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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
APRIL 29, 2016  
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TAKEN BY RHONDA HOWARD, CSR

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PRESENT:

Committee Chair Hibbs  
Committee Members:  
Robert Gonzales  
Karla Weaver  
Allison Blazosky  
Anne Marie Williamson  
David Steiner  
Romero Gonzalez (Present telephonically)

TX-DOT:

Teri Kaplan  
Josh Ribakove  
Donna Roberts  
Eric Gleason  
Sarah Park, OGC Counsel

1                   CHAIRMAN HIBBS: We're glad to see  
2 everybody here today. Welcome. This may be one of  
3 the meetings that adjourns a little early because of  
4 the weather and the fact that we have kind of a less  
5 than aggressive agenda today, one of those rare  
6 times we do that. If you don't mind, please silence  
7 your cell phones.

8                   And I want to start out by introducing  
9 Veronica Whitacre, Commissioner for The City of  
10 McAllen, and Michael McNew and Jose Esqueda, who are  
11 going to talk to us a little bit about some safety  
12 initiatives and things that they're doing in  
13 McAllen. So would you guys please come forward?  
14 We're glad to hear from you.

15                   MS. KAPLAN: Billy --

16                   CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Yes.

17                   MS. KAPLAN: -- before we get started  
18 could we also have a little safety briefing from  
19 Josh.

20                   CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I'm sorry. Yes.  
21 You all come up. And Josh, let's go ahead and do  
22 the safety briefing.

23                   MR. RIBAKOVE: All right. Folks, for  
24 those of you who are from out of town, welcome to  
25 Austin. Austin does have a -- you've got to be

1 hands free with your cell phones, and they're pretty  
2 serious about it. So if you're driving, keep that  
3 in mind.

4 We have some road construction. Those  
5 55 mile an hour signs, they're also very serious  
6 about those. Do keep it in mind.

7 In this building, if we do for any reason  
8 need to evacuate the building, what we're going to  
9 do is we're going to use that door right there  
10 behind the T.V. screen, we're going to turn right  
11 and then left down the very first hallway. You'll  
12 see a door to the outside very soon on your left and  
13 a walkway that takes you right out across the  
14 parking lot onto the sidewalk on Riverside Drive.  
15 That's where we're going to muster at that point.

16 If for any reason we should need to  
17 shelter within the building, the place to do it is  
18 in our auditorium, because it's got no windows to  
19 the outside. The way to do that is go out that same  
20 door. Instead of the first hallway to the left,  
21 take the second hallway to the left and you'll see  
22 the doors to the auditorium down towards the far end  
23 of there on the right side.

24 Down each of those hallways you'll find  
25 restrooms. And we have a -- actually, a pretty good

1 cafeteria in this building, too. You'll see signs  
2 pointing to it when you get out into the hallway.

3 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Thanks, Josh. All  
4 right. Ms. Whitacre, the floor is yours.

5 MS. WHITACRE: Good morning. And  
6 thank you guys for allowing us to be with you this  
7 morning. We won't take much of your time, but we're  
8 just very excited and honored to actually be here  
9 with you all here in Austin, Texas. So I appreciate  
10 that you're going to spend a few minutes with us.

11 We do have a video that we want you to see  
12 really quick before we begin. My name is Veronica  
13 Whitacre, Michael McNew and Jose Esqueda. So the  
14 three of us.

15 (Video played.)

16 MS. WHITACRE: Teri --

17 MR. McNEW: That's not working, Teri.  
18 It's not flowing. It's supposed to be an actual  
19 video.

20 MS. KAPLAN: Well, I don't know what  
21 to say.

22 MS. WHITACRE: We're okay. We're  
23 good.

24 MS. KAPLAN: What we can do is we'll  
25 have you all forward a link to me and I will send it

1 to all of the Committee Members so that you can view  
2 it when you return to your homes.

3 MS. WHITACRE: Thanks. Thanks.

4 MS. ROBERTS: Do you want to start it  
5 over?

6 MS. KAPLAN: Do you want me to try it  
7 again?

8 MR. GLEASON: Let's try one time and  
9 then you can cut it off if it doesn't work.

10 MR. McNEW: Yeah, it's not working.

11 MS. ROBERTS: It's not working?

12 MR. McNEW: No.

13 MS. ROBERTS: I'm sorry.

14 MS. KAPLAN: Well, we tried.

15 MS. WHITACRE: You got an idea.

16 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Yeah.

