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**SPOTLIGHT**



**Steve Boecking**  
Vice President, Hillwood Properties

Mr. Steve Boecking serves as vice president at Hillwood Properties, developer of the 17,000-acre AllianceTexas development in north Fort Worth. AllianceTexas is anchored by the Alliance Global Logistics Hub, featuring one of the nation's largest intermodal yards operated by BNSF Railway, two Class I rail lines, Interstate Highway 35W and the world's first industrial airport, Fort Worth Alliance Airport. Mr. Boecking oversees the management, operation and service provision of the 9,600 acre Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) #196 at AllianceTexas. He works to continually enhance the multimodal transportation options, logistics services and economic benefits for companies within the development. He also works closely with brokers and freight forwarders in developing the air cargo operations at Fort Worth Alliance Airport, including the Alliance Air Trade Center.

Mr. Boecking is an active member of several professional organizations including serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Foreign Trade Zones and serves on the Membership Committee and the FTZ Grantee Committee. Mr. Boecking has earned the distinction of Accredited Zone Specialist. He is also a board member for the Transportation Club of Dallas Fort Worth. Mr. Boecking also serves as a member of the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP) and received the CSCMP a "2007 Outstanding Contribution to the DFW Logistics Community Award."

Mr. Boecking has been a featured speaker at several conferences including: TCU Global Supply and Value Chain Conference; Texas Logistics Education Foundation; North Texas Commission; International Intermodal Association of North America; Council of Supply Chain Management; National Association of Foreign Trade Zones; PROMAT; and Organization of Women in International Trade World Conference. Mr. Boecking also has lectured extensively on Global Logistics and International Trade at the University of Oklahoma, Texas Christian University, Southern Methodist University, and the University of North Texas.

Mr. Boecking holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics from Vanderbilt University.



**Jack L. Todd**  
Director of Public Affairs, Trinity Industries Inc.

Mr. Jack Todd has more than 25 years' experience in governmental affairs and public relations with vast experience in community outreach, media relations, employee communications, crisis communications, executive media training, special events, issues management and strategic planning. He has extensive international experience, primarily in Asia and the Middle East, where he lived and worked for more than five years.

Mr. Todd retired as a U.S. Naval officer in 2006 and joined Trinity Industries as the Director of Community Outreach. He has held a number of positions within Trinity including serving as the Director of Sales and Marketing for Trinity Structural Towers, and Chief of Staff to the Group President of the Construction, Energy, Marine and Components Group. He currently serves as the Director of Public Affairs, directing and managing all government relations for Trinity Industries. He is the chief federal and state lobbyist for Trinity, and also manages special projects concerning facility expansions. He is also the President of the Trinity Industries Employee Political Action Committee (TIEPAC) and he is responsible for all political action committee fund raising efforts and political contributions.

Mr. Todd is very active in the Dallas community. He is involved in youth mentoring programs and coaching several youth sports. In 2004, he was chosen to be one of 25 young leaders at the American Council on Germany's Young Leader Conference. He is a member of the Dallas Chamber of Commerce Sustainable Technologies Committee and the City of Dallas, South Dallas Task Force. He serves on the Executive Board of the Texas Association of Manufacturers and as a Director of the Texas Taxpayers and Research Association. He also serves on the National Association of Manufacturers Public Affairs Steering Committee and the legislative committees of the American Wind Energy Association, the National Readmix Concrete Association, and the American Traffic Safety Services Association. Past Board Directorships include: The Family Place, as Executive Vice President of Public Affairs and Plano Sports Authority - Little League Baseball.

Mr. Todd holds a Bachelor's Degree in History from Texas A&M University and a Master's Degree in Journalism from the American University.



**French F. Thompson III**  
Director of Public Private Partnerships for the MidCon Corridor of BNSF Railway

Mr. French Thompson is currently a Director of Public Private Partnerships for the MidCon Corridor of BNSF Railway. The MidCon Corridor comprises of eleven states and one Canadian Province ranging from Winnipeg, Manitoba to Brownsville, Texas. His role encompasses forging partnerships between public entities and BNSF to develop mutually beneficial projects that can improve public livability and railroad efficiency.

