

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF CAMERON §

BE IT REMEMBERED on the 10th day of January 2008, there was conducted a REGULAR Meeting of the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority, at the Levi Building, thereof, in the City of San Benito, Texas, for the purpose of transacting any and all business that may lawfully be brought before the same.

THE BOARD MET AT:

1:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

DAVID E. ALLEX
CHAIRPERSON

RUBEN GALLEGOS, JR.
DIRECTOR

FRANK PARKER, JR.
DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR

MICHAEL SCAIEF
DIRECTOR

DAVID N. GARZA
DIRECTOR

VICTOR ALVAREZ
DIRECTOR

Mary Robles
Secretary

RAY RAMON
ABSENT

=====

The meeting was called to order by Chairman David A. Allex at 1:30 P.M.

At this time, the Board considered the following matters as posted and filed for Record in the Office of the County Clerk on January 7, 2008, at 8:35 A.M.:

AGENDA
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
of the
Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority

Levis Building
1390 W. Expressway 77
San Benito, Texas 78586

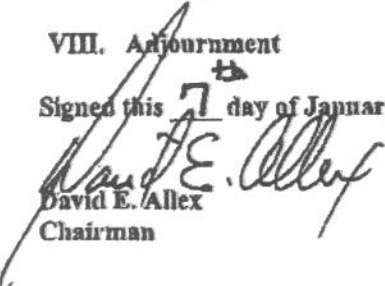
Thursday, January 10, 2008

1:30 PM

- I. Public Comments**
- II. Approval of Minutes of the October 31, 2007 and December 18, 2007 Meeting**
- III. Approval of GEC reports for October, November and December 2007**
- IV. Approval of expenditure reports for October, November and December 2007**
- V. Consideration and action authorizing Supplemental Agreement No. 2 to Work Authorization No. 8 extending a contract for International Advisor Services on the West Loop/West Rail project with HNTB**
- VI. Discussion and possible action regarding funding cuts by TxDOT**
- VII. CCRMA Board of Directors, CCRMA Coordinator and CCRMA Assistant Coordinator to travel to Texas Department of Transportation I-69/Trans Texas Corridor Town Hall meeting in Weslaco, Laredo and Robstown, Texas and public hearings in South Texas during the months of January and February 2008**

VIII. Adjournment

Signed this 7th day of January 2008.


David E. Alex
Chairman

ACCEPTED FOR FILING
CAMERON COUNTY
2008 JAN - 7 A 8:35
JOE Q. RIVERA
COUNTY CLERK

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Sepulveda informed that Ms. Norma Garza had been appointed the RMA Coordinator for the Texas Department of Transportation.

II. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 31, 2007 AND DECEMBER 18, 2007 MEETINGS

Director Alvarez moved that the Minutes of the October 31, 2007 Meeting be approved and that the Minutes of the December 18, 2007 Meeting be **TABLED**.

The motion was seconded by Director Gallegos and carried unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF GEC REPORTS FOR OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2007

Mr. Bobby Balli, HNTB, presented and highlighted the GEC Reports for October, November, and December, noting that limited activity took place on major projects

Director Gallegos moved that the GEC Reports for October, November, and December be acknowledged.

The motion was seconded by Director Alvarez and carried unanimously.

The Reports are as follow:

Pete Sepulveda Jr.
CCRMA Coordinator
Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority
3310 S. Expressway 77
Brownsville, TX 78521



November 9, 2007

Dear Mr. Sepulveda,

The following is a summary of our progress on the subject projects for the month of October 2007.

Project Management:

General GEC

- Prepared contract correspondence and monthly GEC progress report.
- Prepared & submitted CCRMA GEC Invoice No. 15 for work performed on Work Authorization Nos. 5 (FM 509), 7 (West Loop), 8 (West Rail), 10 (SPI Phase I), and 11 (East Loop Pass-Through).
- Submitted proposed scope for Supplemental Work Authorization No. 1 to Work Authorization No. 7 (West Loop additional services).
- HNTB attended the CCRMA Board Meetings on October 15th & 31st.
- Updated and submitted September 2007 GEC work authorization status report.

North Rail Relocation Project (Work Authorization No. 4)

North Rail Relocation Project relocates the exiting and operating freight rail lines away from incorporated and unincorporated areas of Cameron County, Texas, in particular in and around Harlingen, Texas. An effective relocation of the existing freight rail facility will not only improve freight rail operations to and from the US/Mexico border, but may aid in the enhancement of air quality for the area, improve the safety of the traveling public with regard to the freight rail/passenger interface, improve the response time of emergency vehicles, minimize if not eliminate the transport of hazardous material via freight rail through towns, improve traffic congestion, and ultimately enhance the economic development of the region.

- This work authorization has been completed. No activities to report for this month.
- Supplemental Work Authorization No. 1 to Work Authorization No. 4 (North Rail Relocation) was resubmitted to CCRMA.
- HNTB waiting on Notice to Proceed.
- HNTB is assisting in the facilitation of a meeting between Union Pacific, Rio Valley Switching Company, City of Harlingen and the CCRMA. The meeting is tentatively scheduled on November 26th at UP offices in Spring Texas.

FM 509 Project (Work Authorization No. 5)

The FM 509 project is a relief route around the north and east areas of the City of Harlingen that would construct FM 509, in Cameron County, from US 77 to the Intersection with FM 508. The proposed facility would consist of a four-lane roadway with directions of travel separated by a center median. Dependent upon traffic projections, an interim facility with fewer lanes may initially be constructed. Interchanges or grade separations would be constructed at major thoroughfares. As proposed, the right-of-way would be 300-feet (usual) wide and sufficient to accommodate future transportation needs; however, any future improvements would be subject to environmental review. This could include bicycle and pedestrian facilities, general purpose lanes, truck lanes, or some combination of these modes.

