



Monday Morning Report

MLK Holiday Edition

January 22, 2019

INTERNAL

Our next regularly scheduled Executive Committee meeting is set for March 20, 2019 at 2:00 pm, in **San Marcos**. For details, contact council@thecorridor.org.

INFRASTRUCTURE

'The physical and psychological toll of brutal commutes can be considerable,' writes a public health economist in "*Stuck and Stressed: The Health Costs of Traffic*," a report this weekend in the **New York Times**. The essay compiles the results of several studies to conclude that traffic congestion is linked to a variety of physical impacts such as respiratory issues, extreme stress, and even domestic violence. [Story](#).

Passenger traffic at **San Antonio** International Airport grew by 11% in 2018 to reach a total passenger volume of more than ten million travelers last year. Also, American Airlines begins daily nonstop flights from SAT to **New York** next month. [Details](#). [Commentary](#).

TechCrunch has a three-pronged plan for cities trying to grapple with a chaotic, disruptive transportation future: allow emerging technologies to develop outside normal regulatory structures; let the marketplace decide which technology companies succeed; and embrace local challenges brought by new transportation alternatives. [Story](#).

According to News 8, city leaders in **Manor** and **Elgin** are slowing beginning to plan for commuter rail service to downtown **Austin** and the Bergstrom International Airport along Capital Metro's 'Green Line,' but are awaiting commitments and a timetable for development before making necessary infrastructure investments. [Story](#).

TxDOT will be hosting stakeholder and public meetings in **San Antonio** on January 29 to discuss the Texas Transportation Plan 2050 at their district offices (4610 NW Loop 410). The goal of the events is to educate the public regarding various TxDOT funding processes, projects, performance metrics, and collect local input and ideas for developing the 2050 Plan. For details, go [here](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and 'Other' News)

San Antonio's city council has zeroed in on Erik Walsh - a 25-year city employee - as the sole finalist to consider as the city's new city manager. The council will formally vote on the position January 31. [Story](#).

Behind the scenes of that horrific pipeline explosion in **Mexico City** last week that killed 70-plus people there is a deeper, darker story emerging: nationwide fuel shortages that have resulted in police escorting fuel trucks and thousands of troops deployed to guard refineries, fuel depots, pipelines, and other energy

infrastructure. Hundreds of service stations have been closed and blocks-long gas lines are fraying nerves, slowing the economy, and threatening the new regime of president Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador. [Story](#).

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick announced his Texas Senate committee appointments in **Austin** last week; as expected, Sen. Robert Nichols remains as chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee. For a full list of committees and chairs go [here](#).

Reminder: The annual SA-to-DC trip is upcoming, starting with a Chamber-sponsored Super Bowl watch party in **Washington**. For details go [here](#).

Thought of the Week

"There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe nor politic nor popular, but he must take it because his conscience tells him it is right."

- Martin Luther King Jr.

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