



# TIP Amendments Economic Recovery Stimulus Public Meeting

H-GAC 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conf. Rm A  
Monday, February 12, 2009

Name: Tyler Nelson

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments / Questions / Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

*Can I Be Added To <sup>All</sup> "H-GAC's" EMAIL LISTS. ESPECIALLY TRANSPORTATION, HOME LOAN SECURITY & NASA ISSUES.*

Thank you!  Please check here if you would you like to be added to the H-GAC Transportation Department's mailing list.

Public input is vital to the success of these proposed improvements. Written comments can be made online at [PublicComment@h-gac.com](mailto:PublicComment@h-gac.com) , faxed to 713-993-4508, or mailed to H-GAC Public Information, P.O. Box 22777, Houston, TX 77227-2777.



# TIP Amendments Economic Recovery Stimulus Public Meeting

H-GAC 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conf. Rm A  
Monday, February 12, 2009

Name: Peter McElwain Katy ISP

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments / Questions / Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

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see letter submitted at Feb. 12  
hearing

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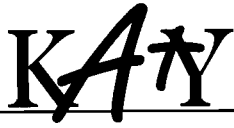
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Public input is vital to the success of these proposed improvements. Written comments can be made online at [PublicComment@h-gac.com](mailto:PublicComment@h-gac.com), faxed to 713-993-4508, or mailed to H-GAC Public Information, P.O. Box 22777, Houston, TX 77227-2777.



Peter McElwain  
DISTRICT ARCHITECT/PLANNER

February 12, 2009

Houston-Galveston Area Council  
P.O. Box 22777  
Houston, Texas 77227-2777

I wish to thank the Council on behalf of Katy Independent School District for the opportunity to provide feedback related to the proposed amendments to the 2008-2011 TIP and to the 2035 RTP.

Despite the current economic slowdown, the Katy area continues to be one of the fastest growing areas in the state and in the nation. What was, only a decade ago, rural territory has now been transformed into a high concentration of single family master planned residential developments.

I wish to express a concern with respect to your proposed timing of reconstruction work for FM 1463 and Gaston Road and the urgent need to complete other identified major thoroughfares in the Katy area.

FM 1463 from Interstate 10 south to FM 1093 is currently a two lane road with deep ditches and sharp turns. Large master planned communities including WoodCreek Reserve, Firethorne, Cinco Ranch S/W, Cross Creek Ranch, and Westheimer Lakes North have, in recent years, been developed directly adjacent to this road, generating high vehicular use of this major north-south arterial. In the next five years an additional 4,380 homes are projected to be built in this corridor with another 11,146 homes projected between 2008 and 2018. There is a serious concern related to vehicular safety. Katy ISD transports several students per day in 19 buses along FM 1463. This number is expected to increase exponentially per year over at least the next decade. The reconstruction of FM 1463 is identified in your 2035 RTP (ref: page 34) as a project proposed to bid in 2018. This is far too late. Unless the project is advanced into the 2008-2011 TIP and completed as soon as possible, vehicular safety and safety of our community will be seriously compromised.

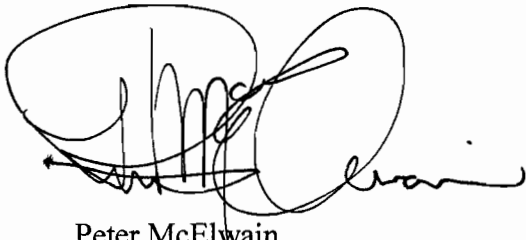
Gaston Road from Katy-Flewellen to Cinco Ranch Boulevard (ref: page 39) is another rural two lane road in the heart of an area of high residential growth including direct adjacency with a proposed high school site. Currently 27 school buses travel this road daily along with an increasing number of cars and other vehicles. The 2035 RTP includes this four lane reconstruction project specifying a 2012 bid date. Once again considering the tremendous growth in this area, we strongly encourage the Council to include this project on the 2008-2011 TIP list.

