SPOTLIGHT

Retirement Announcement
Lonnie J. Gregorcyk, P.E., Corpus Christi District Engineer

After 31 years of dedicated service to TxDOT, Lonnie Gregorcyk will be retiring effective July 31, 2015.

Lonnie joined TxDOT in 1984 as an engineer assistant in the Victoria area office. He held positions as advanced planning engineer and supervising planning engineer at the Yoakum District office before being promoted to Yoakum Area Engineer in 1989.

As an area engineer, Lonnie was responsible for design, construction, administration, and maintenance operations for DeWitt, Lavaca and Gonzales Counties. He was selected as District Engineer for the Yoakum District in 2003 where he held that position until 2012 when he was appointed to his current position as District Engineer for the Corpus Christi District.

Lonnie has served with distinction here in Corpus Christi and on numerous committees and special assignments statewide. He currently works with the Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization as well as the I-69 Advisory Committee. He has been a freight champion and a strong supporter for all the projects in this region.

Congratulations to Lonnie and we all wish him well on his retirement.

Harbor Bridge

In April, Flatiron/Dragados JV was selected as the designer and builder for the new Harbor Bridge in Corpus Christi. In the works for 14 years, the new bridge will replace the existing Harbor Bridge that connects Corpus Christi to nearby Portland across the Corpus Christi and Nueces bays.

TxDOT determined in 2003 that the existing mile-long bridge needed massive improvements to meet modern traffic standards to curb mounting maintenance costs. “The Harbor Bridge Replacement Project signifies a dynamic new era for Corpus Christi, the Coastal Bend and all of Texas,” said Executive Director Joe Weber.

Construction is expected to begin late 2015 or early 2016 and be completed in five years.

I-69 System Fact Check

I-69 is a critical freight corridor that runs throughout several counties of the Corpus Christi District. Here are some interesting facts about I-69:

- One-third of Texas’ population lives in the 35 counties on the I-69 routes
- I-69 Texas is 1,016 miles long, includes I-69E, I-69C, I-69W, and I-369
- I-69 in Texas is being developed as a series of incremental upgrades to existing US 59, US 77, US 281, US 84 and FM 511
- Approximately 15 percent of I-69 Texas has been designated as interstate
8:00 – 8:30 AM  NETWORKING BREAKFAST

8:30 – 9:00 AM  WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Hon. Ed Emmett, Judge, Harris County,
Chair, Texas Freight Advisory Committee

Hon. Nelda Martinez, Mayor,
City of Corpus Christi

Hon. Pete Saenz, Mayor, City of Laredo

Secretary of State Carlos H. Casco,
Vice Chair, Texas Freight Advisory Committee

Hon. Tano Tijerina, Judge, Webb County

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9:00 – 9:15 AM  FREIGHT PLAN CHAPTERS 1 THROUGH 10

Vince Mantero, CDM Smith

9:15 – 10:30 AM  FREIGHT PLAN CHAPTERS 11 AND 12

Vince Mantero, CDM Smith

10:30 – 10:45 AM  BREAK

10:45 – 11:45 AM  FREIGHT PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Vince Mantero, CDM Smith

FREIGHT PLAN PRESENTATION - COMMISSION WORKSHOP

Caroline Mays, TxDOT

11:45 – NOON  FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION RE-AUTHORIZATION

Melissa Meyer, TxDOT

NOON – 1:30 PM  WORKING LUNCH SPEAKER - SUPPLY CHAIN OPTIMIZATION

Richard Langer, Quetica

Mr. Richard Langer is Quetica’s President and Managing Director. A retired U.S. Army senior officer with various career assignments in Command, Operations, Intelligence and Supply Chain, he is an industry expert in government and private sector supply chain, transportation, global trade and corresponding technology systems. Mr. Langer is one of the original founders and president of the PowerFrack freight audit and payment business. The PowerFrack team used the data they amassed to consult with clients on how to optimize their supply chain and transportation networks. As an outcome of consulting projects they launched a third party logistics company, supply chain automation software company and global trade bank. In 2009 Mr. Langer assisted investors in selling the very successful PowerFrack business group and restarted a consulting practice under the brand Quetica. Quetica consultants have accumulated extensive experience and expertise in assisting organizations to reduce operational costs and risks, as well as improving service levels, while effectively utilizing technology.

1:30 – 2:00 PM  UPDATE OF PORT OF CORPUS CHRISTI ACTIVITIES

John LaRue, Executive Director, Port of Corpus Christi

Mr. John LaRue is the Executive Director of the Port of Corpus Christi Authority where he has served since 1994. As Executive Director of the Port of Corpus Christi, he oversees the day-to-day operations of the Port, one of the largest in the United States and the largest economic generator in the region. Mr. LaRue is Treasurer of the Port Industries of Corpus Christi, a coalition of major port-related entities in Corpus Christi concerned with advancing the quality of life in the region. In addition, he is Chairman of the State of Texas Department of Transportation Port Advisory Committee; he serves on the board of the International Refrigerated Transport Association; the San Antonio Free Trade Alliance Board; the Texas Freight Advisory Committee and the Board of Directors of the American Association of Port Authorities.

2:00 – 2:15 PM  84TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

Marc D. Williams, Director, Transportation Planning, TxDOT

Mr. Marc Williams oversees Transportation Planning and Programming and Environmental Affairs Divisions. His career experience in transportation planning and programming efforts includes public and private-sector organizations involving state, county and local jurisdictions. Mr. Williams has served in leadership positions with two state departments of transportation as well as worked with national private-sector transportation engineering organizations.

2:15 – 3:00 PM  OPEN DISCUSSION

Judge Emmett, Chair

3:00 PM  ADJOURN

Judge Emmett, Chair

Upcoming Committee Meetings

September 8, 2015, Location TBD