Mr. Thompson has been with BNSF for seven years and has held numerous roles of increasing responsibility, from a Kansas City based Project Engineer to a Manager of Engineering. He served as a Roadmaster in Oklahoma City, where he worked to coordinate the entire BNSF infrastructure modifications needed to accommodate the new I-40 Relocation. He also served as the Manager of Public Projects for the states of Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin where he coordinated with federal and local municipalities to accomplish crossing closures, quiet zones, crossing safety upgrades, grade separations and other various BNSF and public coordinated projects. His most recent role was Manager of Engineering, where he managed BNSF's capital expansion program across the upper mid-west from Chicago to Whitefish, Montana. Some of the projects included managing BNSF's 2012 capital expansion program for the North Dakota Bakken Oil region and the CREATE Public Private Partnership in Chicago.

Mr. Thompson holds two Bachelors of Science degrees in Applied Physics from Morehouse College and Civil Engineering from The University of Michigan.



**Texas Freight  
Advisory Committee  
Meeting**

**February 20, 2014  
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM**

**Texas Motor Speedway  
3545 Lone Star Circle  
Chisholm Trail Conference Room, 4th Floor  
Fort Worth, Texas 76177**



**8:30-8:45AM WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**



**Judge Ed Emmett, Harris County Judge, Chair, Texas Freight Advisory Committee**



**Judge Carlos Cascos, Cameron County Judge, Vice Chair, Texas Freight Advisory Committee**



**Commissioner Victor T. Vandergriff, Texas Transportation Commission**

Victor T. Vandergriff is a member of the Texas Transportation Commission, which oversees statewide activities of the Texas Department of Transportation. He was appointed commissioner by Gov. Rick Perry on March 26, 2013, and took his seat on the commission on April 30, 2013. Vandergriff is an attorney and private businessman specializing in business development and legislative issues. From 2009 to 2013, Vandergriff served as the chairman of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles Board. He was also a board member for the North Texas Tollway Authority from 2007 to 2013 and served as chairman from 2010 to 2011. Vandergriff formerly served as Vice President of V.T., Inc. and Automotive Investment Group, the largest private retail automotive group in the United States. He was involved as an owner, dealer and executive manager in the automobile industry for more than 25 years. Vandergriff and his family have owned and operated automobile dealerships for more than 80 years in the Dallas-Fort Worth region. Vandergriff attended the University of Southern California, where he received a degree from the School of Public Administration in Public Affairs. He received his law degree from Southern Methodist University in Dallas.



**Russell Zapalac, P.E., Chief Planning and Project Officer, Texas Department of Transportation**

**8:45-9:00AM PRIMARY FREIGHT NETWORK – COMMITTEE FRAMEWORK 2014 GOALS AND ACTION ITEMS**



**Marc Williams, P.E., Texas Department of Transportation, Director of Planning**



**Caroline Mays, AICP, Texas Department of Transportation, Freight Planning Branch Manager**

**9:00-9:30AM TEXAS FREIGHT MOBILITY PLAN – REPORT OUTLINE DISCUSSION**

**Vince Mantero, Senior Planner, CDM Smith**

**9:30-10:00AM TEXAS FREIGHT MOBILITY PLAN – GOALS AND OBJECTIVES/PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

**Craig Secrest, Partner, HighStreet Consulting, Texas Freight Mobility Plan Consultant Team**

**10:00-10:15AM NETWORKING BREAK**

**10:15-11:55AM TEXAS FREIGHT MOBILITY PLAN – TEXAS FREIGHT NETWORK  
TEXAS FREIGHT MOBILITY PLAN – NEEDS AND PRELIMINARY STRATEGIES/RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Mark Berndt, Freight Program Leader, Olsson Associates**

**12:00-1:30PM WORKING LUNCH & SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS**



**John Brookby, Assistant Vice President, Commercial Development Planning, Marketing & Leasing, Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport**  
John Brookby serves as Assistant Vice President of Planning, Marketing, and Leasing within the Commercial Development Department of the world’s fourth busiest airport – Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. He is responsible for directing and managing revenue-generating development of Airport real estate.

Mr. Brookby is broadly experienced in aviation and real estate development with a background in architecture, construction, financial modeling, and project management. He has extensive knowledge of master planning, commercial building design and construction, real estate financial analysis, and development processes.

Mr. Brookby holds a Master of Science in Real Estate from the University of Texas at Arlington, where he has also been an instructor in real stated courses, and a Bachelor of Architecture from Rice University. He is a licensed Architect in the State of Texas, an active member of Urban Land Institute (ULI), an Accredited Airport Executive with the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE), and an LEED Accredited Professional.

