



Monday Morning Report

October 20, 2025

INTERNAL

The next meeting of the **Austin-San Antonio** Corridor Council Executive Committee will be Wednesday, November 19 at 2 PM by Zoom. If you would like more information or to add an item to the agenda, please contact council@thecorridor.org.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The Trump administration has reportedly 'terminated' funding for the Hudson River Gateway project, arguably the most important rail and transit infrastructure project in the US. Budgeted at about \$16 billion, the tunnel was to have supplemented existing century-old rail access to **New York** city. 'Vindictive, reckless and foolish,' said New York US Senator Chuck Schumer of the move, which officials said would cost at least 15,000 jobs. [Story](#).

In addition to killing **New York's** congestion pricing toll program and Gateway Hudson River tunnel project (above), the Trump administration is also threatening the city's proposed bus lanes expansions, saying last week that funding for the bus lanes program - expected to increase speeds and ridership - has ended. [Story](#).

Travis County announced last week that the **Austin-San Antonio** region was selected by the national nonprofit Center for Climate and Energy Solutions for a two-year program to facilitate climate change resilience efforts. The goal is to bring together local governments to create a 'regional roadmap of resilience.' [Story](#). [More](#).

As the **San Antonio** International Airport continues working on a sprawling 850,000-sq.ft. expansion effort, the *Express-News* reports that officials are increasingly looking at **Austin's** Bergstrom Airport for inspiration on creating a sense of place involving cultural icons, locally branded retailers, and local entertainment. [Details](#).

Federal authorities have opened yet another investigation into **Austin**-based Tesla's self-driving feature after dozens of incidents in which their cars ran red lights or drove on the wrong side of the road, sometimes crashing into other vehicles and causing injuries. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said it is looking into 58 new incidents involving the company's so-called Full Self-Driving mode. [Story](#). [More](#).

The **San Antonio** Mobility Coalition's next Leadership Luncheon features Texas Transportation Commissioner Alejandro 'Alex' Meade and TxDOT Senior Director of Project Development Mohamed 'Mo' Bur, P.E., on Friday, November 7, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the **San Antonio** Embassy Suites Landmark. Register [here](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and Other News)

The age of the personal flying car is here, according to the **Wall Street Journal** automotive writer Dan Neil, who took a test flight of the Pivotal BlackFly - a series-produced electric vertical takeoff and landing vehicle made for consumers, and no more difficult to operate than your standard high-tech automobile, he says. [Story](#).

German manufacturer Aumovio (formerly Continental Automotive Systems) plans to add 65,000-sq.ft. of manufacturing and warehouse space to its facilities in **New Braunfels**. The \$110 million expansion work begins next year, according to state filings. [Story](#).

On the heels of announcing a new partnership with the **Texas Tribune** last May, the **Austin Monitor** - local news watchdog over city and county politics - will change its name to the **Austin Current** and begin airing an audio-focused news show, the **Austin Signal**, beginning this week. [Details](#).

The **Austin**-Area Research Organization is hosting its third annual Central Texas Catalyst Summit on Monday, November 10, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, at the **Austin** Renaissance Hotel. For details & registration, go [here](#).

A new essay from the **Brookings Institution** about artificial intelligence makes the point that the real danger isn't AI thinking for itself; it's AI doing exactly what it's asked to do, at scale and without mercy. The piece cites cases sharing a crucial commonality: perfect execution of programmed objectives, with systems eliminating obstacles - including humans - that threaten goal completion. Slightly disturbing but worthwhile reading. [Opinion](#).

Thought of the Week

“Just because something doesn’t do what you planned it to do doesn’t mean it’s useless.” – Thomas Edison

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