



## Monday Morning Report

October 27, 2025

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### 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](mailto:council@thecorridor.org).

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### INFRASTRUCTURE

**Travis County** commissioners approved a \$125,000 contract with the HNTB Engineering group last week to study a passenger rail route using IH-10 and State Highway 130 right-of-way to connect **Austin** and **San Antonio**. The study is projected to be delivered by March 2026, four months before results of a similar TxDOT study of IH-35 right-of-way for AUS-SAT passenger rail is expected to be complete. [Story](#). [More](#). [Still More](#).

That much talked-about-but-little-understood private-sector Brightline passenger rail service connecting **Miami-to-Orlando** in Florida has killed 182 people since it began service in 2018, one death for every 13 days of operations, the *Miami Herald* reports. In addition to those deaths, 99 people have been injured; and at least 101 car/train crashes have occurred without reported injuries. Brightline says most of the deaths are suicides. [Story](#).

The Great Springs Project connecting iconic springs in **Austin**, **San Marcos**, **New Braunfels**, and **San Antonio** has taken another big step forward by partnering with TxDOT to gather public input on the effort, which is mandated for completion by the state legislature for 2036, the Texas Bicentennial. [Story](#). [More](#).

**San Marcos** is investigating why outdoor warning sirens failed to activate during last week's Friday weather events, despite **Hays County** being placed under a Tornado Warning that began in nearby **Blanco County**. There had been earlier malfunctions with the system, which officials believe may be server related. [Story](#).

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### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (and Other News)

**San Antonio's** own Hope Andrade, a former Texas Secretary of State, has been named president and chief executive officer of the Alamo Trust - charged with overseeing the

renovation and museum construction at the site - just one day after Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick called for the resignation of Kate Rogers from the post. [Story](#).

While the US is backing away from major new wind energy projects, China is doubling down on wind power - literally - committing to deploy twice as much wind-sourced electricity, 120 gigawatts per year over the next five-year period, up from 50-gigawatts per year in the previous five-year plan [Maritime Executive](#) reports. [Story](#).

Tune in next month for the prestigious Georgetown University's "*USMCA 2020: Renegotiating North America's Economic Future*" discussion/webinar, November 13, 5:30-6:30 pm Central Time. Register [here](#).

The University of Texas system is reportedly mulling a cooperation deal with the Trump White House that would give the system preferential funding treatment in exchange for capping international student enrollment, commit to strict gender definitions, and freeze tuition for five years. Seven of eight other universities offered the deal have rejected it, [Axios](#) reports. [Story](#).

The University of Texas at **San Antonio** and the Southwest Research Institute, meanwhile, are already staring down the barrel of a whopping \$267 million in funding cuts to science and space-related programs already proposed by the Trump administration - some of which involve project currently in outer space. [Story](#).

Although controversial when first introduced, metered downtown parking in **New Braunfels** - designed to create more turnover availability for retailers - has generated at least \$80,000 since implementation began this summer, a small price to pay, some say, for access to all that beer, brisket, and bratwurst. [Details](#).

## Thought of the Week

“Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.”  
– Martin Luther King, Jr.

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