



Monday Morning Report

February 3, 2025

INTERNAL

The Executive Committee of the **Austin-San Antonio** Corridor Council is scheduled to meet Wednesday, February 19 at 2 PM by Zoom. For more information or to add an item to the agenda, please email council@corridor.org.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The Trump administration trade war launched over the weekend against Mexico and Canada may have more economic implications for Texas than any other state. The **US Global Leadership Coalition** says 39,000 Texas companies and 3.6 million workers support \$444 million in exports (2023). [Details](#). [WSJ Opinion](#). [Exec. Order](#).

One month into the nation's largest test of congestion pricing, results are still mixed, according to the **New York Times**: some highway commuter routes into **Manhattan** report trips to nearby cities cut by 15-20 minutes; some local neighborhoods in and near the congestion zones are reporting *increased* delays. [Story](#).

Tesla says it will begin operating autonomous robotaxis without human operators in **Austin** by this June ([here](#)). General Motors meanwhile, after abandoning its own multi-billion dollar Cruise effort to develop robotaxis, said it will now focus instead on their hands-off Super Cruise software technology, rather than vehicles. [Story](#).

That truncated California high speed rail project from **Merced-to-Bakersfield** generated \$22 billion in economic activity last year and created 109,000 job-years paying workers \$8 billion in total income, according to the state's High-Speed Rail Authority. By completion, they expect impacts of \$70 billion and 330,000 jobs. [Story](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and Other News)

Global markets have reacted poorly to the Trump administration's imposition of stiff tariffs on Canada and Mexico over the weekend. Futures markets project a tough trading session today on Wall Street, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average expected to drop by over 600 points as traders weigh resulting global supply chain disruptions, inflation, and a slowdown in the US economy, **CNBC** reports. [Story](#).

The **San Antonio's Express-News** reports the Texas Legislature is considering - after a lot of lobbying by movie-makers and movie stars - funding a whopping \$498 Texas Film Incentive Program this year, with a goal of making the state 'the movie capital of the world' ([here](#)). And **MovieMaker Magazine** named **San Antonio** as No. 20 on a list of 'Best Places to Live and Work as a Moviemaker.' [Story](#).

Elon Musk's The Boring Company, which competed and won a contract to build an underground transit tunnel from **San Antonio** International Airport to downtown, has ghosted the **Bexar County** agency that awarded the contract three years ago. "We never heard back from them," the **San Antonio Report** was told. [Story](#).

The **New Braunfels** Chamber of commerce is hosting a jobs fair this week in collaboration with the **Seguin, Cibolo, and Schertz** economic development corporations. 60 employers will be onsite for the event Feb.6, offering entry-level, intermediate, and advanced job opportunities in a variety of industries. [Details](#).

Texas Roadhouse opened a new steakhouse in **Kyle** with 215 employees last week (1/27), initially inviting in EMS personnel, firefighters, police officers, and healthcare workers to sample its fare. [Story](#). [Website](#).

Thought of the Week

"The power to question is the basis of all human progress."

– Indira Gandhi

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