



## Monday Morning Report

October 24, 2022

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### INTERNAL

The next meeting of the **Austin-San Antonio** Corridor Council Executive Committee is scheduled for November 16 at 2 PM by videoconference. For more information, contact [council@thecorridor.org](mailto:council@thecorridor.org).

COVID-19 UPDATE: Global cases today are at 627,631,619 with 6,578,440 deaths. US cases are at 97,198,630 with 1,067,686 deaths (10/24/22) ([Johns Hopkins](#)). On Friday, Texas reported 6,376,753 cases, with 89,505 deaths, including in **Bexar County**: 547,467 cases with 6,349 deaths; **Guadalupe County**: 29,498 cases, still with 414 deaths; **Comal County**: 25,534 cases, with 568 deaths; **Hays County**: 62,508 cases, still with 456 deaths; **Travis County**: 246,487 cases, with 1,800 deaths; and **Williamson County**: 129,112 cases, with 916 deaths (10/21/22). ([TDHHS](#)). *Regional hospitalization-rate data found [here](#).*

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### INFRASTRUCTURE

US Rep. Henry Cuellar traveled to **Cibolo** last week to tout nearly \$500 million in federal highway funding coming to **Guadalupe County** from last year's Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which he supported. Alamo Area Council of Governments executive director Diane Rath (also a Corridor Council Executive Committee member) joined Congressman Cuellar in making the announcement. [Story](#).

Hard hit by drought and climate change, regions across the US are increasingly turning to treated wastewater to supplement supplies of drinking water, the **New York Times** reports, with the number of drinking-water reuse projects quadrupling over the past two decades. **Hampton Roads**, VA, plans to pump 100-million gallons of treated wastewater each day back into the Potomac Aquifer, a major source of drinking water for the area. [Story](#). [More](#).

The latest trend in high end transportation may be the sleeper bus, luxury liners that offer passengers a flat bed for intercity trips of up to 14 hours, such as one journey chronicled in the **New York Times** from **Washington DC** to **Nashville**. The idea, says one promoter, is to mimic the private jet experience. Good luck with that. [Story](#).

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### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and Other News)

**Austin** growth continues spilling into surrounding areas along the State Highway 130 Corridor, with workforce, housing, and economic impacts producing big changes for **Taylor** and **Lockhart**, local officials told a recent Urban Land Institute luncheon. In **Taylor**, for example, assessed property values doubled in the past year. [Story](#).

**San Antonio's** city council unanimously approved a Strategic Framework and Workplan for future economic development last week, the product of a year's worth of planning and partnering with

consultants and development specialists (including some notables from **Austin**). The draft plan covers everything from incentives to workforce development to Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones. **Story**.

**New Braunfels** city manager Robert Camareno, in his annual 'State of the City' report last week, said that he expects the city's rapid development pace to slow somewhat in coming years, estimating that only about 5,800-acres of developable land are left and projecting that 87% of that land will see usage in the next 12 years. **Story**.

**Axios** reports that between 365 million-to-nearly-1 billion birds are killed every year in building collisions, feathered friends apparently reading window reflections as blue sky ahead. Thus, there is a move afoot to get architects to be more bird-thoughtful in their work (**here**). And **Austin** birders are asking buildings to dim their lights at night (**here**). Also, on-topic, the Audubon Society's amazing interactive bird migration map for 450 different species is found **here**.

## Thought of the Week

*"I will now live my life with the inventiveness of an engineer...(where) improvisation is the rule: No more beaten paths."*

- Osman Lins

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