



**Austin-San Antonio  
Corridor Council**

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## ***Monday Morning Report – February 22, 2010***

### **Internal**

Save the Date: On March 17<sup>th</sup> the Executive Committee AND the Economic Development Committee will meet at 1:30 p.m. at the **San Marcos** Activity Center. This joint meeting will include a presentation from **Bexar County** Economic Development officials on the Texas-Mexico Automotive SuperCluster. For information contact [TJ@thecorridor.org](mailto:TJ@thecorridor.org)

Save the Date: The Economic Development Committee will hold its first 2010 Economic Development Field Trip, “*Behind the Scenes at the River Walk,*” in **San Antonio** on April 16<sup>th</sup>. If you or your organizations are interested in being a sponsor for this or other Corridor Council events, contact [TJ@thecorridor.org](mailto:TJ@thecorridor.org)

Corridor Council staff attended the TexasOne/**Austin** Chamber Tour of Texas reception (2/15). Site selectors made presentations on behalf of clients looking for medical manufacturing space, aerospace and renewable energy space, an existing specifically configured 750,000 sq ft facility, aerospace and renewable energy clusters, and general office space. If you want to hear more specifics, please contact [TJ@thecorridor.org](mailto:TJ@thecorridor.org)

### **Infrastructure**

**Austin** has a new website up as part of developing their Strategic Mobility Plan. The effort focuses on sustainability, livability, and mobility, and will be used to help guide future transportation investment and identify short-term and long-term goals. Details [here](#) about the plan.

As automakers prepare to introduce the first mass-market electric cars late this year, it is increasingly evident that the cars will get their most serious tryout in just a handful of places. Cities like **San Francisco** and **Portland** are quickly installing charging stations and changing local codes to meet an anticipated demand. Other cities are offering special parking spaces or parking meters. Federal stimulus funds have helped offset some of the costs associated with this infrastructure. [Details.](#)

**Williamson County's** latest road expansion project had a ribbon-cutting ceremony last week: a newly-widened stretch of County Road 175, located off FM 1431, four miles west of Interstate 35. [Details.](#)

The Texas State Highway 161 project in **Irving** and **Grand Prairie** was awarded \$20 million in Recovery Act funding for its \$1.3 billion project and the downtown **Dallas** streetcar project garnered a grant of \$23 million toward its \$53 million project from the same TIGER grant funds. (**Central Texas** gets short-changed again.)

All ten of last Friday's (2/19) Top Ten Front Pages at the online *Newsmuseum* featured the aerial attack on the Internal Revenue Service building in north **Austin**. The *New York Post* led with “*Kamikaze Attax.*” See the others [here](#).

## Economic Development (and ‘Other News’)

Memorial Tribute: On Monday, May 31, 2010 - Memorial Day - the US Post Office in **Georgetown** will be renamed for Lieutenant. Kile Grant West, a 2001 **Hutto** High School graduate and Army officer who was killed in Iraq on Memorial Day 2007.

Scott & White has renewed its search for a 40-acre site in the **Marble Falls** area for a new medical center. *Details.*

**Lockhart's** mayor, Jimmy Bertram, resigned Jan. 4 to run for a county office, and it looks like there will now be a special election on May 1, 2010 to choose his successor. Filing for the vacant post will begin March 16.

The **San Antonio** Public Library recently purchased computer equipment (including 133 laptops) using a \$285,000 contribution from the **Bexar County Story.**

April could mean substantial rebates for eligible Texans looking to replace certain older appliances with new Energy Star-rated appliances. The state of Texas received more than \$23 million from the US Department of Energy to establish an Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program, the first of its kind in Texas. The rebates will be administered through the Comptroller's State Energy Conservation Office. *Details.*

### Thought for the week:

*"I have yet to see any problem, however complicated, which, when looked at in the right way did not become still more complicated."*

~ Poul Anderson