17 MS. WHITACRE: That's what's  
18 important. You've got an idea of what we're trying  
19 to accomplish in trying to move forward in the  
20 cycling and the running and the healthy lifestyle in  
21 our community.

22 Back in April -- back in 2013 just in the  
23 Rio Grande Valley just between two cities, McAllen  
24 and Edinburg, we had three fatalities along with two  
25 other or three other major casualties where the

1 cyclists ended up in the hospital for several  
2 months. So because of that we thought that that was  
3 a sure cry for help that we needed to start to  
4 educate our community, not only our cyclists, but  
5 our drivers, our runners, our walkers and those who  
6 were out on the road, because we do need to respect  
7 one another. We needed to make sure that they  
8 understood that we were going to stay on the road  
9 because of our healthy lifestyles and that they  
10 needed to respect the road, because we were going to  
11 stay and ride our bikes.

12 So we started the Run, Ride and Share  
13 program. The City of McAllen was very thoughtful  
14 and very sweet for them to help us start our  
15 program. And what we did is we took our first  
16 opportunity, which is the Ride of Silence. And I'm  
17 sure most of you are very aware of the Ride of  
18 Silence. It's a worldwide event that happens the  
19 third Wednesday of May. And our newspaper and  
20 several -- our police department, our Public Works  
21 Department, everyone partnered up. TX-DOT partnered  
22 up with us and what we did, of course, is had over  
23 450 riders for our Ride of Silence. And we were  
24 very, very blessed. And at that time we took an  
25 opportunity to start to educate them there, make

1 sure that you stay in your bike lane, make sure that  
2 you stay on the right side of road, make sure that  
3 each and every one of you is riding your -- wearing  
4 your helmet, because those are the most important.  
5 And make sure that you're wearing the right gear if  
6 you're going to ride at 5:00 a.m. in the morning;  
7 make sure that you're wearing the right gear if  
8 you're going to be riding at 8:00 o'clock at night.  
9 And so -- because not only do we have to be  
10 courteous and safe and everything else and an  
11 example to all others. Then we want to make sure  
12 that we are also seen as we are out on the road, not  
13 only cyclists but runners. There's a lot of the  
14 runners out there now. And I think McAllen  
15 probably -- or the Valley is probably one of the  
16 last areas that has come to become a very, very  
17 healthy area of Texas. And we are also -- McAllen  
18 is one of the 55 cities in the United States that's  
19 a Let's Move city. And so part of our Run, Ride and  
20 Share helps with that.

21 So what did we do? We started becoming  
22 activists for making sure you're wearing helmets,  
23 making sure you're wearing an armband, making sure  
24 you're wearing gear. We started hitting the school  
25 district. And so we started to visit all the

1 schools in McAllen, Mission and ask them -- we do  
2 bike rodeos. Between the three of us and the police  
3 department we do bike rodeos. And many of us are  
4 very, very surprised that even ten-year-olds, fifth  
5 graders, do not know how to ride a bike. And so we  
6 encourage the kids to come out and bring their bike  
7 to school that day. And then from 8:00 a.m. to  
8 3:00 p.m. basically what we do is have the police  
9 department partnering with us, and then we are  
10 teaching the kids how to ride their bike, how to put  
11 their helmets on, how to get on and off the bike  
12 safely, and how to -- you know, you're going to  
13 stop, you're going to turn, all the signals they  
14 need to know. And, you know, it's really been very  
15 enlightening and very exciting, because they don't  
16 want to get off the bike then because they're so  
17 excited. It starts with your kids. As most of you  
18 know, too, now that you have to wear your seat belt  
19 every single day when you get in your car, your  
20 child will say, "Mom, your seat belt." So now -- of  
21 course -- now the kids, of course, will tell you,  
22 "Mom, I need to wear a helmet, because I need to be  
23 safe."

24 And so if you start young, then hopefully  
25 by the time we're older, then, you know, our kids

1 have been well educated, and we're able to educate  
2 everybody else.

3 So in 2014, after that year, and even  
4 2015, we have not had a fatality. We've only had  
5 one in Cameron County, but not in Hidalgo County.  
6 And so I don't know if because now we have taught  
7 more people, we have become more aware of what we're  
8 doing and been very, very vocal that -- and not only  
9 us, but TX-DOT also share the road, wear your  
10 helmets, because there's signs on all our hike and  
11 bike trails, "Use your head. