



MOVING FORWARD: 2022 AND BEYOND

In December 2020, the Brazos County Commissioners Court, as authorized by the Texas Transportation Commission, established the Brazos County Regional Mobility Authority (RMA) to address transportation issues in the county.

In November 2022, the RMA will be asking Brazos County voters to approve a \$10 increase in the vehicle registration fee¹ to support RMA activities. This document outlines the philosophy that the RMA will follow and the specific tasks that the RMA will undertake, should voters approve the increase in the county vehicle registration fee.

Primary Roles of the RMA

The RMA will serve primary three roles in addressing transportation needs and issues in Brazos County.

IDENTIFY, UNDERTAKE, IMPLEMENT

- The RMA will undertake legislatively required actions to significantly reduce the time required to identify and implement a range of multimodal projects already prioritized by the Bryan/College Station Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) planning process.

PARTNERS & LEADERS

- Working closely with local transportation partners, the RMA will take a lead role in addressing key issues involving countywide transportation.


SEEK CREATIVE FUNDING

- In cooperation with it's partners, the RMA will seek new and different funding streams to accelerate the development of locally propritized projects.

¹ In accordance with the Texas Transportation Code, the registration fee applies to all vehicles with a Texas license plate that pay a registration fee, including trailers and semitrailers.

Philosophy and Approach

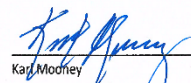
As part of the process that was used to establish the RMA, a vision statement was developed for transportation in Brazos County. That statement, signed by sixteen parties, states that we all recognize that transportation is a significant problem in the County, and we all realize that we need to work together to address this problem. The RMA will work closely with the Bryan-College Station Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in pursuing all aspects of a plan of work. The RMA will be a leader in promoting collaborative project development.



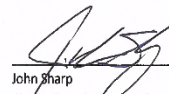
Judge Duane Peters
Brazos County Commissioners



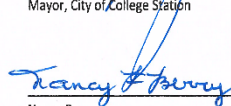
Andrew Nelson
Mayor, City of Bryan



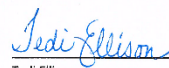
Karl Modrrey
Mayor, City of College Station



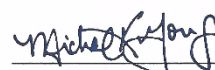
John Sharp
Chancellor, The Texas A&M University System



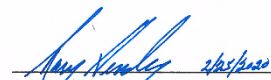
Nancy Berry
Policy Board Chair, Bryan/College Station MPO



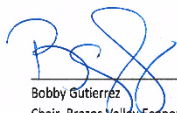
Tedi Ellison
Board Chair, Brazos County RMA



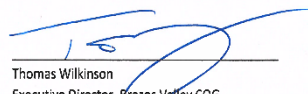
Michael Young
President, Texas A&M University



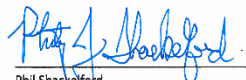
Mary Hensley
Chancellor, Blinn College District



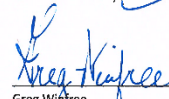
Bobby Gutierrez
Chair, Brazos Valley Economic Development Corp.



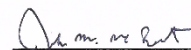
Thomas Wilkinson
Executive Director, Brazos Valley COG



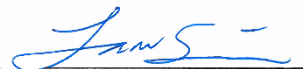
Phil Shackelford
Chair, Bryan/College Station Chamber of Commerce




Greg Winfree
Director, Texas A&M Transportation Institute



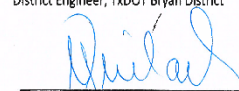
John McBeth
Chief Executive Officer, Brazos Transit District



Lance Simmons
District Engineer, TxDOT Bryan District



Brenda Mainwaring
Assistant Vice President, Union Pacific Railroad



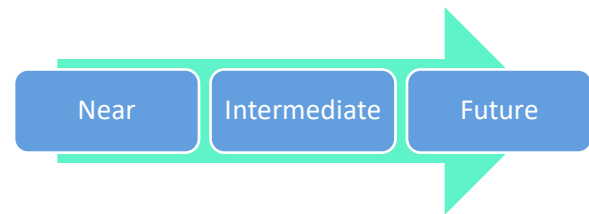
Carlos Aguilar
President and CEO, Texas Central Rail Holdings, LLC

A Three-Year Plan of Work

If voters approve the increase in vehicle registration fees, the RMA will have a revenue source of approximately \$1.5 million. This document summarizes how the funds will be expended.

