



THE GREATER
AUSTIN-
SAN ANTONIO
CORRIDOR
COUNCIL

Monday Morning Report

November 7, 2016

INTERNAL

The Corridor Council's Executive Committee is next scheduled to meet next Wednesday, November 16, 2PM at the Star Park facility located at 3055 Hunter Road, **San Marcos**. Please RSVP your attendance to council@thecorridor.org.

Join us next Wednesday, November 16 for our "2017 Texas Legislative Session Preview Luncheon" with State Representatives Joe Pickett, John Kuempel, Donna Howard, Ina Minjarez, Kyle Biedermann and Celia Israel at the Courtyard Marriott **New Braunfels** River Village, 11:30AM – 1:30PM. Sponsorships are still available. [Details](#).

INFRASTRUCTURE

TxDOT's Phase Two of truck toll discounts on State Highway 130 from **Mustang Ridge** to **Georgetown** began November 1 and extends through August 31, 2017, lasting from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. It covers the same area and provides a savings of 67% for trucks with a valid TxTag. [Story](#).

Today is the final day to voice your opinions on reducing the mandatory speed limits for big rigs. TxDOT says it could be dropped between 60 and 68 miles per hour on highways. If passed, the proposal would only impact trucks over 26,000 pounds. Comment [here](#).

A three-judge panel's ruling last week has cleared the way for construction to begin as early as tomorrow on State Highway 45 Southwest in **Austin**. Environmental groups had sought to prevent the project due to endangered species threats, but the court ruled otherwise. [Story](#).

Former **San Antonio Express-News** editor Robert Rivard says the city's airport represents an economic 'Achilles heel,' citing reduced air travel to Mexico and higher ticket costs. Opinion [here](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and 'Other' News)

Five people are in the running tomorrow to be mayor of **San Marcos** and you can hear their positions, particularly on growth issues, in this video forum from late last month. [Video](#).

After the body of a young Texas State University student was found under a bus last week in **Martindale**, the **Lockhart** newspaper is calling for creation of a Water-Oriented Recreation District to help monitor activity along the **San Marcos** River. [Column](#).

Homebuilding in the **Austin**-area has reached its highest level in six years, with 4067 housing starts in the third quarter, an 11.1% jump over last year in the same period. [Story](#).

Despite rapid growth in the electric car market, gas-burning vehicles aren't going to disappear, according to the International Energy Agency in **Paris**: "The oil demand growth is not coming from cars, it's from trucks, aviation and the petrochemical industry..." [Story](#).

The **San Antonio Business Journal** will host the first annual 2016 **Alamo Area** Growth Summit on November 9. They will discuss new research on the growing economic vitality of Texas' cities. For more information contact Arlinda Shephard at ashephard@bizjournals.com. Registration [here](#).

Thought of the Week

Democracy: The state of affairs in which you consent to having your pocket picked, and elect the best man to do it."

~Benjamin Lichtenberg

