



Monday Morning Report

June 15, 2026

INTERNAL

The **Austin-San Antonio** Corridor Council Executive Committee meets *this* Wednesday, June 17 at 2 PM by Zoom. The Meeting Agenda is forthcoming. For more information, contact council@thecorridor.org.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Amid growing local public backlash over water and power demand concerns, more than 480 'large' data centers have thus far applied for connection to the Texas electric grid by 2032, with electricity demands five-times greater than all-time peak statewide power production ([here](#)). In response, Gov. Greg Abbott ordered agencies to restrict water, power access ([here](#)) adding other regulations and eliminating sales tax exemptions. [Story](#).

Gov. Abbott also brought **Corpus Christi's** water crisis into the governor's race, threatening state takeover of the city after a council vote to delay funding a \$1 billion desalinization plant ([here](#)). Meanwhile, the **Texas Observer** reports that a local cryptomine is keeping water usage secret after using 11 million gallons last year. [Story](#).

The city council must vote this week (6/18) on proposed rate increases totaling 29% through 2029 for the **San Antonio** Water System, with mayor Gina Ortiz saying the proposal will prevent future water problems like those now facing **Corpus Christi**. Increases will raise local water users' bills by about \$4 dollars monthly. [Story](#). [More](#).

Freight trucking rates are up 52% year-over-year this week after four years during which the industry lost hundreds of thousands of carriers driven out by low earnings and new regulations, the **Wall Street Journal** reports. Limiting immigrant drivers through language testing and tougher visa permits also contributed to the increase. [Story](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and Other News)

Pulitzer Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman warns that average retirement savers may be forced into participating in the Wall Street frenzy surrounding last week's initial public offering for SpaceX. The title says it all: "*Elon Musk, Human Ponzi Scheme*." [Opinion](#). Chris Tomlinson says 'stay away' from the stock [here](#).

The **New York**-based financial powerhouse firm Apollo Global Management - with \$1 trillion in assets - has apparently selected **Austin** as home to its second US headquarters, the **American-Statesman** reports [here](#).

A tiny \$600 plug-in solar panel could transform US electricity usage for average homeowners, a **New York Times** writer suggests. The 'balcony-appropriate-sized' model produces up to 1,200 watts of power (more than a refrigerator consumes) but the secret ingredient is an inverter that adapts to home electric systems. [Opinion](#).

Shippers preparing logistical supply chains for the Christmas buying season, typically from July to October, are facing the highest container-ship rates in memory along Asian routes to the US West Coast, **Loadstar** reports. "This week's spike is not a sudden new aberration, but rather a harbinger of instability," said an analyst. [Story](#).

That disputed **New Braunfels** mayor's race is finally over: former intelligence analyst Michael French defeated attorney incumbent Neal Linnartz with 62.5% of Saturday's (6/13) vote to become mayor. [Details](#). [Background](#).

Thought of the Week

"Don't find fault, find a remedy." – Henry Ford

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