The two before mentioned projects currently are not funded. Roesner Road Reconstruction (ref: page 44) is another unfunded major thoroughfare project in the area with a proposed bid date of 2018. Reconstruction projects on Westheimer/Greenbusch, Katy-Flewellen, and Katy Gaston from Cinco Ranch Blvd. to FM 1093 have been funded through the 2007 Fort Bend County Mobility Bond but no construction work has yet commenced.

On behalf of Katy ISD and in the interest and safety of our community and its students, I strongly request that the Council re-evaluate the proposed timing of projects in the Katy area. We are far behind related to acquiring the necessary thoroughfares required to keep pace with residential and commercial development.

Any assistance that the Council can provide, in acquiring funding and expediting urgently needed road infrastructure projects in the Katy area, would be greatly appreciated.

In addition to the tremendous number of homes constructed in recent years in this area, please find attached two graphics prepared by our demographers depicting projected additional homes in this area within two planning periods, 2008-2013 and 2013-2018. I would be pleased to share additional demographic data with the Council upon request.

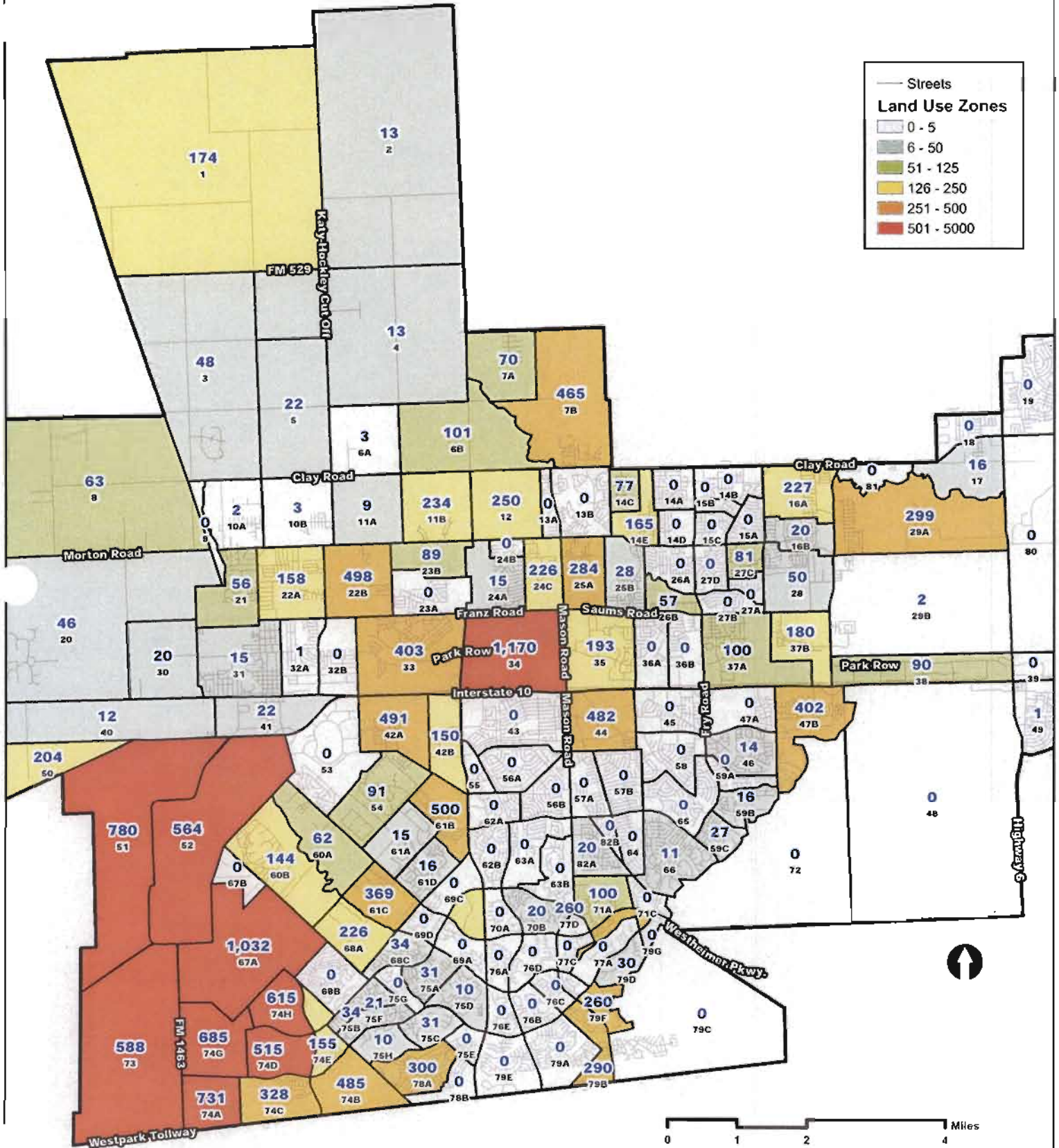
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter McElwain', with a large, stylized initial 'P' and 'M'.

Peter McElwain  
District Architect/Planner

Cc: Andy Meyers – Commissioner, Fort Bend County Precinct 3  
Jesse Hegemier – Fort Bend County Engineer  
Jim Hunt - Fort Bend Area Engineer/Texas Department of Transportation

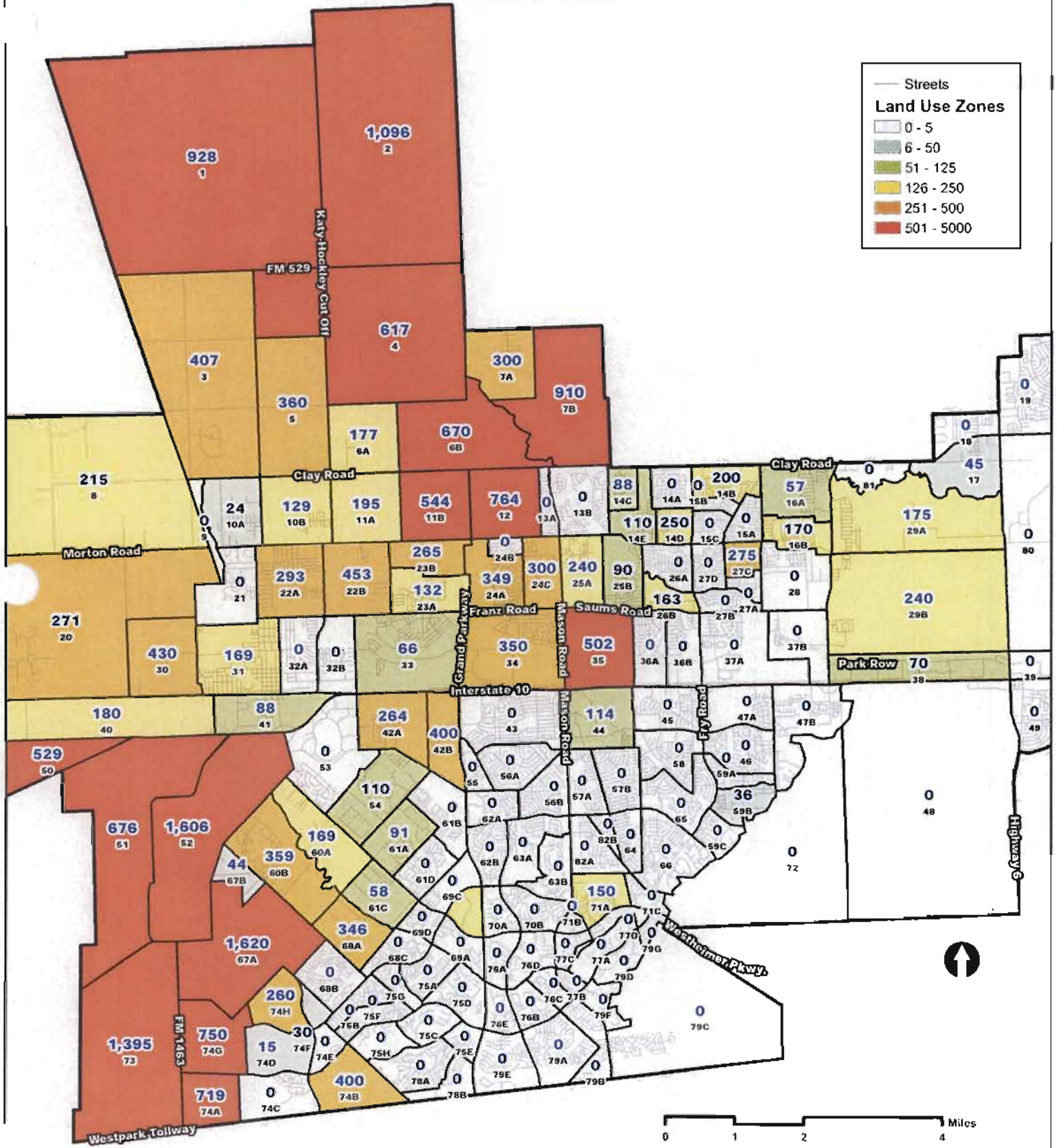
# Projected New Housing Occupancies

October 2008 to October 2013



# Projected New Housing Occupancies

October 2013 to October 2018





# RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Texas Department of Transportation maintains all state and farm to market roads to include new construction; and

WHEREAS, Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) administers the Transportation Implementation Program (TIP) through its Transportation Policy Council (TPC); and

WHEREAS, HGAC uses the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to process all transportation requests and recommends them to the TPC, and

WHEREAS, The TPC then makes recommendations to TxDOT for projects in the Houston District, and

WHEREAS, The Economic Development Alliance for Brazoria County spearheaded the marketing and information campaign to inform the voters of much needed transportation projects, and

WHEREAS, The Alliance through its Board of Directors passed a resolution of support for a \$50 Million Dollar bond program placed before the voters of Brazoria County, and

WHEREAS, Brazoria County voters overwhelmingly approved the \$50 Million dollar mobility bond program to address transportation needs across the County; and

