



Monday Morning Report

August 6, 2018

INTERNAL

Mark Your Calendars: We're going to run the new meeting schedule for the **Austin-San Antonio** Corridor Council Executive Committee one more time just to make sure everyone marks their calendars with the dates:

Sep 19, 2018 at 2pm
Dec 19, 2018 at 2pm
Mar 20, 2019 at 2pm
Jun 19, 2019 at 2pm

INFRASTRUCTURE

Inc. Magazine says cities that want to be considered as a site for Amazon's massive HQ2 project had better be ready to invest in public transportation. They cite the company's nearly \$70 million investment in public transit in **Seattle** and a statement in request-for-proposals documents that mass transit *must* be available at the new HQ2 site. **Inc.** says **Detroit** and **Phoenix** weren't short-listed because of inferior transportation networks. [Story.](#)

In an opening salvo that we can expect to spread nationwide, if not globally, Uber and Lyft are fighting potential caps on ride-hailing vehicles in **New York**. In response to reports that ride-hailing services are *increasing* traffic congestion, rather than relieving it as some have suggested, city officials want a one-year hold on issuing new drive-for-hire permits. [Story.](#)

Cupertino, Calif. has joined the list of cities looking at a hyperloop system, this one from Apple's campus to downtown and potentially on to **San Jose**. Other cities already working on hyperloop projects include **Hawthorne**, **Los Angeles**, and **Chicago**. That's a lot of activity for an as-yet unproven technology. Details [here](#).

San Antonio city government has issued a Request For Information on developing an autonomous vehicle pilot program with three potential areas as the target sites: Brooks, the former US Air Force base; downtown, and the Medical Center. The idea is that once proven, the technology could be rolled out across the rest of the city. Proposals are due by Aug. 20. [Details.](#)

[Big Changes In The Hill Country:](#) A **Houston**-based developer has begun work on a \$78 million, 22-acre resort and conference center in **Fredericksburg** that includes 40,000 square-feet of shopping malls and an outdoor amphitheater. It's planned for the intersection of US 290 West and US 87 North. [Details.](#)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and 'Other' News)

Despite a strong national economy, the rate of people 65 and older filing for bankruptcy is three times what it is was in 1991. Vanishing pensions, soaring medical expenses, and inadequate savings are cited as the reasons in a new study, but underlying the surge is 'a three-decade shift of financial risk from

government and employers to individuals, who are bearing an ever-greater responsibility for their on financial well-being.' [Story](#).

New York is trying to figure out how to compete in the lucrative video gaming sector, an arena currently dominated in the US by California, Washington, and Texas - with **Austin** as a major producer in a nearly \$30 billion US market. **London** and **Montreal** have become video game hubs by offering reimbursements for some production costs. The **New York Times** says **Austin** added 4000 gaming jobs from 2005-2022. [Story](#).

San Antonio ranks 46th out of 50 major North American cities for technology talent, according to a commercial real estate firm's annual survey. City and **Bexar County** leaders have already moved to help hire a top tech talent developer. **Austin** ranked sixth in the survey. **San Francisco**, **Seattle**, and **Washington DC** topped the list. [Details](#).

The **Rivard Report** says that **San Antonio** Class A office space is in history-making high demand mode with both rents and demand rising sharply. One experienced urban real estate developer says the demand increase is the sharpest he's seen in 18 years in the industry. [Story](#).

Bee Cave has a new city manager, Clint Garza, currently executive director of countywide operations in **Hays County**. He will replace outgoing city manager Travis Askey. [Details](#).

Hoax: Social media networks lit up over the weekend with video of an alligator cruising down the Comal/Guadalupe rivers - unsettling to folks beating the heat with a swim or rafting with a cold beer in hand. They can relax. The **New Braunfels** police department determined that it was a remote-controlled plastic imitation. [Details](#).

Thought of the Week

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth."

- Muhammad Ali

This newsletter was sent to you on behalf of council@thecorridor.org. It is available to our members. If you have a newsletter that you'd like us to link to, please forward to MMR@thecorridor.org. If you wish to unsubscribe from this or other e-mail newsletters, please [click here](#), send an e-mail request to council@thecorridor.org, or send your request referencing the specific newsletter to: Opt-out Request, Monday Morning Report, PO Box 1618, **San Marcos**, TX. 78667.

© 2018 Austin-San Antonio Corridor Council