

Toll & Corridor Summit:

A Statewide Grassroots Leadership Meeting

Saturday, November 13, 2004 - Austin, Texas

"The whole transportation world in Texas has changed"

— Chairman Ric Williamson, Texas Transportation Commission (10.28.04)



The New Face of Texas Transportation

The new perspective given transportation in Texas represents a dramatic shift in public policy. The Trans Texas Corridor and the wide variety of new fiscal 'tools' now available should be better understood before being fully implemented.

House Bill 3588 of the 78th Legislature has radically changed the way Texas will build, operate and finance a host of broadly defined transportation projects in the future. That future is arriving faster than most Texans are expecting. Recent public reaction to toll conversion demonstrates the disconnect between actions occurring at the state level and public understanding of the changes that are coming.

Changes in public policy and law set into motion by HB-3588 are sweeping. The speed at which these complex changes are occurring significantly multiply the potential, and maybe irreversible, risk of adverse consequences. In fact, it's impossible for anyone to know all the possible ramifications these changes will have.

It is essential that public officials and individuals educate themselves as much as they can about the impact these changes could have on the social, political, environmental, and economic fabric of Texas.

Affecting Change

To effectively accomplish desired change, meaningful input should be introduced into the appropriate decision making process. Input must be based on accurate information and criticisms must be constructive.

A Starting Place

This summit begins a process of self-education and creating an informed public. Starting with this meeting we can identify our shared concerns and issues and determine what action is required to address those concerns and issues. As organized grassroots advocacy groups we can quickly and effectively share our knowledge and expertise with other concerned and action motivated Texans. Working together we can give our individual voices greater strength to educate and actively participate in the process of change.

Participants & Attendees

Summit participants are those who have concern or objection with one or more provisions of law adopted by HB-3588. Attendees are those who recognize the need to inform themselves about the provisions of law adopted by HB-3588. Participants will be given registration priority with attendees accommodated on a space available basis.

Impact Issues

Agriculture Wildlife Economic Development Homeland Security Environment
Water Rights Tolls Transportation Property Rights Public Safety Foreign
Control Comprehensive Development Agreements Tax Policy

Concerns include, but not limited to:

- Conversion of existing free highways into toll ways.
- Ineffective / Inefficient transportation plan.
- Adverse environmental impact of the Trans Texas Corridor, including inadequate environmental assessments, increased pollution of all types, and impact to wildlife.
- Use of general transportation revenues in support of toll road projects.
- The use of transportation and transportation related projects as general revenue generators.
- Public safety issues including multi-hazard, emergency access, and mass casualty potential.
- Taking any land (or thing of value) without just compensation, diverting local government revenues, or otherwise causing adverse economic impact to local government (cities, counties, school districts, etc.).
- Adverse impact to agricultural production.
- Taking private land and/or using state land, for non-public purpose use.
- Private control of public infrastructure, whether direct or indirect.
- Use of state land to circumvent local regulations, including water conservation district rules.
- State subsidized or sponsored competition to private enterprise.
- Combining critical infrastructure elements into a single site (corridor) thereby creating 'soft targets' for terrorist threats.
- The overall concept of the Trans Texas Corridor as proposed.

MEETING AGENDA

General Meeting & Lunch **9:00 am – 1:00 pm**
Summit Workshop **2:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

8:30 am	Registration
9:00 am	General Session: Understanding Today's Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome & Introductions• Business At Hand – An Overview• Trans Texas Corridor – An Overview• House Bill 3588 – An Overview• <i>(Break)</i>• Participant Reports• <i>(Break)</i>• Participant Reports• Questions & Answers
12:00 noon	Lunch Program <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Statewide Toll & Corridor Reaction• Keynote Speaker - Representative Terry Keel, District 47• General Session Concluding Remarks
1:00 pm	Press Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participant Statements• Interview Opportunities• <i>(Break)</i>
2:00 pm	Participants Workshop: Addressing Our Concerns <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identifying What It Is That We Need and Want• <i>(Break)</i>• Establishing a Course of Action• Defining Our Shared Vision
4:45 pm	Issuance of Joint Statement
5:00 pm	Adjourn

Subject to Revision - Last Update: November 12, 2004

PARTICIPANTS

PARTICIPANT ORGANIZATIONS (list as of November 9, 2004)	REPRESENTATIVE/S
 Americans for Prosperity  americansforprosperity.org Statewide	Peggy Venable
 Citizens Against State Highway to Toll Road Abuse and Proliferation - Presenter - Sponsor  Cashtrap.us Northwest Harris County	Mark Quakenbush
 CorridorWatch.org - Presenter - Sponsor  CorridorWatch.org Statewide	David Stall Linda Stall
 Coupland Civic Organization  couplandtx.org Williamson County	Susan Garry
 Environmental Defense  EnvironmentalDefense.com Statewide	T.B.A.
 Erik Slotboom, Author - Presenter - Sponsor  HoustonFreeways.com	Erik Slotboom
 Save Our Springs Alliance - Presenter - Sponsor  sosalliance.org Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer (Salado - San Antonio - Del Rio)	Colin Clark
 People for Efficient Transportation PAC - Presenter  AustinTollParty.org Austin Metro	Sal Costello
 Sierra Club - Presenter  StopGrandParkway.com Regional Representative, National Sprawl Campaign	Christine Sagstetter
 Stop121Tolls.Com - Presenter  Stop121Tolls.Com Dallas - Fort Worth	Randy Jennings
 Texas Wildlife Association - Presenter - Sponsor  Texas-Wildlife.org Statewide	David K. Langford
 Water Research Group  Internet site Victoria County	Kenneth Schustereit

This is a non-partisan, non-political meeting. Participants are requested to refrain from remarks in support of, or opposition to, any candidate for public office or ballot issue. Participants are solely responsible for their own presentations and printed materials. The opinions expressed by participants and attendees are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of CorridorWatch.org or any other sponsor, participant or attendee.

LOCATION

Clarion Inn & Suites Conference Center
2200 IH-35 South, Austin, Texas 78704-4436

Oltorf Street exit 232A

Sessions will be conducted in the Walnut Room and Oak Room.

For Hotel Room Reservations Call: 512 / 444.0561

The conference hotel room rate is \$65.00 for attendees. Please identify yourself as being with the "CorridorWatch Transportation Summit" to receive the conference rate.

REGISTRATION

Opportunities for participation and attendance are limited.

There is a \$20.00 per person registration fee payable at the door.

Registration includes refreshments and a box lunch.

If you are interested in attending this Toll & Corridor Summit meeting, please e-mail David Stall at CorridorWatch.org for space availability information before 10pm, Friday, November 12, 2004.

E-MAIL: davidstall@corridorwatch.org

HOST

The Toll & Corridor Summit is hosted by CorridorWatch.org.

For additional information about the Toll & Corridor Summit please contact —



CorridorWatch.org, Inc.

E-MAIL: davidstall@corridorwatch.org

PHONE: 512 / 791.4628

FAX: 979 / 378.4234

MAIL: CorridorWatch.org
Fayetteville, TX 78940-5468

www.CorridorWatch.org