



Monday Morning Report

January 30, 2017

INTERNAL

The Corridor Council's Executive Committee will next meet at 2:00 PM, Wednesday, February 15, at our offices on 304 N. CM Allen Parkway, **San Marcos**. Mike Frisbie, Director/City Engineer of **San Antonio's** Transportation & Capital Improvements department will discuss the city's proposed bond package. Please RSVP your attendance to council@thecorridor.org.

Join us February 21st for our '2017 **San Antonio** Mayoral Forum' with Mayor Ivy Taylor & City Councilman Ron Nirenberg on the Future of the **Alamo City**. Lunch begins at 11:00 am at the Plaza Club, 100 West Houston #2100, **San Antonio**. [Details](#).

We now offer newstream items to subscribers: (Google+ Communities) Information and links to [Connected Automated Vehicles, Trains & Transit](#) and [Contracting Opportunities](#). Click on any of the communities for membership approval/access. Please note that you must have a Google account. Questions? Email council@thecorridor.org.

INFRASTRUCTURE

President Donald J. Trump announced last week that the US would not be joining the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement, and he has said he would withdraw from NAFTA if he cannot re-negotiate better terms for the US. The **Dallas Morning News** said that withdrawing from NAFTA would be "foolish." [Opinion](#).

The **Rivard Report** ran a thoughtful piece last week on the unintended consequences for **San Antonio** of the Trump administration's move to upend NAFTA and develop a wall along our southern border with Mexico. [Opinion](#). Here's an **Austin Statesman** OP-ED on the subject. [Opinion](#).

In an assessment of the 73-mile Central Texas Turnpike System finances today, Ben Wear in **Austin** writes: "The clear transportation success of the four roads - Texas 130 is seeing rush-hour congestion in certain sections and is about to have its first expansion - will eventually be just as clearly a financial success, TxDOT says." [Opinion](#).

Amtrak says it is conducting a feasibility study for offering commuter service along there Interstate 35 between **Georgetown** and **San Antonio**, including the mid-cities of **San Marcos** and **New Braunfels**. [Story](#).

According to the **Community Impact Newsletter**, TxDOT broke ground on several projects on IH35 in 2016 as part of a \$4 billion Mobility35 improvement program. [Story](#).

TxDOT officials announced that construction on a project to expand Hwy. 290 will extend into 2018 due to delays in obtaining right of way and complications in relocating utilities. [Story](#).

The US Department of Transportation in **Washington** has issued new guidelines for the development of Vehicle-to-Infrastructure technologies. More [here](#).

A Texas partnership - including **Austin** and **San Antonio** - have been selected as one of 10 sites designated by the US DOT as Automated Vehicle Testing Proving Grounds. [Details](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and 'Other' News)

Buda approved an amendment to a Sunfield Municipal Utility District agreement Jan. 17 that would allow approximately 35 acres to accommodate a medical center. [Story](#).

The Dell Seton Medical Center in **Austin** is about 80% complete and on track to open May 21. It will take the place of University Medical Center Brackenridge, which will close for Central Health to redevelop the property. [Story](#).

Coast Flight Training, the largest domestic student flight school in the San Diego region, is expanding with a second location for its airline flight training program in **San Marcos** at the **San Marcos** Regional Airport! [Details](#).

Capital Metro is now offering local single ride passes on the **CapMetro App**! The new pass is for any one-way trips using MetroBus, MetroRapid and Flyer routes, for only \$1.25. [News Release](#).

Williamson County commissioners have approved an agreement with Trio Development to gather engineering and environmental data for a proposed wastewater pipeline that has some residents upset. [Story](#).

Thought of the Week

"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."

~~Churchill (cited in Langworth, *Churchill: In His Own Words*)
