



## Monday Morning Report

October 1, 2018

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### INTERNAL

The **Austin-San Antonio** Corridor Council Executive Committee will not be meeting again until December 19 at 2:00 pm. RSVP to [council@thecorridor.org](mailto:council@thecorridor.org).

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### INFRASTRUCTURE

Traffic on US highways has declined for the first time in four years, according to the latest Federal Highway Administration data from **Washington**. The drop was .03% between July 2017 and 2018, which analysts said correlates to an increase in gasoline prices. [Details](#).

Uber will spend \$10 million over the next three years to reduce congestion through programs supporting congestion-pricing and other efforts to get people out of their cars. The move follows studies in some cities, including **New York**, that concluded ride-sharing companies are increasing the total number of vehicles on the roads. [Story](#).

An INRIX study has identified the five US corridors their data shows could best accommodate autonomous trucks for hauling freight: Interstate 5 from **Vancouver** to **Northern California**; Interstate 95 from **Jacksonville** to **Miami**; Interstate 75 from **Valdosta, Ga.** to **Miami**; Interstate 70 from Utah to Kansas; and Interstate 85 from Georgia to **Greensboro, N.C.** The corridors were scored based upon congestion, incident rates, length and truck volumes. [Story](#).

A joint Technical Advisory Committee meeting of both the **Austin** and **San Antonio** Metropolitan Planning Organizations will be held on the 'Capital-Alamo Connections Study' this Tuesday (October 2) at 10:00 am at the **San Marcos** Activity Center. Prospective attendees are asked to RSVP to call 512-215-8225 or email [connordansevich@campotexas.org](mailto:connordansevich@campotexas.org).

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### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and 'Other' News)

A venture capital fund co-founded by serial-entrepreneur Peter Thiel is moving from **San Francisco** to **Austin**. Mithril Capital Management LLC co-founder Ajay Royan told **TechCrunch** the move is driven by lower costs and 'diversity of thought compared to the East and West Coasts.' [Story](#).

Today **San Antonio** becomes the first city in Texas to restrict the sale of tobacco products to only those 21 years old or older. Known as Tobacco 21, the ordinance starts October 1 but with a three-month grace period before any fines are assessed to merchants or retailers. [Details](#).

The new hotel building-boom in **San Antonio** prompted the **Rivard Report** to summarize some hotel-centric figures within the city limits: as of July 31 there were 433 hotels with 47,253 rooms; nine more new hotels are currently under construction with 992 rooms; there are an additional 29 hotels in the planning phase, with 2,825 rooms. [Details](#).

## Thought of the Week

"It is not enough to be busy... The question is: what are we busy about?"

- Henry David Thoreau

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