

WHEREAS, I-35 is a highway of international significance connecting Mexico, the United States and Canada, stretching from Laredo, TX to Duluth, MN; and

WHEREAS, Travis County is bisected by 28.5 miles or 182 main lane miles of I-35 from the Hays County line to the Williamson County line; and

WHEREAS, the portion of I-35 in Travis County has been identified as the fourth most congested corridor in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, I-35 carries approximately 200,000 vehicles per day through Travis County; and

WHEREAS, Travis County and the Austin Metro Region was cited by the U.S. Census Bureau as the second fastest growing large metro area in the United States from 2010 – 2011 and is served by I-35; and

WHEREAS, this section of the I-35 corridor through Travis County is listed as the fourth worst trucking bottleneck of freight significant highways in the United States; and

WHEREAS, additional capacity is needed to sustain the growth and economic vitality of the I-35 corridor and for the benefit of the region, state and nation; and

WHEREAS, it is time to undertake a comprehensive solution to address the I-35 corridor congestion in Travis County and the Central Texas Region; and

WHEREAS, Travis County agrees the Texas Department of Transportation is the agency to best lead and coordinate the process of identifying possible improvements to the corridor with active involvement from Travis County and all regional partners; and

WHEREAS, the I-35 Corridor Advisory Committee, established by the Texas Transportation Commission, has recognized the need to address transportation challenges in the I-35 corridor and the value of using a holistic approach with extensive public involvement in the development of a comprehensive plan to address these challenges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Travis County encourages The Mobility 35 Capital Area Program; the Texas Department of Transportation; the City of Austin; Hays, Williamson and Travis Counties; and the public to continue to work cooperatively to identify strategies to improve I-35 in this region. This ongoing effort has generated proposed concepts to improve operational efficiencies, safety and capacity in the I-35 corridor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Travis County supports and recommends that the Texas Department of Transportation provide leadership for a multiagency team to advance these recommendations by leading future project development, environmental planning and implementation efforts for short and long term alternatives, including consideration of managed toll lanes along the I-35 corridor with other measures that will provide additional capacity and operational improvements along the general purpose lanes in the I-35 corridor through Travis County.

SIGNED AND ENTERED THE 1st DAY OF October, 2013.

Samuel T. Biscoe
County Judge

Ron Davis
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Gerald Daugherty
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Bruce Todd
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Margaret J. Gómez
Commissioner, Precinct 4