

TRANSPORTATION

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Message from Mobility Authority thought leader: Delivering mobility shapes Austin's future



An investment in transportation is an investment in our future.

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Mobility is one of the most fundamental and important functions in our society, fulfilling the basic purpose of moving goods and people from one place to another.

Irrespective of its aim, mobility holds a much broader role in shaping our region. The interrelation between transportation investment and economic development, social equity, and the environment can't be understated.

As the independent government agency charged with enhancing mobility throughout Central Texas, the Mobility Authority understands and incorporates these dynamics in every project and initiative.

Mobility drives development

The Mobility Authority systematically invests in building connections that enhance regional connectivity. In doing so, we eliminate geographical differences and expand economic opportunities to more communities. And these connections stimulate job creation and provide access to a larger, more diversely-skilled workforce.

The 183A and 45SW Toll Roads are two great examples of these forward-thinking regional connections - both reducing travel time, increasing reliability, and providing direct connections between

Williamson, Travis, and Hays counties. The roads that we're building today will drive tomorrow's economy.

Mobility empowers our community

It's our transportation network that gets people to school, work, stores, services, and back home again. These connections aid socioeconomic development and improve the quality of life for all Central Texans.

It's one reason why the Mobility Authority is improving the quality of pedestrian and bicycle connections and access to public transit. We work with Capital Metro to allow buses free access to our toll lanes. In addition, more than 70 miles of shared-use path is planned or in place along our project corridors. This includes a \$25 million investment in shared use paths, sidewalks, bike lanes, and cross-street connections on the 183 South project alone.

We build more than roads; we build up our neighbors by ensuring reliable transportation options for all.

Mobility shapes our environment

And in ways that are both visible and unnoticed. For this reason, the Mobility Authority works to mindfully incorporate environmental stewardship from conception of our projects through construction and beyond. In 2018, the Mobility Authority was awarded the Austin Chamber of Commerce's Environmental Champion Award for its investment in sustainability, innovation, and leadership in the transportation industry, most notably due to the SH 45SW Project. This now open toll road also received Gold in the Environmental category for 2020 American Council of Engineering Companies, Texas Chapter.

Practicing environmental stewardship successfully also requires bridging resources and building strong partnerships. The Mobility Authority and TreeFolks, a local environmental no-profit, are celebrating a five-year partnership this year. Together, we've provided more than a dozen educational classes and tree planting events, installed two irrigation systems at local elementary schools, and have planted nearly 10,000 trees throughout Central Texas.

Transportation can be used to ensure a healthy, prosperous, and inclusive community - an investment in transportation is an investment in our future. And it is by understanding these interconnections, that the Mobility Authority continues to deliver on its mission to enhance the quality of life and economic vitality of region through mobility.

[Learn more about the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority.](#)

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