Specific Projects to be Undertaken

The RMA will initially focus on advancing three transportation projects. The location of these projects is shown on the map on page 5.



Near-term Project

Working closely with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), identify both short- and longer-range approaches for addressing congestion and safety issues in the vicinity of the **Arrington Road and W. D. Fitch intersection** in College Station. Accelerate construction of a preferred near-term solution.

This project is included in the MPO's fiscally constrained priority project list although that funding is not available until after 2030. The MPO selected this project to address traffic delay and mitigate the potential for traffic accidents. The project can be implemented with minimal right-of-way issues. This is an area of College Station undergoing rapid development, and this project enhances economic development opportunities.

Intermediate-term Project

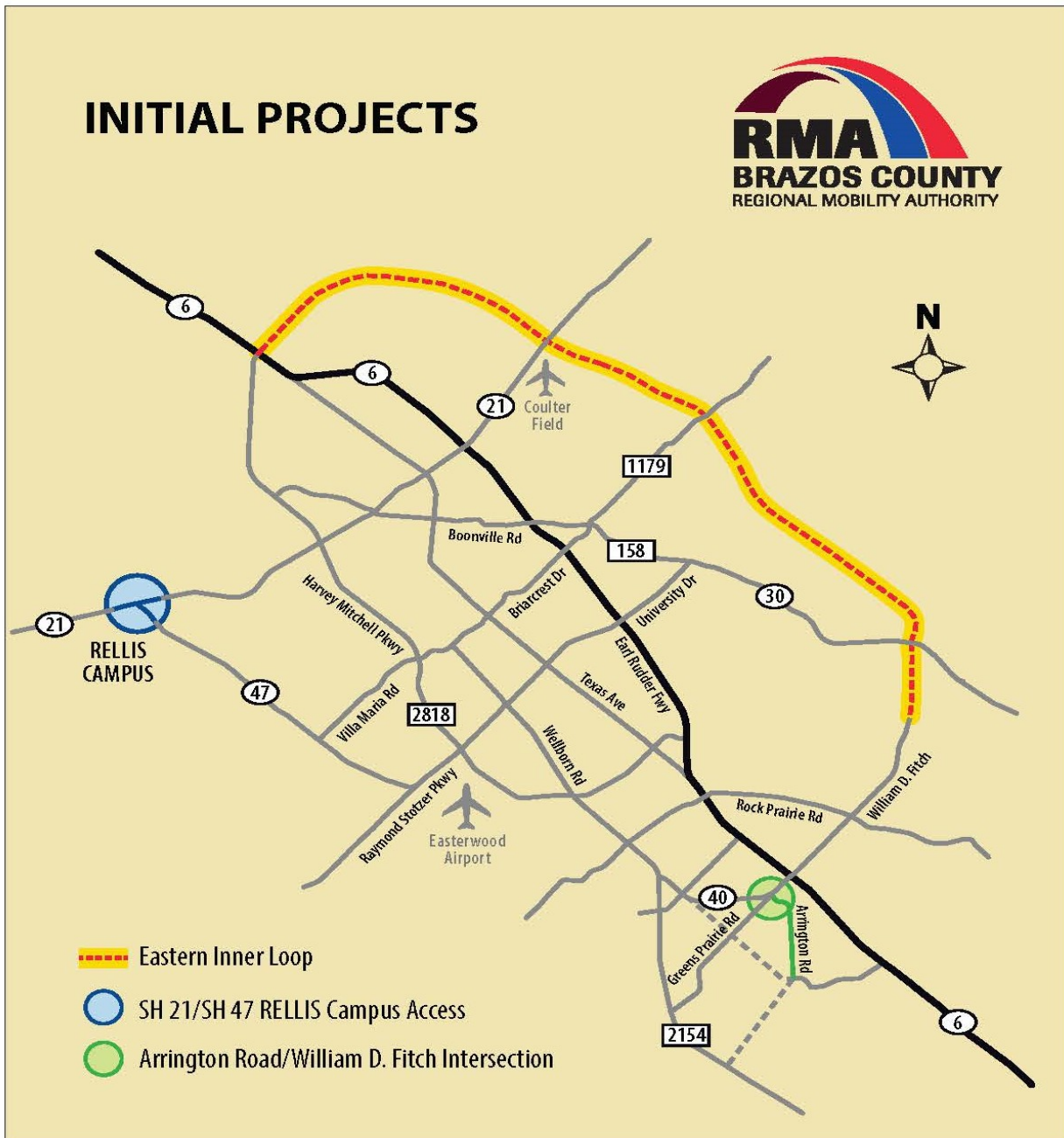
Develop schematic plans for access to, and in the vicinity of, the RELLIS campus. Interchange plans for the RELLIS campus access from both SH 21 and SH 47 will be developed, as will plans for the interchange of SH 21 and SH 47.