WHEREAS, Brazoria County has implemented several programs that were included in the Mobility Bond Program in several cities around Brazoria County, and

WHEREAS, Brazoria County through its Commissioners' Court has pledged a 10% match (\$800,000 in original estimates) of the \$50 Million Dollar Bond program toward the FM 528 project; and

WHEREAS, The City of Alvin has pledged a 10% match (\$800,000 in original estimates) toward the FM 528 Extension from Business Highway 35 west and south to State Highway 6; and

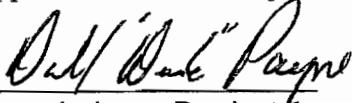
WHEREAS, The City of Alvin has spent over \$600,000 on the FM 528 Extension to obtain right of way, engineering and environmental work, and is committed to make a 10% match toward construction; and

WHEREAS, The City of Alvin has updated its application and cost estimate (\$12 M) and put the project in a "Project Ready Status"; and

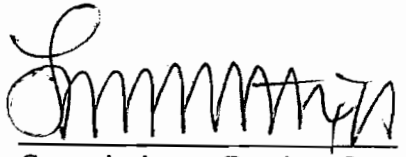
WHEREAS, The FM 528 project has been resubmitted to HGAC for consideration at the earliest opportunity; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Brazoria County Commissioners' Court supports and encourages the completion of FM 528 Extension, from Business Highway 35 west and south to State Highway 6.

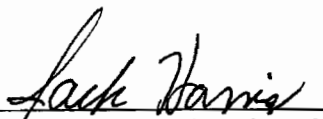
Approved this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December, 2008

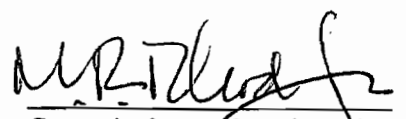
  
Commissioner, Precinct 1  
Donald "Dude" Payne

  
County Judge E.J. King

  
Commissioner, Precinct 2  
L.M. "Matt" Sebesta, Jr.