Mr. Brookby also served as a commercial development manager at TownSite Company in Fort Worth , as a project manager with RTKL Associate Inc. in Dallas, and as an architect with Carter Burgess, Inc., Fort Worth. His experience includes leadership in several significant commercial and mixed-use projects. He also holds a Private Pilot license and has a lifelong interest in aviation.



**Mark Witte, Manager Industrial Development and Leasing, Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport**

Mark H. Witte is currently the Manager of Industrial Development & Licensing of the world’s fourth busiest airport – Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport.

In this position, his responsibilities include strategic and site specific planning for leasing and development of Airport land for industrial/ logistics uses. He is also responsible for assisting with commercial development marketing initiatives and implementation of Airport’s land use plan.

Prior to joining DFW Airport, Mr. Witte worked in various real estate capacities in the transportation and telecommunication industries. Mr. Witte has over 30 years of commercial real estate experience in leasing, acquisitions/ dispositions, development, financing and property management. Mr. Witte has been a licensed Texas Real Estate Broker for over 31 years.

Mr. Witte earned a BBA from the University of Texas at Austin.

**1:30-1:40PM NETWORKING BREAK**

**1:40-2:00PM I-45 FREIGHT CORRIDOR STUDY**

**Kim Sachtleben, P.E., Transportation Project Manager, Akins**

**2:00-2:20PM RURAL RAIL DISTRICTS**



**Erik Steavens, Rail Division Director, Texas Department of Transportation**

Erik Steavens is a twenty year transportation professional with a diverse background in multimodal transportation. Mr. Steavens’ career spans all levels of government (federal, state, and local) and the private sector where he established himself as a recognized leader in highway, transit, and rail-related projects. He holds a Bachelor and Masters of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Mr. Steavens has notably worked on such national infrastructures projects as transit service at Yosemite National Park, financing plans for the Alameda rail project and the Miami Intermodal Center. Mr. Steavens also has Washington experience having worked on the US Senate Environment and Public Works Committee during the adoption of SAFETEA-LU.

**2:20-2:40PM BNSF RAILWAY**



**Dean Wise, Vice President, Network Strategy, BNSF Railway**

Dean Wise joined BNSF as vice president, Network Strategy in February, 2010. Mr. Wise oversees BNSF’s strategy process, franchise development, public-private partnerships, interline and haulage management, shortline business development, and non-rail uses of the BNSF right-of- way.

Wise was previously a partner at Norbridge, Inc., a management consultant firm focusing on the freight transport and logistics industry. Prior to joining Norbridge, he was vice president for Mercer Management Consulting, now Oliver Wyman, where he was responsible for North American surface transportation consulting. Wise’s prior experience also includes management positions at Temple Barker & Sloane, Inc., Conrail and Southern Pacific Transportation Company.

Mr. Wise holds a Bachelor’s Degree from Colgate University and a Master’s Degree from Harvard University.

**2:40-3:00PM ALLIANCE TEXAS**



**Russell Laughlin, Senior Vice President, Hillwood Properties**

Mr. Russell Laughlin has 30 years of land and real estate development experience. He is a recipient of prestigious TXDOT Road Hand Award. He also has 25 years tenure with Hillwood including initial position as Director of Hillwood’s National Transportation Authority, where his primary responsibilities focused on privatized road development projects.

Serving as Senior Vice President of Hillwood Properties, Russell Laughlin oversees the management, operation, land and infrastructure planning, and entitlements of AllianceTexas, a 17,000-acre mixed-use, master-planned community. He has been instrumental in the development of AllianceTexas and the North Fort Worth and Tarrant County areas in leading long-term regional planning initiatives.

Mr. Laughlin is affiliated with several organizations including: President of the 35W Coalition, Serves on the Executive Committee of the Tarrant Regional Transportation Coalition; Board Member of the Regional Transportation Council; Secretary of the Regional C Water Planning Board; President of Board of Northern Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, Secretary of North American Super Corridor Coalition; President of Fort Worth Country Day; Greater Fort Worth Real Estate Council; Urban Land Institute; and Texas Health Leadership Council.

Mr. Laughlin holds a Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Landscape Architecture from Texas Tech University; An MBA from Southern Methodist University; Advanced Management Development Program from Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design.

**3:00-3:20PM OPEN DISCUSSION**

**Judge Ed Emmett, Chair, Texas Freight Advisory Committee**

**3:20-3:30PM ADJOURN**

**2014 Committee Quarterly Meetings**

May 8 – Lufkin | August 14 – Midland/Odessa | November 13 – Houston