- Project coordination.
- HNTB delivered the “historic structures” completed draft report to TxDOT ENV on August 15th for coordination/approval. TxDOT ENV has requested that the draft FM 509 EA be reviewed by the Pharr District prior to issuing final determination on the historical resources.
- TxDOT ENV determination regarding historic structures is needed to finalize the identification of the preferred alternative prior to engaging special studies for archeology.
- The FM 509 Preliminary Draft EA was reviewed by CCRMA.
- HNTB held a Progress Meeting on October 18th.

West Loop Project (Work Authorization No. 7):

The proposed West Loop Road is a new location facility and will provide a four-lane controlled access expressway with interchanges and connections at strategic locations and grade separation structures for several crossing streets in Brownsville. The majority of the project alignment falls within or in the vicinity of the existing Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way. Negotiations are underway to relocate the railroad and donate the right-of-way to the county for the project.

Project Management (145):

- HNTB continued to coordinate with CCRMA staff on the project.
- HNTB held a Progress Meeting on October 4th.
- HNTB held a Progress Meeting on October 18th with TXDOT & CCRMA.

Roadway (110):

- HNTB continued to work on the conceptual layouts along the rail corridor.
- HNTB developed preliminary horizontal alignments.
- HNTB began developing preliminary schematics of alternatives for the upcoming public meeting.
- HNTB is awaiting CCRMA review/approval of the preliminary design criteria.
- HNTB/Alliance completed collecting traffic counts on various locations of the project.
- HNTB/Ambiotec is continuing major utility preliminary investigations.
- HNTB conducted internal quality control of traffic counts and geometrics.
- HNTB initiated and completed existing traffic analysis of AM & PM periods and are conducting an internal quality review.
- HNTB/Alliance began building the existing network for the Level 2 travel demand model.
- HNTB working to identify future improvements.

Environmental (120):

- Need & Purpose, Project Introduction & Planning Process, Alternatives Analysis, Social & Economic Impacts, Farmland, Water Resources, Floodplains, Wetland Delineation, Threatened & Endangered Species, Habitat Analysis, Visual Impacts and Construction Impacts are completed and in preliminary draft.
- HNTB submitted a scope of work to complete the requirements for Hazardous Materials Impacts, Noise Analysis, Archeology and Section 4(f).
The Mobile Source Air Toxics section is in draft but requires the mapping of sensitive receivers, which can be updated in conjunction with the noise survey site visit.
- The Hazardous Materials Impacts will require a new database search.
- HNTB has developed a Draft Public Involvement Plan, with a Public Meeting date to be determined. HNTB prepared a legal notice and agency scoping letter for the upcoming public meeting. This documents were submitted to TxDOT for their review.

Survey (150):

- Task completed with no further work planned.

Subconsultant Management:

- HNTB continued ongoing coordination with all subconsultants.

West Rail Relocation Project (Work Authorization No. 8):

This Work Authorization provides appropriate subconsultant(s) for staff coordination with the Mexican agencies to monitor and determine project schedules, permit requirements, funding technical agreements and design for the West Rail Relocation around Brownsville, Texas. The project plans will require approval by Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Transportes (SCT), Comisión Internacional de Límites Y Aguas (CILA) and Kansas City Southern Mexico (KCSM).

- Arturo de las Fuentes had a meeting on Monday, October 1st with Lic. Oscar S. Corzo Cruz, General Director of Railroad and Multimodal Transport Secretariat to review the financial agreement for the Project.
- The procedure for the registration of the Investment agreement required by the Treasury and Public Credit Secretariat was reviewed by the Secretary's office on Tuesday, October 2nd as was the note for the Investment Infrastructure Fund.
- Arturo de las Fuentes had a meeting on Monday, October 1st with the Director of Railroad and Multimodal Transport and with the General Direction of customs to discuss the switch yard design. An agreement was reached on the element of the switch yard.
- Arturo de las Fuentes had a meeting on Friday, October 5th with Dr. Reyes Juarez del Angle, General Director from Felipe Ochoa y Asociados, AC. They discussed the next steps on obtaining approval of the project design.
- Arturo de las Fuentes had a meeting on Wednesday, October 10, 2007 with the Lic. Aquiles Garza Barrios, General Director of Exterior Commerce from the government of the State of Tamaulipas and Lic. Ulysses Flores Rodriguez, Under Director of the Judicial Department from the Economic Development Secretariat from the Government of the State of Tamaulipas, to discuss the right of way acquisition process. There is an effort to obtain assistance from Matamoros in this acquisition process which is expected to take 6 months.
- Arturo de las Fuentes had a meeting on Wednesday, October 10, 2007 with Arg. Jose Arnoldo Carillo de la Garza, Urban Development Secretary and Arq. Miguel Angle Jaime

Ramirez, Projects Coordinator. At this meeting they discussed the processes required for appraising the necessary parcels of land.

- The Technical Group bi-monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, October 24, 2007.

South Padre Island Second Causeway (Work Authorization No. 10):

This work authorization provides for the initiation of project development by authorizing the preparation of a comprehensive Project Development Plan and the undertaking of specific actions required under Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) to include a project initiation letter, project coordination plan and preliminary need and purpose statement with support documentation.

- HNTB incorporated CCRMA and TxDOT District comments of the draft coordination plan, draft project initiation letter, and the draft Need and Purpose document.
- Draft coordination plan, project initiation letter, and the draft Need and Purpose document submitted to TxDOT ENV and FHWA.

