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CAPITAL AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



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Comments? E-mail
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The CAMPO Connection

September
2011

CAMPO PROJECT PRIORITIES: WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Comments requested on project funding and amendments

The Austin region expects to receive over \$126 million in funding for transportation projects over the next several years. The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) invites area residents to comment on the projects and programs that have been proposed to receive funding.

The funding will be available in 2012-2014. It is available for a range of transportation projects including regional roadway construction, public transportation capital projects, bicycle and pedestrian projects, and studies. CAMPO asked cities, counties, and transportation providers from Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson Counties for project applications and received proposals for nearly \$775 million in eligible projects, programs, and studies.

On September 1, 2011 CAMPO starts taking public comment on the proposed projects. The CAMPO Transportation Policy Board encourages all Central Texans to visit www.campotexas.org, review the requests, and comment. The community meetings (listed below) offer another opportunity for comment. CAMPO will also be taking input on proposed amendments to the CAMPO 2035 Regional Transportation Plan, and CAMPO FYs 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program.

The public comment period closes at 5:00 p.m. on September 30, 2011. The CAMPO Transportation Policy Board will use the results in their project selection process.

Community Meetings:

6:30 to 8:00 P.M. at all locations

- Tuesday, September 13th - Lockhart City Hall, 308 West San Antonio St., Lockhart
- Wednesday, September 14th - San Marcos City Activity Center, 501 East Hopkins Street, San Marcos
- Tuesday, September 20th - Georgetown Council Chambers, 101 E. 7th Street, Georgetown
- Wednesday, September 21st - One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Road, Austin
- Thursday, September 22nd - Bastrop City Hall, 1311 Chestnut Street, Bastrop

Public Hearing:

- Monday, September 26th, 6 p.m. - Joe C. Thompson Center, 2405 East Campus Drive, Austin

COMMUTE SOLUTIONS

Commute Solutions Gets a Shiny New Upgrade

It launched on August 17th with a Twitter announcement:

[@AtxTripster](#) has big news & I'm going to dish. Commutesolutions.com has the coolest new features EVAH! Just went live. #squeee



And with that tweet, the trip-planning and ridesharing component of the Commute Solutions website debuted. The new feature, called "myCommuteSolutions" can help you form a carpool, find a bike route, check a bus schedule or look at real-time traffic reports.

CAMPO is making the site available for area employers to create custom sub-sites of their own. These sub-sites, offered at no charge, allow an employer to have an in-house commute solutions program branded with the look and feel of their company.

We encourage you to take our new feature for a test drive. Visit www.CommuteSolutions.com and click on the pink "myCommuteSolutions" icon at the top of the page. Let us know what you think.

For more information on employer custom sub-sites contact: shana.norton@campotexas.org

TxDOT Public Hearing

Hays County Roadway Projects

The Texas Department of Transportation has scheduled a public hearing for input on two proposed projects in Hays County:

- **IH 35**, from FM 1626 to Yarrington Road (CSJ# 0016-02-114)
- **RM 150**, from IH 35 NB Frontage Road to 2,300 feet east of IH 35 (CSJ# 0805-01-017)

The public hearing will be held on September 8, 2010 in the cafeteria of the Jack C.Hays High School, which is located at 4800 Jack C. Hays Trail in Buda, Texas. Maps and other displays will be available for viewing from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. and staff members will be available to answer questions from the public. Technical presentations will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by a public comment period.

For more information, contact the TxDOT Austin District at (512) 832-7000.

COLLABORATION FOR TRAVEL DEMAND

COLLABORATION FOR TRAVEL DEMAND MODELING

Partnership with University of Texas Center for Transportation Research

CAMPO and the University of Texas' [Center for Transportation Research](#) (CTR) are working together to improve transportation planning in our region. Metropolitan planning organizations like CAMPO use *travel demand models*, simulations of the "real world" that can be used to show the impact of changes in a metropolitan area on the transportation system (such as adding a new road or transit line, or increases in population or employment). This new partnership adds capabilities in dynamic traffic assignment (DTA) to the current CAMPO travel demand modeling practice in both temporal (from 24 hours to 15 minutes in time increments) and spatial (more details in network) dimensions. The goal of this partnership is to marry advanced research findings with practices in planning and project implementations for our region and eventually for the state and the nation. Several DTA projects were already started in August 2011. CAMPO and the Network Modeling Center planned to jointly conduct a workshop showing such DTA applications by the end of this year.

CAMPO's modeling staff collocated offices at the Center for Transportation Research, close to the newly established Network Modeling Center (NMC) headed by Jennifer Duthie, Ph.D. CAMPO's modeling team manager, Daniel Yang, Ph.D. offices at both the CTR and CAMPO locations.

IDEAS WELCOMED

New Public Participation Plan Under Development

Metropolitan planning organizations such as CAMPO plan for involving the public through a Public Participation Plan (PPP). CAMPO last updated its PPP in June of 2007, and is seeking new and innovative ways to reach out to involve the public in the planning process. Following are a few of the key issues we are working on include:

- Techniques to encourage participation from ethnic minorities and low-income residents.
- Cater the involvement methods to the magnitude of the project.
- Find ways to better integrate public involvement in Transportation Policy Board meetings, also considering potential on-line technology.
- Review social media and other potential solutions to ease public involvement.
- Coordinating update cycles of outreach methods, such as news media releases and Internet distribution.
- Consider methods to integrate the public with CAMPO work groups and committees.

A new draft Public Participation Plan is anticipated this fall, and additional involvement opportunities will be announced soon.

Visit http://campotexas.org/programs_pip.php for more information. Comments or questions from the public should be directed to Greg Griffin, AICP at (512) 974-2084, greg.griffin@campotexas.org.

TRANSPORTATION TRENDS

New Bikeway Design Guide Recognized by Austin

On August 4th, the City of Austin Council adopted a resolution recognizing the new Urban Bikeway Design Guide by the [National Association of City Transportation Officials \(NACTO\)](#) as a resource for designing facilities in Austin. In addition to addressing traditional bicycle facilities such as bike lanes, the new guide provides planners and designers standard layouts for more innovative facilities such as cycle tracks and intersection crossing markings. The guide is intended for use in urban areas, and other standards exist for rural and highway contexts.



CAMPO DEVELOPS SOLUTIONS FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION CHALLENGES.



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