



NORTH TEXAS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY

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NTTA to Discuss Major Procurements and Consider Accepting Southwest Parkway/Chisholm Trail at its August Board Meeting

Plano, TX – At its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the North Texas Tollway Authority Board of Directors will consider two major items of interest to its stakeholders. The first is a discussion by the board of the process it will follow in the procurement of its major consulting contracts.

The second is the decision to exercise its statutory right to develop, construct and operate the Southwest Parkway/Chisholm Trail toll project in Fort Worth and Johnson County.

At a special called board meeting held Aug. 5, 2010, the board of directors voted to terminate the procurements of five major contracts scheduled to be bid this year due to the level of risk associated with changing consultants amid a \$3 billion capital campaign.

"The NTTA Board has a fiduciary duty to make sure the organization operates in a prudent manner. To that end, we made the decision to terminate all major procurements until they could be implemented under a process in which the board has absolute confidence," said NTTA Chairman Paul N. Wageman. "The decision was about protecting the Authority and keeping projects on budget and on schedule."

Major procurements include: the program management consultant (PMC), general engineering consultant, legal services, traffic and revenue consultant and financial advisory services.

"Mistakes were made on multiple levels by the executive director, committees, and board. The entire board should have become involved much earlier in the process and, with three major projects under development – two of which will soon be financed – the executive director should

have provided the board with additional information, such as a transition plan and a thorough risk assessment before the procurements started. The PMC procurement process was flawed from the outset by virtue of its design, which unfairly penalized at least one of the applicants. The board is responsible as well in that it should have been clear about its expectations and more attentive to the process," said NTTA Vice Chairman Victor Vandergriff. "We are going to correct these missteps before moving forward. We'll seek to re-procure these contracts using best practices and a process in which the board can be confident. It is my expectation that the board will start the development of a fair, transparent and sustainable procurement process by no later than its October committee meetings. The development of this process will be in open session. We will seek the input of our stakeholders and all interested parties. I would expect the Board to develop the procurement process and be ready to proceed with the procurements at the appropriate time."

"Business diversity is an important priority of the NTTA. This matter is not about our commitment to diversity, but rather our concern for the NTTA's financial viability and operational soundness. The board's action was guided by what's best for the NTTA. No more; no less," Wageman continued.

The NTTA Board will also consider accepting its first project in Tarrant and Johnson counties – Southwest Parkway/Chisholm Trail.

"Southwest Parkway/Chisholm Trail is a critical transportation link for the west side of the Metroplex. It's been on regional transportation plans for over 40 years, initially as a tax-supported road and now as a toll road," Wageman said. "We've collaborated with The Texas Transportation Commission and Regional Transportation Council to develop innovative financing and project delivery tools to bring us to a point where we can now consider formally accepting Southwest Parkway/Chisholm Trail as an NTTA project.

Southwest Parkway and Chisholm Trail were two separate projects until October 2008 when the Texas Transportation Commission and NTTA entered into an innovative partnership that combined the projects.

Tomorrow's board meeting will be held at the NTTA Administrative Offices at 5900 West Plano Parkway in Plano.

It will begin at 9:00 a.m.

About the NTTA

The North Texas Tollway Authority, a political subdivision of the state of Texas, is authorized to acquire, construct, maintain, repair and operate turnpike projects in the north Texas region. The nine-member governing board is comprised of Chairman Paul N. Wageman; Vice Chairman Victor Vandergriff; and Directors Kenneth Barr, Bob Day, David Denison, Bill Moore, Michael Nowels, Bob Shepard and Alan E. Sims.

The NTTA serves Collin, Dallas, Denton and Tarrant counties and is responsible for the NTTA System, consisting of the Dallas North Tollway, President George Bush Turnpike, Sam Rayburn Tollway, Addison Airport Toll Tunnel, Lewisville Lake Toll Bridge and the Mountain Creek Lake Bridge. The NTTA is able to raise capital for construction projects through the issuance of turnpike revenue bonds. NTTA toll projects are not a part of the state highway system and receive no direct tax funding. Tolls are collected to repay debt and to operate and maintain the roadways.

Visit the NTTA Web site at www.ntta.org or call 214-461-2000 for additional information about the NTTA. For customer service, please call 972-818-NTTA (6882).

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