East Loop Pass Through Financing (Work Authorization No. 11):

The project, termed as the East Loop, is currently identified as three sections. Section I begins at the intersection of US 77 (North of Brownsville) and FM 511 in Olmito and continues east along FM 511 to SH 48 (near the Port of Brownsville). This section is currently under design through a TxDOT consultant as a four (4) lane divided section that will ultimately be frontage roads to a six (6) lane divided section for truck and passenger traffic. Section II continues from SH 48 at FM 511 east and then south to SH 4 (Boca Chica Boulevard). This section is currently a TxDOT project and is in the Environmental and Preliminary Schematic stage. Section III continues southbound from SH 4 near the southeast corner of Brownsville and ends at the entrance of the Veterans International Bridge on US 77. This section is currently in the Environmental and Preliminary Schematic stage. Sections II and III are currently identified as a four (4) lane divided section.

- HNTB received Noticed to Proceed on July 18th.
- HNTB continued to update workplan and schedule for the design of this Work Authorization.
- HNTB continued to collect data from previous studies, TxDOT, and TxDOT Consultants regarding project layouts, schedule, and typical road sections.
- HNTB continued development of independent construction cost estimates for each segment and phase of the East Loop project for inclusion in the pass-through application.
- HNTB continued development of project layout and preparation of necessary exhibits for the pass-through funding application.
- HNTB developed the draft pass-through application and submitted the information to Prime Strategies, Inc. for development of the final application.
- HNTB project team researched the newly adopted pass through financing application requirements to determine additional information that would be required for the subsequent application.
- HNTB Prepared Exhibits, Estimates, and Preliminary application for the Pass-through funding application and submitted the information to CCRMA for review.
- CCRMA submitted the East Loop Pass Through Financing Application to TxDOT Pharr District for review.

South Padre Island Second Causeway (Work Authorization No. 12):

This work authorization provides engineering and environmental services associated with the development and advancement of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the proposed South Padre Island (SPI) 2nd Causeway Project. The tasks associated with the project will include the development of the necessary environmental documentation, corridor alternatives assessments and related public involvement activities.

Route and Design Studies (110):

- HNTB held a Team Kickoff Internal Meeting on October 18th.
- HNTB held a Toll Feasibility Coordination Meeting on October 23rd.
- HNTB held a Level 2 Toll Feasibility Methodology Meeting on October 23rd.
- HNTB held a Project Kickoff Meeting on October 24th.
- HNTB began data collection.

Social, Economic and Environmental Studies (120):

- HNTB completed internal draft of Public Involvement Plan, workplan, procedures and QC plan.
- HNTB completed internal draft (questions only) of Frequently Asked Questions.
- HNTB completed internal draft of Fact Sheet.
- HNTB completed internal draft of public notice (newspaper ads) for public meeting #1.
- HNTB completed internal draft of public officials letter.
- HNTB completed internal draft of invitation to PI Technical Working Group (PITWG), including fact sheet and form for participation.
- HNTB compiled list of invitees for PITWG.
- HNTB requested project mailing list for SPI Causeway project.
- HNTB compiled ad dates and net costs for public noticing for public meeting #1.
- HNTB completed internal draft checklists for public meeting #1 and first PITWG.
- HNTB has researched facilities for both the public meeting #1 and PITWG (none contracted yet).
- HNTB has completed an internal exhibits and handouts list for the public meeting #1.
- HNTB has completed internal draft of release for public meeting #1.
- HNTB has completed internal draft of the coordinating agency letter.
- HNTB initiated collection of data for the development of the constraints map.

Field Surveying and Photogrammetry (150):

- RODs Aerial Mapping completed the flight.
- RODs began to process the flight data and DTM.

Consultant Management:

- Continued ongoing coordination with all subconsultants.
- HNTB executed subconsultant contracts for Work Authorization 12.

Agency Coordination:

- Conducted ongoing discussions with CCRMA staff, TxDOT staff, TTA staff and subconsultants for preparation of West Loop Project and West Rail Project.

For Discussion:

- Upcoming work authorizations:

- West Loop Supplemental (Public Involvement, Traffic Counts and Environmental Supplemental information)
- South Padre Island 2nd Causeway Supplemental (Economic Development Study and elements of a Level 2 Toll Feasibility Study)

Best regards,

Lamberto "Bobby" Balli, P.E.
Associate Vice President

cc: Robert Slimp, P.E.
Richard Ridings, P.E.
David Garcia

Pete Sepulveda Jr.
CCRMA Coordinator
Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority
1100 E. Monroe Street
Brownsville, Tx 78520

HNTB

December 5, 2007

Dear Mr. Sepulveda,

The following is a summary of our progress on the subject projects for the month of November 2007.

Project Management:

General GEC

- Prepared contract correspondence and monthly GEC progress report.
- Prepared & submitted CCRMA GEC Invoice No. 16 and No. 17 for work performed on Work Authorization Nos. 5 (FM 509), 7 (West Loop), 10 (SPI Phase I), 11(East Loop Pass-Through), and 12 (SPI 2nd Causeway)
- HNTB developed Supplemental Work Authorization No. 1 to Work Authorization No. 7 (West Loop additional services).
- Updated and submitted October 2007 GEC work authorization status report.

