

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DALLAS County

MINUTE ORDER

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DALLAS District

Subchapter I, Chapter 361, Transportation Code prescribes the process by which the Texas Department of Transportation (department) may enter into a comprehensive development agreement (CDA) with a private entity that provides for the design, construction, financing, maintenance, or operation of a turnpike project on the state highway system.

The department has been in development of the I-635 project as a managed lanes project and has now received full environmental clearance by receipt of a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) on April 29, 2004 from the Federal Highway Administration.

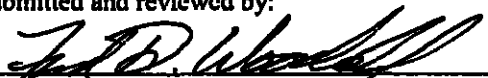
Section 361.3022, Transportation Code prescribes requirements for a solicited proposal and requires the department to publish a request for qualifications in the Texas Register that includes the criteria that will be used to evaluate any qualification submittals, the relative weight given to the criteria, and a deadline by which qualification submittals must be received.

Development of this project is a crucial element in responding to severe recurrent traffic bottlenecks and congestion that occurs on a daily basis along the proposed project corridor. The I-635 project interconnects and bisects many of the region's most critical north-south facilities (US 75, the Dallas North Tollway, I-35E, Preston Road and Midway Road). The magnitude and scope of the planned and environmentally approved solution will benefit from implementation through the CDA approach.

The near completion of the Dallas High Five project (the interchange of I-635 and US 75) will provide increased capacity to serve the needs of I-635 to the west toward I-35E. To further meet these needs, the I-635 project includes managed lanes in two tunnels located underneath the I-635 general purpose lanes. This innovative design solution includes a plan to interconnect these lanes to and through the I-35E interchange south to the Loop 12 and I-35E split. There exists the potential for expediting the completion of this innovative project through the development of a public/private partnership under a CDA.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Texas Transportation Commission that the department is authorized and directed to publish in the Texas Register and in one or more newspapers of general circulation a request for qualifications for the development of proposed tolled managed lanes along I-635 from US 75 to I-35E and then south to the I-35E and Loop 12 split in Dallas County, and other facilities to the extent necessary for connectivity, mobility, safety, and financing.

Submitted and reviewed by:


Director, Texas Turnpike Authority Division

Recommended by:


Executive Director

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Minute Number Date Passed