



Monday Morning Report

September 14, 2026

INTERNAL

Heads Up: This Friday, September 18, in **San Marcos**, will be the kick-off conference of the Central Texas Alliance, a new organization being formed with our cooperation by **Austin-San Antonio** Corridor Council co-founder Henry Cisneros and other regional leaders, which we hope will continue the work of the Council for many years to come. For more information about the Alliance and to read their founding documents, go [here](#). You can apply to join via the website or by contacting newly appointed CEO A.J. Rodriguez (aj.rodriguez@centraltexasalliance.com).

INFRASTRUCTURE

Tomorrow, Tuesday, September 15 in **San Antonio**, TxDOT will be hosting a workshop to gather local input for the *2027 Texas Freight Mobility Plan* update from 10:00 am-to-noon at the Northeast Service Center, 10303 Tool Yard, SAT, 78233. Register here: [Texas Freight Mobility Plan \(TFMP\) Update Round 2 Stakeholder Workshops - September 2026 – Fill out form](#).

Joby Aviation began testing electric air-taxis last week between **Fort Worth** Alliance Airport and key locations in the **Dallas** metro-area, including the DFW Corporate Aviation Airport and Toyota Motor's North America headquarters in **Plano**. Some test flights will also include **Arlington**. Similar tests began last month in **Galveston**, also. [Story](#). [More](#).

Still More Air Taxi News: Designed for travel between coastal communities, Regent's part-plane-part-boat Seaglider made a successful test flight last week carrying passengers. Sixty of the electric-powered aircraft are on order to serve routes in **Manhattan**, **Boston**, **Palm Beach**, and **Miami** to various Caribbean islands. [Story](#).

Teslas using Full Self-Driving automated mode (FSD v14.3) have racked up over 50 incidents under review by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration since being released earlier this year, including several involving vehicles crashing into freight trains ([here](#)). A website, Tesla Deaths, counts 772 fatalities linked to the cars [here](#).

Schedule extra time this month if approaching **Austin** from the south as TxDOT's Capital Express construction on IH-35 continues disrupting downtown ramps and the intersection of SH 71 (Ben White) and IH-35. [Details](#).

A **Graz** (Austria) University study has confirmed earlier findings by the University of Virginia and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that women are at least 60% more likely to be injured in car crashes than men, attributable to positioning in the vehicle, seat belt design, and physical biological differences. [Story](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and Other News)

Amid growing safety concerns and threatening a reported \$1 trillion in industry investments, **Washington**-based **The Hill** reports that Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei said over the weekend that artificial intelligence development must slow down to allow for the implementation of necessary risk prevention safeguards. [Story](#). [Opinion](#).

Climate change has created a now-reliable northern trade route between Asia and Europe, cutting intercontinental travel times by 40%, **El Pais** reports. Shippers have launched seasonal service using a northwest passage via the Bering Strait. "One of the greatest reconfigurations of global logistics has begun," said a Spanish official. [Story](#).

San Marcos mayor Jane Hughson is stepping down to run instead on the November 3 ballot for a Place 3 position on the city council. She is backing Ryan Thomason for the city's top slot, facing Amanda Rodriguez. [Details](#).

News You Can't Use: A new study in the **Journal of American Medicine** network says US traffic accidents increase by roughly 15% on days when the biggest major artist music albums are released. Researchers say the most plausible explanation is smartphone-distraction, including drivers interacting with streaming music. [Story](#). [Study](#).

The Texas Longhorns victory over favored Ohio State in **Austin** this weekend - 24-23, featuring three consecutive touchdowns to overcome a 20-point deficit - merited an unusual **Wall Street Journal** sports feature yesterday. At one point, ESPN's 'probability predictor' gave Texas only a 1.9% of winning. Worth reading if you missed it. [Story](#).

Thought of the Week

"There is nothing worse than a sharp image of a fuzzy concept."

– Iconic landscape photographer Ansel Adams

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