North Rail Relocation Project (Work Authorization No. 4)

North Rail Relocation Project relocates the exiting and operating freight rail lines away from incorporated and unincorporated areas of Cameron County, Texas, in particular in and around Harlingen, Texas. An effective relocation of the existing freight rail facility will not only improve freight rail operations to and from the US/Mexico border, but may aid in the enhancement of air quality for the area, improve the safety of the traveling public with regard to the freight rail/passenger interface, improve the response time of emergency vehicles, minimize if not eliminate the transport of hazardous material via freight rail through towns, improve traffic congestion, and ultimately enhance the economic development of the region.

- This work authorization has been completed. No activities to report for this month.
- Supplemental Work Authorization No. 1 to Work Authorization No. 4 (North Rail Relocation) was resubmitted to CCRMA.
- HNTB waiting on Notice to Proceed.
- HNTB participated in a conference call and attended a meeting between Union Pacific, Rio Valley Switching Company, City of Harlingen and the CCRMA.

FM 509 Project (Work Authorization No. 5)

The FM 509 project is a relief route around the north and east areas of the City of Harlingen that would construct FM 509, in Cameron County, from US 77 to the Intersection with FM 508. The proposed facility would consist of a four-lane roadway with directions of travel separated by a center median. Dependent upon traffic projections, an interim facility with fewer lanes may initially be constructed. Interchanges or grade separations would be constructed at major thoroughfares. As proposed, the right-of-way would be 300-feet (usual) wide and sufficient to accommodate future transportation needs; however, any future improvements would be subject to environmental review. This could include bicycle and pedestrian facilities, general purpose lanes, truck lanes, or some combination of these modes.

- Project coordination.
- HNTB delivered the “historic structures” completed draft report to TxDOT ENV on August 15th for coordination/approval. TxDOT ENV has requested that the draft FM 509 EA be reviewed by the Pharr District prior to issuing final determination on the historical resources.
- TxDOT ENV determination regarding historic structures is needed to finalize the identification of the preferred alternative prior to engaging special studies for archeology.
- HNTB addressed CCRMA comments on FM 509 Preliminary Draft EA.
- HNTB submitted the FM 509 Draft EA for TxDOT’s Review.

West Loop Project (Work Authorization No. 7):

The proposed West Loop Road is a new location facility and will provide a four-lane controlled access expressway with interchanges and connections at strategic locations and grade separation structures for several crossing streets in Brownsville. The majority of the project alignment falls within or in the vicinity of the existing Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way. Negotiations are underway to relocate the railroad and donate the right-of-way to the county for the project.

Project Management (145):

- “STOP WORK” was issued on November 16th.
- HNTB continued to coordinate with CCRMA staff on the project.
- HNTB is assisting in expediting the RESTART of this project with TxDOT and CCRMA staff. HNTB prepared Cash Flow schedules and Performance Graphs for various Project Scenarios. This effort is not a part of the scope for WA No.7

Roadway (110):

- HNTB continued to work on the conceptual layouts along the rail corridor.
- HNTB continued to develop preliminary horizontal alignments.
- HNTB began developing preliminary schematics of alternatives for the upcoming public meeting.
- HNTB is awaiting CCRMA review/approval of the preliminary design criteria.
- HNTB/Alliance completed collecting traffic counts on various locations of the project.
- HNTB/Ambiotec is continuing major utility preliminary investigations.
- HNTB conducted internal quality control of traffic counts and geometrics.
- HNTB initiated and completed existing traffic analysis of AM & PM periods and are conducting an internal quality review.
- HNTB/Alliance continues building the existing network for the Level 2 travel demand model.
- HNTB working to identify future improvements.

Environmental (120):

- Need & Purpose, Project Introduction & Planning Process, Alternatives Analysis, Social & Economic Impacts, Farmland, Water Resources, Floodplains, Wetland Delineation, Threatened & Endangered Species, Habitat Analysis, Visual Impacts and Construction Impacts are completed and in preliminary draft.
- HNTB submitted a scope of work to complete the requirements for Hazardous Materials Impacts, Noise Analysis, Archeology and Section 4(f).
The Mobile Source Air Toxics section is in draft but requires the mapping of sensitive receivers, which can be updated in conjunction with the noise survey site visit.
- The Hazardous Materials Impacts will require a new database search.
- HNTB has developed a Draft Public Involvement Plan, with a Public Meeting date to be determined. HNTB prepared a legal notice and agency scoping letter for the upcoming public meeting. These documents were submitted to TxDOT for their review.

Survey (150):

- Task completed with no further work planned.

Subconsultant Management:

- HNTB continued ongoing coordination with all subconsultants.

West Rail Relocation Project (Work Authorization No. 8):

This Work Authorization provides appropriate subconsultant(s) for staff coordination with the Mexican agencies to monitor and determine project schedules, permit requirements, funding technical agreements and design for the West Rail Relocation around Brownsville, Texas. The project plans will require approval by Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Transportes (SCT), Comisión Internacional de Limites Y Aguas (CILA) and Kansas City Southern Mexico (KCSM).

- Mr. Arturo De Las Fuentes received the official document sent by engineer Arturo Herrera Solís, Mexican Commissioner from the Commission de Limites y Aguas which approves the levee modification.
- The National Infrastructure Plan, prioritizing the West Rail Project with the Federal Government was presented on July 17, 2007.
 - Lic. Federico Reyes Soria, Director of Projects Financing from NAFINSA and Francisco Quiñones Partida, Under Director of States and Municipalities Projects also from NAFINSA, presented the Financial Plan for the project.

South Padre Island Second Causeway (Work Authorization No. 10):

This work authorization provides for the initiation of project development by authorizing the preparation of a comprehensive Project Development Plan and the undertaking of specific actions required under Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) to include a project initiation letter, project coordination plan and preliminary need and purpose statement with support documentation.

