



## Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, August 6, 2013  
**Prepared By/Phone Number:** Deece Eckstein, 854-9754  
**Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head:** Deece Eckstein, 854-9754  
**Commissioners Court Sponsor:** Judge Biscoe

### AGENDA LANGUAGE:

CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS, INCLUDING:

- A. UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES DURING THE SECOND AND THIRD CALLED SESSIONS; AND
- B. ADDITIONS TO THE PRIORITIES, POLICY POSITIONS AND THE POSITIONS ON OTHER PROPOSALS SECTIONS OF THE TRAVIS COUNTY LEGISLATIVE AGENDA.

### SUMMARY AND IGR COORDINATOR RECOMMENDATION:

#### BACKGROUND:

- 1) The Second Called Session of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Texas Legislature ended on Tuesday, July 30, with the House and Senate deadlocked over the use of the Rainy Day Fund to enhance transportation funding. Governor Perry immediately [called](#) a third special session, which convened at 4:30 that afternoon.
- 2) Thus far, enhanced transportation funding is the only item on the call. As of Thursday morning, August 1, 24 bills or joint resolutions had been filed, eight of which relate to transportation.
- 3) There are **22 days remaining** in the Third Called Session.

#### ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

*Transportation funding* – Last week, the House and Senate were unable to resolve their differences over the conference committee reports on [HJR 2](#) and [HB 16](#). Those pieces of legislation were re-filed as [SJR 1](#) and [SB 1](#),

respectively, and have already passed out of the Senate and gone to the House. Together, the bills:

- a) allow oil and gas tax revenues, now sent to the Rainy Day Fund (RDF), to be split between the RDF and the Highway Fund (Fund 6);
- b) require that the new Fund 6 revenue be dedicated exclusively “for constructing, maintaining, and acquiring rights-of-way for public roadways other than toll roads”; and,
- c) require that, at the beginning of each session, the Legislative Budget Board determine a “sufficient balance of the [RDF]” below which transfers to Fund 6 will be suspended; and,
- d) create a Select Committee on Transportation Funding, Expenditures, and Finance in each chamber that will look at the long-term problems of transportation funding in the State and issue a report to the Legislature by November 1, 2014.

The Senate also named a Work Committee on Transportation Funding, consisting of Senators Nichols, Williams, Eltife, Whitmire, Hinojosa, Hancock and Watson, to work with their colleagues in the House towards a solution. The House named a Select Committee on Transportation Funding, with the following members: Phillips-chair, Harper-Brown, Hunter, Geren, Muñoz, Thompson of Harris and Burkett.

The two chambers have recessed until Monday, August 5, at 2:00 p.m.

**FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Not applicable.

**REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:** None.

**NAMES, PHONE NUMBERS AND EMAIL ADDRESSES OF PERSONS WHO MIGHT BE AFFECTED BY OR BE INVOLVED WITH THIS REQUEST:**

Tanya Acevedo, Interim Chief Information Officer  
Travis County Information Technology Services  
Phone: 854-8685  
Email: [Tanya.Acevedo@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Tanya.Acevedo@co.travis.tx.us)

Daniel Bradford, Assistant County Attorney  
County Attorney’s Office  
Phone: 854-3718  
Email: [Daniel.Bradford@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Daniel.Bradford@co.travis.tx.us)

Leslie Browder, County Executive  
Planning and Budget Office  
Phone: 854-8679  
Email: [Leslie.Browder@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Leslie.Browder@co.travis.tx.us)

David Escamilla  
County Attorney  
Phone: 854-9415  
Email: [David.Escamilla@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:David.Escamilla@co.travis.tx.us)

Sherri Fleming, County Executive  
Health and Human Services/Veterans Services  
Phone: 854-4101  
Email: [Sherri.Fleming@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Sherri.Fleming@co.travis.tx.us)

Cyd Grimes  
Purchasing Agent  
Phone: 854-9700  
Email: [Cyd.Grimes@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Cyd.Grimes@co.travis.tx.us)

John Hille, Transactions Division Director  
County Attorney's Office  
Phone: 854-9642  
Email: [John.Hille@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:John.Hille@co.travis.tx.us)

Danny Hobby, County Executive  
Emergency Services  
Phone: 854-4416  
Email: [Danny.Hobby@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Danny.Hobby@co.travis.tx.us)

Roger Jefferies, County Executive  
Justice and Public Safety  
Phone: 854-4415  
Email: [Roger.Jefferies@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Roger.Jefferies@co.travis.tx.us)

Gregg Knaupe  
Travis County Legislative Consultant  
Phone: 499-8826  
Email: [Gregg@KnaupeGR.com](mailto:Gregg@KnaupeGR.com)

Steven Manilla, County Executive  
Transportation and Natural Resources  
Phone: 854-9429  
Email: [Steven.Manilla@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Steven.Manilla@co.travis.tx.us)

Nicki Riley  
Travis County Auditor  
Phone: 854-3227  
Email: [Nicki.Riley@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Nicki.Riley@co.travis.tx.us)

Jessica Rio, Budget Director  
Planning and Budget Office  
Phone: 854-4455  
Email: [Jessica.Rio@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Jessica.Rio@co.travis.tx.us)

Aerin-Renee Toussaint, Budget Analyst II  
Planning and Budget Office  
Phone: 854-1160  
Email: [Aerin.Toussaint@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Aerin.Toussaint@co.travis.tx.us)