



## Monday Morning Report

August 5, 2019

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### INTERNAL

The next scheduled meeting of the **Austin-San Antonio** Corridor Council Executive Committee is Wednesday, September 18, 2:00 pm at the Council offices in **San Marcos**, 304 N CM Allen Parkway. Please RSVP to [council@thecorridor.org](mailto:council@thecorridor.org).

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### INFRASTRUCTURE

Researchers at the Georgia Institute of Technology have simulated a computer hacker attack on a hypothetical network of interconnected automobiles in **New York** and are warning that impacting just 20% of vehicles would result in traffic chaos and city-wide gridlock. They are proposing that cyber-security efforts be tightened before deployment of self-driving or autonomous, networked vehicles. [Story](#).

**Austin's** transportation challenges have drawn the national spotlight once again, this time in **Mass Transit** magazine, which reports on efforts by the city's Transportation Department to confront a projected doubling of personal vehicle use by 2040. The report highlights six of 15 recommendations by the staff for reducing or 'nudging' personal vehicle trips to periods outside of rush hours. [Story](#).

A new report issued late last month from the Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy creates a *2019 City Clean Energy Scorecard* ranking 75 US cities in five policy areas related to renewable energy efforts: local government operations, community-wide initiatives, building codes, energy and water utilities, and transportation. **Boston** came out on top overall; **Austin** ranked first for total renewable energy scoring; **San Antonio** ranked high for 'equity-driven' planning. [Reports](#).

A leading partner at NGB Capital says investments in shared mobility are not only shaping the future of mass transit but causing cities to rethink how they utilize space. "Transportation is moving from an asset-based business (people own cars) to a rides-based business (shared transportation)," he says. Part of his vision is optimally distributed cars across a city in a system that matches users with the nearest available ride. [Story](#).

**Lancaster**, California (45 miles north of **Los Angeles**) took an unusual approach to roadway infrastructure following the Great Recession: they calculated the number of roadways they could afford to maintain and then began planning their land use around that number. What they found was that the cul-de-sac is literally a dead-end in terms of financial sustainability. [Details](#).

The **Austin** city council takes a big step toward providing funding for a local high capacity transit network this week with a resolution directing the city manager to present them with potential financing options. [Resolution](#).

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and 'Other' News)

**San Antonio's** KENS5 television broadcaster Vinnie Vinzetta has figured out exactly where the next National Football League franchise should go: **New Braunfels**. There are ten NFL franchises that play home games in their city's suburbs, says Vinzetta, noting that opposition to another Texas franchise by **Dallas** Cowboys owner Jerry Jones would be overcome by other national franchise owners.

### **Commentary.**

Got a big idea for a transportation startup company? **Austin's** Economic Development department and the Young **Austin** Chamber want to hear from you as part of their FAST START project in response to their next Strategic Priority: *Mobility Innovation*. Examples might be solutions and products that use data, technology, and design to increase transportation efficiency. There are cash prizes involved and the details are [here](#).

The **New York Times** takes a look at timelines and policy issues in the development of autonomous vehicles and suggests that the real challenges are not technical, but societal. As in jaywalkers. [Details](#).

There is a blood drive today at the Texas Capitol for **El Paso** 9am to 1pm along Colorado street. Contact Jo Cassandra Cuevas at (512) 709-8789 with any questions.

## Thought of the Week

*"Live simply, that others may simply live."*

- Mohandas Gandhi

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