  
Commissioner, Precinct 3  
Jack Harris

  
Commissioner, Precinct 4  
Mary Ruth Rhodenbaugh

# RESOLUTION

## From the Board of Directors

### The Economic Development Alliance for Brazoria County

Whereas, Texas Department of Transportation maintains all state and farm to market roads to include new construction, and

Whereas, Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) administers the Transportation Implementation Program (TIP) through its Transportation Policy Council (TPC), and

Whereas, HGAC uses the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to process all transportation requests and recommends them to the TPC, and

Whereas, the TPC then makes recommendations to TxDOT for projects in the Houston District, and

Whereas, The Economic Development Alliance for Brazoria County spearheaded the marketing and information campaign to inform the voters of much needed transportation projects, and

Whereas, The Alliance through its Board of Directors passed a resolution of support for a \$50 Million bond program placed before the voters of Brazoria County, and

Whereas, Brazoria County voters overwhelmingly approved the \$50 Million Mobility Bond Program to address transportation needs across the County, and

Whereas, Brazoria County has implemented several programs that were included in the Mobility Bond Program in several cities around Brazoria County, and

Whereas, the FM 528 Extension from Business Highway 35 west and south to State Highway 6 in Alvin, Texas was one of the projects to be accomplished in the Mobility Bond Program, and

Whereas, Brazoria County through its Commissioners' Court has pledged a 10% match (\$800,000 in original estimates) of the \$50 Million Mobility Bond Program toward the FM 528 project, and

Whereas, the City of Alvin has pledged a 10% match (\$800,000 in original estimates) toward the FM 528 Extension from Business Highway 35 west and south to State Highway 6, and

Whereas, the City of Alvin has spent over \$600,000 on the FM 528 Extension to obtain right of way, engineering and environmental work, and is committed to make a 10% match toward construction, and

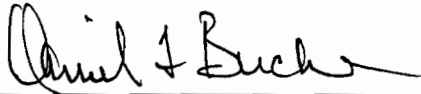
**RESOLUTION – PAGE 2**

Whereas, the City of Alvin has updated its application and cost estimate (\$12 Million) and put the project in a "Project Ready Status", and

Whereas, the FM 528 project has been resubmitted to HGAC for consideration at the earliest opportunity,

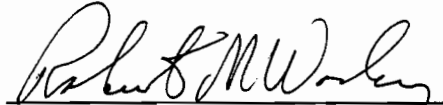
Therefore, be it hereby resolved that The Economic Development Alliance for Brazoria County supports and encourages the completion of FM 528 Extension from Business Highway 35 west and south to State Highway 6.

Signed this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2008 by:



**Daniel L. Buche**, Chairman of the Board

Attest:



**Robert M. Worley**, President/CEO

**RESOLUTION NO. 08-R-39**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ALVIN, TEXAS, SUPPORTING AND REQUESTING H-GAC TO PLACE THE FM 528 EXTENSION PROJECT IN THE TRANSPORTATION IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM FOR TXDOT FUNDING FOR COMPLETION OF THE FM 528 EXTENSION PROJECT IN ALVIN, TEXAS.**

**WHEREAS**, there is a general need to direct through-traffic traveling between Friendswood and Manvel away from downtown Alvin, and

**WHEREAS**, there is a serious evacuation danger for Galveston County residents that can be limited by the railroad underpass on Hwy 6 in Alvin (this underpass flooded due to loss of power during IKE), and

**WHEREAS**, State Highway 6 is limited to high load trucks due to this same railroad underpass, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alvin recognized these state highway limitations and added the FM 528 Extension Project (the "Project") (an extension of FM 528 from Business 35 to Hwy 6) to its Mobility Plan in 2003 and then initiated the acquisition of right-of-way, preliminary engineering and environmental studies to move the Project along, and

**WHEREAS**, the Project was submitted to the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Transportation Implementation Program (TIP) in 2005 as one of several Brazoria County wide projects, and

**WHEREAS**, Brazoria County voters overwhelmingly approved the Fifty Million Dollar (\$50,000,000) mobility bond program in 2004 to address transportation needs across the county, and

**WHEREAS**, the FM 528 Extension in Alvin, Texas was one of the projects to receive matching funds from this bond program, and

**WHEREAS**, Brazoria County through its Commissioners Court has pledged a ten percent (10%) match from the Fifty Million Dollar (\$50,000,000) mobility bond program, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alvin has spent over \$600,000 on the FM 528 Extension Project already to obtain right of way, engineering and environmental work, and is committed to make a ten percent (10%) match toward construction, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alvin has updated its application and cost estimate (now \$12 Million) and put the project in a "Project Ready Status", and

WHEREAS, the FM 528 Extension Project was resubmitted to H-GAC December 5, 2008 for consideration at its earliest opportunity; **NOW THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALVIN, TEXAS:**

Section 1. That the City Council hereby adopts and approves the recitals and findings set forth in the preamble hereof.