- HNTB incorporated CCRMA and TxDOT District comments of the draft coordination plan, draft project initiation letter, and the draft Need and Purpose document.
- Draft coordination plan, project initiation letter, and the draft Need and Purpose document submitted to TxDOT ENV and FHWA.

- All Tasks have been completed for this Work Authorization.

East Loop Pass Through Financing (Work Authorization No. 11):

The project, termed as the East Loop, is currently identified as three sections. Section I begins at the intersection of US 77 (North of Brownsville) and FM 511 in Olmito and continues east along FM 511 to SH 48 (near the Port of Brownsville). This section is currently under design through a TxDOT consultant as a four (4) lane divided section that will ultimately be frontage roads to a six (6) lane divided section for truck and passenger traffic. Section II continues from SH 48 at FM 511 east and then south to SH 4 (Boca Chica Boulevard). This section is currently a TxDOT project and is in the Environmental and Preliminary Schematic stage. Section III continues southbound from SH 4 near the southeast corner of Brownsville and ends at the entrance of the Veterans International Bridge on US 77. This section is currently in the Environmental and Preliminary Schematic stage. Sections II and III are currently identified as a four (4) lane divided section.

- HNTB received Noticed to Proceed on July 18th.
- HNTB continued to update workplan and schedule for the design of this Work Authorization.
- CCRMA submitted the East Loop Pass Through Financing Application to TxDOT Pharr District for review.

South Padre Island Second Causeway (Work Authorization No. 12):

This work authorization provides engineering and environmental services associated with the development and advancement of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the proposed South Padre Island (SPI) 2nd Causeway Project. The tasks associated with the project will include the development of the necessary environmental documentation, corridor alternatives assessments and related public involvement activities.

Route and Design Studies (110):

- HNTB continued to collect existing data.
 - "STOP WORK" was issued on November 16th.
 - HNTB continued to coordinate with CCRMA staff on the project.
 - HNTB is assisting in expediting the RESTART of this project with TxDOT and CCRMA staff.
 - HNTB prepared Cash Flow schedules and Performance Graphs for various Project Scenarios.
- This effort is not part of the scope of WA No. 12

Social, Economic and Environmental Studies (120):

- HNTB completed internal draft of Public Involvement Plan, workplan, procedures and QC plan.
- HNTB completed internal draft (questions only) of Frequently Asked Questions.
- HNTB completed internal draft of Fact Sheet.
- HNTB completed internal draft of public notice (newspaper ads) for public meeting #1.
- HNTB completed internal draft of public officials' letter.
- HNTB completed internal draft of invitation to PI Technical Working Group (PITWG), including fact sheet and form for participation.
- HNTB completed the list of invitees for PITWG.
- HNTB requested project mailing list for SPI Causeway project.
- HNTB compiled ad dates and net costs for public noticing for public meeting #1.

- HNTB completed internal draft checklists for public meeting #1 and first PITWG.
- HNTB has researched facilities for both the public meeting #1 and PITWG (none contracted yet).
- HNTB has completed an internal exhibits and handouts list for the public meeting #1.
- HNTB has completed internal draft of release for public meeting #1.
- HNTB has completed internal draft of the coordinating agency letter.
- HNTB initiated collection of data for the development of the constraints map.
- HNTB continued development of the constraints map.
- HNTB conducted a site visit and initial assessment of the study area.
- HNTB began initiating contact with stakeholders regarding participation in the NEPA TWG.

Field Surveying and Photogrammetry (150):

- RODs Aerial Mapping completed the flight.
- RODs completed the flight data and DTM.

Consultant Management:

- Continued ongoing coordination with all subconsultants.
- HNTB executed subconsultant contracts for Work Authorization 12.

Agency Coordination:

- Conducted ongoing discussions with CCRMA staff, TxDOT staff, TTA staff and subconsultants for preparation of West Loop Project and West Rail Project.

For Discussion:

- Upcoming work authorizations:
 - West Loop Supplemental (Public Involvement, Traffic Counts and Environmental Supplemental information)
 - South Padre Island 2nd Causeway Supplemental (Economic Development Study and elements of a Level 2 Toll Feasibility Study)

Best regards,

Lamberto "Bobby" Balli, P.E.
Associate Vice President

cc: Robert Slimp, P.E.
Richard Ridings, P.E.
David Garcia

Pete Sepulveda Jr.
CCRMA Coordinator
Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority
1100 E. Monroe Street
Brownsville, Tx 78520



January 4, 2008

Dear Mr. Sepulveda,

The following is a summary of our progress on the subject projects for the month of December 2007.

Project Management:

General GEC

- Prepared contract correspondence and monthly GEC progress report.
- Prepared & submitted CCRMA GEC Invoice No. 18 for work performed on Work Authorization Nos. 5 (FM 509), 7 (West Loop), 10 (SPI Phase I), 11(East Loop Pass-Through), and 12 (SPI 2nd Causeway)
- HNTB developed Supplemental Work Authorization No. 1 to Work Authorization No. 7 (West Loop additional services).
- Updated and submitted November 2007 GEC work authorization status report.

North Rail Relocation Project (Work Authorization No. 4)

North Rail Relocation Project relocates the exiting and operating freight rail lines away from incorporated and unincorporated areas of Cameron County, Texas, in particular in and around Harlingen, Texas. An effective relocation of the existing freight rail facility will not only improve freight rail operations to and from the US/Mexico border, but may aid in the enhancement of air quality for the area, improve the safety of the traveling public with regard to the freight rail/passenger interface, improve the response time of emergency vehicles, minimize if not eliminate the transport of hazardous material via freight rail through towns, improve traffic congestion, and ultimately enhance the economic development of the region.