This project is listed in the MPO's prioritized project list. Over the past decade, approximately \$1 billion of development has occurred on the RELLIS campus. Significant further development is expected both on the RELLIS campus and in the vicinity of the campus. To safely and efficiently accommodate that development, access and interchange improvements will be required. Such a project can be implemented with minimal right-of-way issues. Now is the appropriate time to identify what those improvements should be and when they will be needed.

Longer-term Project

Initiate planning work on the eastern inner loop, including working with TxDOT to pursue adding this roadway to the state highway system. This proposed roadway connects SH 6 north of Bryan to W. D. Fitch in south College Station. The RMA role will be to conduct public awareness meetings, identify constraints to the alignment, and identify alignments warranting further study, all intended to accelerate implementation.

Actions are needed to begin the planning process for this project, which is included in the MPO fiscally constrained project list. However, it is not funded until after 2030. This project will address significant safety issues associated with the SH 21 and SH 6 interchange by diverting truck traffic further to the east. This project is important for economic development on the east side of Brazos County and enhances connectivity as a new north-south corridor.



Leadership on Key Issues, Initiation of Planning Studies, and Preparing the County for the Future



The RMA will take leadership in addressing numerous local transportation-related issues and will, as needed, effectively advocate to advance projects, such as the following:

- **Develop and implement a public outreach program.** Such a program will include convening, on a quarterly basis, a meeting for all interested parties to discuss local transportation issues, review the status of various initiatives, and identify next steps for all parties. This will be important in assuring both that all projects are coordinated and that all opportunities for leveraging resources are used.
- **Lead a wide-ranging discussion designed to determine optimal approaches for providing, managing, funding and coordinating transit service in Brazos County** in cooperation with our planning partners and local transit providers.
- **Develop a concept for a pedestrian/bicycle/micro-mobility transportation system intended to encourage non-vehicle trips in an aesthetically pleasing environment** for an area extending from the Texas A&M University Campus/Northgate to the Midtown Park in Bryan.
- **Identify and pursue potential new sources of funding and actively promote leveraging available funding.** This includes writing proposals for new transportation grants included in the recent federal Infrastructure and Jobs Act.
- **Determine the impacts on congestion and safety associated with increased train volumes resulting from the Union Pacific Railroad developing a double-track rail system through Brazos County.** Identify approaches for mitigating these impacts.
- **Identify alternative sites/corridors in the county where autonomous vehicles might be effectively deployed** and assess implementation feasibility by working with The Texas A&M University System research groups.
- **Identify locations for a system of electric vehicle charging facilities.**

For additional information, visit the Brazos County RMA website: <https://www.bcrma.org/>.