



## Monday Morning Report

November 7, 2022

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### INTERNAL

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

COVID-19 UPDATE: Worldwide cases are at 632,679,029 with 6,600,793 deaths this morning. US cases are at 97,741,796 with 1,072,594 deaths (11/07/22) ([Johns Hopkins](#)). Texas was reporting 6,390,047 cases on Friday, with 89,635 deaths, including in **Bexar County**: 548,706 cases with 6,359 deaths; **Guadalupe County**: 29,553 cases, still with 415 deaths; **Comal County**: 25,591 cases, with 572 deaths; **Hays County**: 62,856 cases, still with 456 deaths; **Travis County**: 247,267 cases, with 1,804 deaths; and **Williamson County**: 129,604 cases, still with 917 deaths (11/4/22). ([TDHHS](#)). *Regional hospitalization-rate data found [here](#).*

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### INFRASTRUCTURE

At the request of local officials, Elon Musk's experimental above-ground hyperloop testing tunnel in **Hawthorne, CA.**, has been dismantled and removed. [Bloomberg](#) reports that The Boring Company's seven-year pursuit of hyperloop technology using magnetic levitation and jet-like speeds has been 'indefinitely shelved.' [Story. More](#). Related: **Kyle** has also canceled their \$3 million Boring Company tunnel project ([here](#)).

Low-income nations have long warned that rising temperatures would hit their citizens the hardest. Now, as the United Nations global climate change conference known as COP27 convenes this week in Egypt, the [Washington Post](#) reports that a bloc of more than 100 nations is taking the next step: demanding billions in reparations from wealthy nations for damage done to their economies. [Story. More. Still More](#).

**Corpus Christi** and its rapacious Port Authority continue to stir controversy with questionable environmental and industrial recruitment policies. The [Houston Chronicle](#) now reports that the city's 50-year future water supply has been sold off to big industrial users, leaving only dicey desalinization plants as an alternative. A masters class in becoming a rogue agency? [Story](#).

"If Texas cannot stabilize its rural communities, it stands to lose its place in the world economy," warns the [Texas Tribune](#) in a survey of the many issues plaguing small communities far from the state's urban centers, including poor broadband access, limited economic development, education, and health care gaps. [Story](#).

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### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and Other News)

[New York](#) magazine writer Casey Quackenbush claims that droves of people are fleeing **Austin** - despite its progressive politics - because the rest of Texas is just too conservative. Factors cited in the article

supposedly include climate change, demographics, economy, location, taxes, gun-culture and state abortion laws. [Story](#).

The **Express News** surveys the multiple impacts that Elon Musk's move to **Austin** has had on **San Antonio**, including the largest industrial warehousing lease in all of 2022, a new Tesla retail and service center coming soon (the city's second), and that much-talked-about airport-to-downtown tunnel project, [here](#).

Some bold-faced **San Antonio** names (including Rackspace founder and real estate developer Graham Weston) ARE PURCHASING the Double-A Missions minor-league baseball team, reportedly with plans to move the ballclub into a new urban stadium, which could kick off another round of downtown development. [Story](#). [More](#).

Visit San Antonio, the city's tourism marketing organization, is opening an office in **London** in an effort to draw more international travelers to **San Antonio**, hoping to attract at least \$60 million per year from British tourists by 2025. Expect a China presence within the next two years, officials said. [Details](#).

More changes for **San Antonio** International Airport are coming just in time for Christmas: two new gates will open in December and a third by January, raising the total number of gates to 27; and budget carrier Spirit Airlines will start offering flights from SAT on November 17. [Details](#).

A new park larger than the existing Brackenridge Park is in the works for **San Antonio**'s south side, near the Mission Reach of the San Antonio River. The 379.61-acre recreational & nature facility, a joint project of the San Antonio River Authority and Texas A&M University-San Antonio, is targeted for completion by next June. [Story](#).

The annual 10-day **New Braunfels** celebration of everything sausage-related, known as Wurstfest, kicked off last Friday (11/4) and the **San Antonio Express-News** has published a handy guide that includes some history, some beer and brats tips, and some new twists for this year's event. Fried Oreos, anyone? [Guide](#).

## Thought of the Week

*"I must think, question, seek facts, and not trust blindly."*

- Anais Nin

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