Monday Morning Report

April 13, 2026

INTERNAL

The **Austin-San Antonio** Corridor Council's Executive Committee meets *this* Wednesday, April 15 at 2 PM by Zoom. For more information, contact **council@thecorridor.org**.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Austin passed a $1 billion 'core transportation plan' last month that will reshape how people move through downtown by shifting space away from cars toward pedestrians, bikes, and buses. The plan converts some streets to two-ways and repurposes car lanes, making downtown movement possible without driving. ***Story***. ***The Plan***.

TxDOT is planning a $243 million overhaul of the US 281/SH 71 highway interchange near **Marble Falls** in **Burnet County** to replace the current cloverleaf design with a high-capacity 'turbine' design to improve safety and traffic flow. Construction is scheduled for 2028-2033. A hearing on the project was held last week (4/9). ***Details***.

More Data Centers Updates: Amazon is planning another $65-million data center in **San Antonio** near **Castroville**, the ***Express-News*** reports ***here***; residents of **Hutto**, north of **Austin**, are resisting plans for a Zydeco Development center there (***here***); and state rep Erin Zwiener launches a **Hays County** data center working group. ***Story***.

Using a voter-supported ballot referendum, a Wisconsin suburb of **Milwaukee** overwhelmingly passed the nation's first measure to restrict construction of future data centers. Some observers say the action by **Port Washington** could be a model for other communities concerned about the centers' water and power demands. ***Story***.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and Other News)

Travis County flexed a little financial muscle last week by denying Tesla, Elon Musk's electric vehicle company, a portion of tax incentives (about 9%) due Tesla under a 2020 economic development agreement signed when the company agreed to locate a factory in **Austin**. County officials are seeking more information on compliance. ***Story***.

The ***American-Statesman*** compiled an interesting list of **Austin** and **San Antoni**o companies involved in the successful Artemis II flyby mission to the moon last week, including Rothe

Development, Vorago Technologies, Rohmann Services, BAE Systems, **Cedar Park**'s Firefly Aerospace, Silicon Audio, Astroport Space Technologies, the Southwest Research Institute, and CesiumAstro, among others. ***Story***.

Anthropic AI made a scary admission last week about one of its new products going rogue: "Mythic Preview is capable of identifying and then exploiting zero-day vulnerabilities in every major operating system and every major web browser when directed by a user to do so." The **Washington *Post*** explains, and it is bad. ***Opinion***. ***More***.

A new study finds that Texas State University in **San Marcos** generated $7.7 billion in statewide economic impact in Fiscal Year 2023-24, supporting 75,000 jobs across Texas and 32,500 in Central Texas alone. Texas State students also got nearly $7 in future earnings for every dollar they invested in a degree. ***TSU Statement***. ***Report***.

Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick announced last week that superstar TV producer Taylor Sheridan of '*Yellowstone'* and '*Landman'* fame will write and direct a technologically advanced 4D film depiction of the Battle of the Alamo for **San Antonio**'s Alamo Museum and Visitor Center, scheduled to open in 2027. ***Story***.

Congratulations to **Comal County**'s Smithson Valley High School Lady Rangers soccer team which, according to the **New Braunfels *Herald-Zeitung***, just won the statewide 2026 Class 5A women's championship by completing a perfect 29-0 season, defeating Prosper Walnut Grove 1-0 in an exciting two-overtimes victory. ***Story***.

Thought of the Week

"Expect problems and eat them for breakfast." – Alfred Montapert

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