

METRO-MOBILITY TALKS

Economic Stimulus Package - American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009

THREE ROAD PROJECTS TO BE ACCELERATED

Construction on three Corpus Christi road projects will be accelerated by as much as two years thanks to a \$9,514,791 sub-allocation under the economic stimulus package passed by Congress.

The sub-allocation is part of \$2.25 billion in funding for Texas highway programs under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), a package of government spending designed to stimulate the economy by upgrading America's infrastructure. Of the \$2.25 billion of ARRA funding for Texas highway programs, TxDOT plans to spend \$1.2 billion to develop new projects and \$500 million on maintenance and preservation projects.

- **PROJECT 1:** FM 2444 (Staples Street) from SH 357 (Saratoga Boulevard) to the Oso Creek Bridge for construction of a median as well as access management elements. Previously planned for 2011, this project will be moved up to 2010. The total cost is estimated at \$3,700,800.
- **PROJECT 2:** SH 357 (Saratoga Boulevard) from FM 2444 (Staples Street) to Rodd Field Road for construction of a median as well as access management elements. Previously scheduled for 2012, this project will be accelerated to 2010. The total cost is estimated at \$2,823,400.
- **PROJECT 3:** Joe Fulton International Trade Corridor for reconstruction of roadway and resurfacing. This project is scheduled for 2010. The total cost is estimated at \$15 million.

Another \$500 million is available to the state's 25 metropolitan planning organizations to use at their discretion. The Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) chose three projects for funding based on discussions at its Transportation Policy Committee meeting on February 5 and its Technical Advisory Committee meeting on February 26. Funding for the first two projects will come from the MPO sub-allocation of ARRA funds, while funding for the third project will come from a combination of the MPO sub-allocation of ARRA funds, the Port of Corpus Christi, and TxDOT allocated ARRA funds.

SOURCE OF FUNDING BREAKDOWN

MPO Sub-Allocation: \$9,514,791 - Applied to Projects 1, 2 & 3
Port of Corpus Christi: \$3,750,000 - Applied to Project 3
TxDOT Commission Allocation: \$8,259,409 - Applied to Project 3

TxDOT staff estimates that it could let contracts in April 2009 that would spend more than \$750 million of stimulus funds. By May 2010, the department predicts it will have let contracts for \$1.7 billion in stimulus funds that, along with other investments, will generate \$3.1 billion in maintenance and mobility projects for Texas. Based on Federal Highway Administration estimates, \$3.5 billion in transportation spending would support more than 90,000 jobs.

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