEM # 19

February 10, 1998

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Consider approving the subordination agreement for LCRA easement.

Moved: Commissioner Boatright

Seconded: Judge Doerfler

Motion: To approve the subordination agreement for LCRA easement.

Vote: Motion carried 3 - 0 With Commissioner Hays abstaining and Commissioner Mehevec absent from the dais.

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