Section 2. That the City of Alvin, Texas hereby passes this resolution of support and urges H-GAC to place the FM 528 Extension Project in the TIP for Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) funding at its earliest opportunity for the completion of the FM 528 Extension Project from Business Highway 35 west and south to State Highway 6.

Section 3. That it is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Resolution was passed was open to the public as required and that public notice of the time, place and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, *Chapt. 551, Tex. Gov't Code.*

PASSED AND APPROVED on this the 18 day of December, 2008.

ATTEST:

CITY OF ALVIN, TEXAS

By: Thomas W. Peebles  
Thomas W. Peebles, City Clerk

By: Gary Appelt  
Gary Appelt, Mayor

ALVIN

# City seeks piece of pie

The city of Alvin has submitted two projects to be considered for potential grants through the federal government's economic stimulus package.

STORY ON PAGE 5

Thursday, February 12, 2009

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

ALVIN

## City seeks stimulus funds

■ Money would be used for wastewater plant, road project

By **THAYER EVANS**  
CHRONICLE CORRESPONDENT

With President Barack Obama pushing for a federal government economic stimulus package of more than \$800 billion, the city of Alvin has submitted two projects to be considered for potential grants.

The city is asking for \$10 million for the extension of FM 528 to Texas 6 and \$3 million to complete the second phase of an upgrade to its wastewater treatment plant, City Manager Paul Horn said.

Both projects are ready to start and would only need to be bid on by contractors, he said.

The proposed economic stimulus package would fund infrastructure projects throughout the country. But it may only provide low-interest loans and match-

ing grants to municipalities, Horn said.

"I don't know that there's any monies available, but you have to go through the process and that's what we're doing," he said.

The city is asking the Houston-Galveston Area Council for \$10 million so that FM 528 can be extended approximately one mile southwest from Texas 35 Business in Alvin to Texas 6, Horn said. FM 528 currently stops at Texas 35 Business in Alvin, he said.

The potential \$12 million extension is slated to be a Texas Department of Transportation project and would include an overpass that would go over a railroad track, Horn said.

"The people from the Sugar Land-Manvel area could then go straight through and bypass all the stoplights to go to Friendswood and Clear Lake," said Horn of the possible extension.

The H-GAC will submit funding requests for road projects to TxDOT, which in turn would receive money out of the proposed economic

stimulus package, Horn said.

Alvin and Brazoria County both have agreed to provide 10 percent of the cost for the possible FM 528 extension, Horn said. The city has already finished the extension's right-of-way acquisition, engineering and environmental work, he said.

"This one is ready to go," Horn said.

The \$3 million for the city's 31-year-old wastewater treatment plant would complete the second phase of its upgrade, he said.

The city, he said, already is spending \$3 million for the first phase of improvements.

The money to finish improving the city's wastewater treatment plant is being requested from the Texas Water Development Board, Horn said.

The completion of the upgrade would make the plant more energy efficient and add some capacity, he said.

"Maintenance on it is substantial and we're having a lot of outages due to the equipment getting old," Horn said.

He said he is skeptical

of whether the two projects requested by Alvin will be covered by the proposed economic stimulus package.

The city does not know when decisions will be made on its requested projects.

"There's just too little known about it," Horn said of the proposed economic stimulus package.

Mayor Gary Appelt said the city is trying to be proactive by presenting its two projects for consideration for funding from the proposed economic stimulus package.

"We could turn and put that money to work quickly," Appelt said. "We're ready to do that."

[neighborhoods@chron.com](mailto:neighborhoods@chron.com)

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Want to share your thoughts about this or any other community issue? Send us a letter to the editor by e-mail to [neighborhoods@chron.com](mailto:neighborhoods@chron.com).