



Monday Morning Report

April 6, 2026

INTERNAL

The next meeting of the **Austin-San Antonio** Corridor Council's Executive Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15 at 2 PM by Zoom. For more information or to add an item to the agenda, contact council@thecorridor.org.

INFRASTRUCTURE

US traffic deaths are declining to levels not seen since 2019, **SmartCitiesDive** says, citing data from the federal safety agency. And last year's traffic fatality rate of 1.10 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled was the lowest since 2014, marking the fourth straight year of declines that started in 2022. [Story. Report.](#)

But there is also troubling, recently revived data about women, cars, and safety: in the US, women are 73% more likely to be severely injured in a vehicle crash than men, and 17% more likely to die if in a crash. [Story. Data.](#)

Increased expenses for owning an automobile are pricing out large cohorts of Americans, the **New York Times** reports, citing rising costs for purchases, interest rates, insurance, fuel, parking, and maintenance. [Story.](#)

Texas has more data centers currently under construction - 140 - than any other state, **Visual Capitalist** reports, while providing a nationwide chart showing what is going where. Crucial infrastructure for cloud computing and AI, the centers are receiving increased pushback from locals concerned about power/water demands. [Chart.](#)

The vendor-driven '2026 *Texas Transportation Annual*' is out, highlighting various engineering and construction firms (and related trade groups) while shining a spotlight on such major statewide infrastructure projects as the **Austin** IH-35 rebuild through downtown, **Corpus Christi's** Harbor Bridge, and Texas transit projects ([here](#)).

The South Terminal at **Austin's** Bergstrom Airport closed last week (3/31) after a decade in operation to make way for taxiway construction, the new 26-gate Concourse B, and a temporary 6-gate Concourse M southern terminal. [Details.](#) Nearly 1.5 million passengers used Bergstrom in February, up year/year. [More.](#)

An **Austin** writer tried out one of the new models of personal flying taxis last week over Lady Bird Lake and lived to tell the tale: Chris Tomlinson was offered a ride on a locally owned Lift Aircraft's HEXCA-U ultra-light vehicle designed for recreation, but future transportation utility models are upcoming. Read about the future. [Opinion](#). city-partners who had been threatening to withdraw from the agency in May elections. [Story](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and Other News)

The once-hot Texas housing market is *really* cooling, dead last among US states according to a new study from **Construction Coverage** based upon Redfin data, which showed a dramatic slowdown linked to rising housing prices/mortgage rates and return-to-office mandates. **Austin** ranked 51st out of 52 large cities analyzed, **San Antonio** rounded out the 15 worst at 48th. [Story](#). [Study](#).

Water Updates: Parched **Corpus Christi** is racing to complete by July a new 30-mile specially designed pipeline connecting the city's water system to a 24-well field in **San Patricio County**, officials say ([here](#)). Closer to home, the **New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung** reports a hopeful view from a **Comal County** water expert about Canyon Lake - facing 'a perfect storm' of population growth and drought - losing 34 million gallons a day. [Story](#).

Citing 'national security,' a Trump-appointed environmental panel in **Washington** dubbed 'the God Squad' voted last week to exempt oil and gas drilling in the Gulf of Mexico from measures designed to protect endangered species. The God Squad - named for life-or-death power over species - had not met for three decades before gathering last Tuesday to protect drilling in the Gulf. [Story](#).

No Comment: The top official for response and recovery at the Federal Emergency Management Agency told a podcaster that he had experienced 'teleporting' twice, including once to a Waffle House in Georgia. "The more accurate biblical terms are 'translated' or 'transported'- not new ideas for people of faith," he wrote. [Story](#).

Thought of the Week

"Everyone is a genius at least once a year." – Georg C. Lichtenberg

This newsletter is available to our members. If you wish to unsubscribe, please send an email request with subject UNSUBSCRIBE to council@thecorridor.org.