- This work authorization has been completed. No activities to report for this month.
- Supplemental Work Authorization No. 1 to Work Authorization No. 4 (North Rail Relocation) was resubmitted to CCRMA.
- HNTB waiting on Notice to Proceed.

FM 509 Project (Work Authorization No. 5)

The FM 509 project is a relief route around the north and east areas of the City of Harlingen that would construct FM 509, in Cameron County, from US 77 to the Intersection with FM 508. The proposed facility would consist of a four-lane roadway with directions of travel separated by a center median. Dependent upon traffic projections, an interim facility with fewer lanes may initially be constructed. Interchanges or grade separations would be constructed at major thoroughfares. As proposed, the right-of-way would be 300-feet (usual) wide and sufficient to accommodate future transportation needs; however, any future improvements would be subject to environmental review. This could include bicycle and pedestrian facilities, general purpose lanes, truck lanes, or some combination of these modes.

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- TxDOT ENV determination regarding historic structures is needed to finalize the identification of the preferred alternative prior to engaging special studies for archeology.
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- HNTB submitted the FM 509 Draft EA for TxDOT’s Review.

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The proposed West Loop Road is a new location facility and will provide a four-lane controlled access expressway with interchanges and connections at strategic locations and grade separation structures for several crossing streets in Brownsville. The majority of the project alignment falls within or in the vicinity of the existing Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way. Negotiations are underway to relocate the railroad and donate the right-of-way to the county for the project.

Project Management (145):

- “STOP WORK” was issued on November 16th.
- HNTB is assisting in expediting the RESTART of this project with TxDOT and CCRMA staff.
- HNTB prepared Cash Flow schedules and Performance Graphs for various Project Scenarios.
HNTB continues to communicate with TxDOT officials in an attempt to expedite the project restart. All of December’s activities have not been part of the approved scope.

West Rail Relocation Project (Work Authorization No. 8):

This Work Authorization provides appropriate subconsultant(s) for staff coordination with the Mexican agencies to monitor and determine project schedules, permit requirements, funding technical agreements and design for the West Rail Relocation around Brownsville, Texas. The project plans will require approval by Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Transportes (SCT), Comisión Internacional de Límites Y Aguas (CILA) and Kansas City Southern Mexico (KCSM).

- Several communications were made with Lic. Oscar Corzo-Cruz. Lic. Cruz will be facilitating with the Mexican infrastructure fund of Banobras. He will also be contacting the public credit unit of the treasury department. He has suggested that the proposed

coordination agreement be signed only by the State of Tamaulipas, City of Matamoros and KCSM.

- Dr. De Las Fuentes has drafted a coordination agreement which will be signed by above stated agencies. This agreement is being reviewed by Lic. Aguiles Garza-Barrios from the State of Tamaulipas.
- Dr. De Las Fuentes also requested information from Jose Galvan, CEO B&M Bridge Company regarding financial information as well as revenue, operations, and maintenance costs. This request was refused because it was considered confidential. Therefore, Lic. Aguiles Garza-Barrios of the State of Tamaulipas will be requesting this information from the Federal Government through Ing. Antonio Lozada-Bausita Director of Railroad Operations for SCT.
- Dr. De Las Fuentes prepared a letter requesting financial support for advancing the final design in the amount of \$50,000. This letter is in the possession of NADBANK Officials.
- Over the course of the month Dr. De Las Fuentes assisted the projects consultants from Felipe Ochoa and associates in coordinating the projects design details with officials from the State of Tamaulipas. A meeting was held in Monterrey to discuss specific details of the project.
- Coordination also continued with Pete Sepulveda, Bobby Balli and Dr. Reyes-Juarez of FOA regarding the final design of the project.
- Finally, meetings are being scheduled with representatives of the City of Matamoros to include the Mayor of Matamoros.
- December completes Dr. De Las Fuentes one year contract.

South Padre Island Second Causeway (Work Authorization No. 10):

This work authorization provides for the initiation of project development by authorizing the preparation of a comprehensive Project Development Plan and the undertaking of specific actions required under Section 6002 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) to include a project initiation letter, project coordination plan and preliminary need and purpose statement with support documentation.

- All Tasks have been completed for this Work Authorization.

East Loop Pass Through Financing (Work Authorization No. 11):

The project, termed as the East Loop, is currently identified as three sections. Section I begins at the intersection of US 77 (North of Brownsville) and FM 511 in Olmito and continues east along FM 511 to SH 48 (near the Port of Brownsville). This section is currently under design through a TxDOT consultant as a four (4) lane divided section that will ultimately be frontage roads to a six (6) lane divided section for truck and passenger traffic. Section II continues from SH 48 at FM 511 east and then south to SH 4 (Boca Chica Boulevard). This section is currently a TxDOT project and is in the Environmental and Preliminary Schematic stage. Section III continues southbound from SH 4 near the southeast corner of Brownsville and ends at the entrance of the Veterans International Bridge on US 77. This section is currently in the Environmental and Preliminary Schematic stage. Sections II and III are currently identified as a four (4) lane divided section.

- CCRMA submitted the East Loop Pass Through Financing Application to TxDOT Pharr District for review.
- A meeting with Mario Jorge, TxDOT District Engineer has been scheduled for 1/11 to discuss the application.

South Padre Island Second Causeway (Work Authorization No. 12):

This work authorization provides engineering and environmental services associated with the development and advancement of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the proposed South Padre Island (SPI) 2nd Causeway Project. The tasks associated with the project will include the development of the necessary environmental documentation, corridor alternatives assessments and related public involvement activities.

