TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

TARRANT County | **MINUTE ORDER** |

FORT WORTH District

Subchapter E, Chapter 223, Transportation Code prescribes the process by which the Texas Department of Transportation (department) may enter into a comprehensive development agreement (CDA) with a private entity that provides for the design, development, financing, construction, maintenance, repair, operation, extension, or expansion of a toll project on the state highway system.

The department has been in development of SH 114 from SH 114L Business to east of International Parkway and SH 121 from FM 2499 to SH 360 (the SH 114/SH 121 corridor), known locally as the Funnel, as a managed lanes project, to include two managed lanes in each direction along SH 114 from east of FM 1709 to east of International Parkway. The managed lanes would be utilized for express movements along SH 114, without intermediate access points. The conceptual design would include concrete barriers separating the general purpose lanes from the managed lanes.

Section 223.203, Transportation Code prescribes requirements for a solicited proposal and requires the department to publish a request for qualifications in the *Texas Register* that includes the criteria that will be used to evaluate any qualification submittals, the relative weight given to the criteria, and a deadline by which qualification submittals must be received.

Development of this project is a crucial element in responding to severe recurrent traffic bottlenecks and congestion that occurs daily along the proposed project corridor. The Funnel project interconnects numerous facilities north of the Dallas – Fort Worth International Airport. The magnitude and scope of the planned solution will benefit from implementation through the CDA approach.

The planned improvements will provide increased capacity to serve the needs of the Funnel traffic by providing for the express through movement of managed lane traffic along the SH 114 facility continuing in an easterly or westerly direction. There exists the potential for expediting the development and completion of this project through the development of a public-private partnership.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Texas Transportation Commission that the department is authorized and directed to publish in the *Texas Register* and in one or more newspapers of general circulation a request for qualifications to develop, design, and construct, and potentially finance, maintain, and operate, SH 114 from SH 114L Business to east of International Parkway and SH 121 from FM 2499 to SH 360 (the SH 114/SH 121 corridor), including tolled managed lanes along SH 114 from east of FM 1709 to east of International Parkway, as well as other facilities to the extent necessary for connectivity, mobility, safety, and financing.

Submitted and reviewed by:

for Director, Texas Turnpike Authority Division

Recommended by:

Executive Director

110469 MAR 30 06

Minute Number | Date Passed