Route and Design Studies (110):

- “STOP WORK” was issued on November 16th.
- HNTB is assisting in expediting the RESTART of this project with TxDOT and CCRMA staff.
- HNTB prepared Cash Flow schedules and Performance Graphs for various Project Scenarios.
HNTB continues to communicate with TxDOT officials in an attempt to expedite the project restart. All of December’s activities have not been part of the approved scope.

Consultant Management:

- Continued ongoing coordination with all subconsultants.

Agency Coordination:

- Conducted ongoing discussions with CCRMA staff, TxDOT staff, TTA staff and subconsultants for preparation of 2nd Causeway, West Loop Project and West Rail Project.

For Discussion:

- Upcoming work authorizations:
 - West Loop Supplemental (Public Involvement, Traffic Counts and Environmental Supplemental information)
 - South Padre Island 2nd Causeway Supplemental (Economic Development Study and elements of a Level 2 Toll Feasibility Study)

Best regards,

Lamberto “Bobby” Balli, P.E.
Associate Vice President

cc: Robert Slimp, P.E.
Richard Ridings, P.E.
David Garcia

**IV. APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE REPORTS FOR
OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2007**

Mr. Sepulveda presented the Expenditure Reports for October, November, and December.

Chairman Alex questioned the listing of two checks to HNTB for the same amount.

Director Parker moved that the Expenditure Reports for October, November, and December be approved, subject to clarification of the questioned item.

The motion was seconded by Director Scaief and carried unanimously.

The Reports are as follow:

Cash Disbursement Journal By GL
From 10/01/2007 To 10/31/2007

<u>Fund Dept</u>	<u>LnItem</u>	<u>PEID</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Post Date</u>	<u>PO #</u>	<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
110 110	6045	0000160653	HNTB CORP	00189759	10/18/2007	10/18/2007	P116225	16-40619-PL-011	4,972,982.51
								Check Total	38,516.41
								Line Item Total	38,516.41
110 110	6082	0000165669	ALMON,ROBERT	00188987	10/04/2007	10/04/2007		OCT CONTRACT	500.00
								Check Total	500.00
110 110	6082			00189678	10/18/2007	10/18/2007		NOV CONTRACT	500.00
								Check Total	500.00
110 110	6082	0000154776	BETANCOURT,BLANCA	00188993	10/04/2007	10/04/2007		OCT CONTRACT	200.00
								Check Total	200.00
110 110	6082			00189874	10/22/2007	10/22/2007		NOV CONTRACT	200.00
								Check Total	200.00
110 110	6082	0000163539	ROBLES,MARICRUZ	00189050	10/04/2007	10/04/2007		OCT CONTRACT	416.67
								Check Total	416.67
110 110	6082			00189825	10/18/2007	10/18/2007		OCT CONTRACT	416.67
								Check Total	416.67
110 110	6082	0000166843	SAENZ,PERLA J	00189052	10/04/2007	10/04/2007		OCT CONTRACT	200.00
								Check Total	200.00
110 110	6082			00189877	10/22/2007	10/22/2007		NOV CONTRACT	200.00
								Check Total	200.00
								Line Item Total	2,633.34
								Dept. Total	41,149.75

Cash Disbursement Journal By GL

From 10/01/2007 To 10/31/2007

1101108

<u>Fund Dept</u>	<u>Lnltn</u>	<u>PEID</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>PO #</u>	<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
110	1108	6045	0000160653	HNTB CORP	00189759	10/18/2007	10/18/2007	P 108398	16-40619-PL-008	11,008.16
West Railroad Relocation										
Check Total										
11,008.16										
Line Item Total										
11,008.16										
Dept. Total										
11,008.16										

From 11/01/2007 To 11/30/2007

1000836

<u>Fund Dept</u>	<u>Lnltm</u>	<u>PEID</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Post Date</u>	<u>PO #</u>	<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
REGIONAL MOBILITY AU									
110 110	1107	0000160653	HNTB CORP	00191954	11/29/2007	11/29/2007	P118014	16-40619-PL-007	132,932.43
								Check Total	132,932.43
110 110	1108			00191653	11/20/2007	11/19/2007	P117967	17-40619-PL-008	132,932.43
								Line Item Total	132,932.43
								Check Total	11,008.17
110 110	6042			00191954	11/29/2007	11/29/2007	P118015	16-40169-PL-010	11,008.17
								Line Item Total	11,008.17
								Check Total	27,506.92
110 110	6045			00191653	11/20/2007	11/19/2007	P116225	17-40619-PL-011	27,506.92
								Line Item Total	27,506.92
								Check Total	40,449.66
110 110	6050	0000167027	GALLEGOS,RUBEN	00191745	11/27/2007	11/27/2007		REIMB TRAVEL	40,449.66
								Line Item Total	184.44
110 110	6050	0000166064	GARCIA,DAVID	00190481	11/01/2007	11/01/2007		OCT.25-26 TRAVEL	184.44
								Check Total	338.89
110 110	6050	0000166279	SCAIEF,MICHAEL	00190946	11/08/2007	11/08/2007		TRAVEL REIMB	338.89
								Check Total	491.69
110 110	6050	0000127024	SEPULVEDA,PETE	00190950	11/08/2007	11/08/2007		REIM 10/15&10/31	491.69
110 110	6050			00190950	11/08/2007	11/08/2007		REIM 10/25&10/26	110.24
								Check Total	202.53
110 110	6050			00192034	11/29/2007	11/28/2007		REIMB. 11/26/07	312.77
110 110	6050			00192034	11/29/2007	11/28/2007		REIMB. 11/26/07	283.60
								Check Total	313.60
								Line Item Total	597.20
110 110	6082	0000165669	ALMON,ROBERT	00191344	11/14/2007	11/14/2007		DEC CONTRACT	1,924.99
								Check Total	500.00
110 110	6082	0000154776	BETANCOURT,BLANCA	00191365	11/14/2007	11/14/2007		DEC CONTRACT	500.00
								Check Total	200.00
110 110	6082	0000163539	ROBLES,MARICRUZ	00191514	11/14/2007	11/14/2007		DEC CONTRACT	200.00
								Check Total	416.67
110 110	6082	0000166843	SAENZ,PERLA J	00191527	11/14/2007	11/14/2007		DEC CONTRACT	416.67
								Check Total	200.00
								Line Item Total	200.00
								Dept. Total	1,316.67
									215,138.84

From 12/01/2007 To 12/31/2007

<u>Fund Dept</u>	<u>LnItm</u>	<u>PEID</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Check Date</u>	<u>Post Date</u>	<u>PO #</u>	<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Fund Total</u>	<u>Amount</u>
REGIONAL MOBILITY AU										
110 110	1108	0000160653	HNTB CORP	00192886	12/18/2007	12/18/2007	P117967	18-40619-PL-008	5,181,473.75	10,261.84
								Check Total		10,261.84
110 110	6045			00192637	12/13/2007	12/12/2007	P102952	12-40619-PL-002		10,261.84
110 110	6045			00192637	12/13/2007	12/12/2007	P102953	12-40619-PL-003		1,352.72
								Check Total		1,490.00
110 110	6045			00192886	12/18/2007	12/18/2007	P116225	18-40619-PL-011		2,842.72
								Check Total		8,922.72
110 110	6050	0000166064	GARCIA,DAVID	00192598	12/13/2007	12/12/2007		REIMB HOUSTON		8,922.72
								Line Item Total		11,765.44
110 110	6050			00193004	12/20/2007	12/19/2007		AUSTIN 12/12/07		416.83
								Check Total		416.83
110 110	6050	0000127024	SEPULVEDA,PETE	00192769	12/13/2007	12/12/2007		TRAVEL HOUSTON		512.87
								Check Total		512.87
110 110	6050			00193105	12/20/2007	12/19/2007		REIMB. AUSTIN		461.33
								Check Total		461.33
110 110	6082	0000165669	ALMON,ROBERT	00192491	12/13/2007	12/12/2007		JAN CONTRACT		481.15
								Check Total		481.15
110 110	6082	0000154776	BETANCOURT,BLANCA	00192521	12/13/2007	12/12/2007		JAN CONTRACT		1,872.18
								Check Total		500.00
110 110	6082	0000163539	ROBLES,MARICRUZ	00192744	12/13/2007	12/12/2007		DEC CONTRACT		500.00
								Check Total		200.00
110 110	6082	0000166843	SAENZ,PERLA J	00192910	12/18/2007	12/18/2007		JAN CONTRACT		200.00
								Check Total		416.67
								Line Item Total		416.67
								Dept. Total		200.00
										200.00
										1,316.67
										25,216.13

V. IN THE MATTER REGARDING CONSIDERATION AND ACTION AUTHORIZING SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT NO. 2 TO WORK AUTHORIZATION NO. 8 EXTENDING A CONTRACT FOR INTERNATIONAL ADVISOR SERVICES ON THE WEST LOOP/WEST RAIL PROJECT WITH HNTB (TABLED)

Upon motion by Director Gallegos and seconded by Director Garza, and carried unanimously, this item was **TABLED**.

VI. IN THE MATTER REGARDING DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FUNDING CUTS BY TXDOT (NO ACTION TAKEN)

Mr. Sepulveda briefed as to the status of past projects and informed the Board that statewide funding cuts to the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) would affect the RMA and its projects. He explained that the RMA presently had \$1 million, which would be insufficient to fund all projects. Mr. Sepulveda stated that the RMA would lose \$80,000 per day if projects did not move forward. He noted the need to develop a plan on how to use available funds to move forward on projects. Mr. Sepulveda presented an option to fund the Second Causeway, West Rail Relocation, and the East Loop Relocation Projects thru a CDA, noting that environmental clearance was needed.

At this time, State Representative Juan Escobar, District 43, recognized the situation and expressed his support for the CCRMA.

County Commissioner David Garza expressed his concern for further delays to improve General Grant Road, and suggested that the RMA question why the funding was no longer there.

VII. CCRMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, CCRMA COORDINATOR AND CCRMA ASSISTANT COORDINATOR TO TRAVEL TO TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION I-69/TRANS TEXAS CORRIDOR TOWN HALL MEETING IN WESLACO, LAREDO AND ROBSTOWN, TEXAS AND PUBLIC HEARING IN SOUTH TEXAS DURING THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2008

Director Parker moved that the CCRMA Board of Directors, CCRMA Coordinator and CCRMA Assistant Coordinator be approved to travel to attend the Texas Department of Transportation I-69/Trans Texas Corridor

Town Hall Meeting in Weslaco, Laredo and Robstown, Texas, and the public hearing in South Texas during the months of January and February 2008.

The motion was seconded by Director Alvarez and carried unanimously.

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- VIII.** There being no further business to come before the Board and upon motion by Director Gallegos, seconded by Director Parker, the meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 2:37 P.M.
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APPROVED this 21st day of **February 2008**.

CHAIRMAN DAVID E. ALLEX

ATTESTED:

SECRETARY MICHAEL SCAIEF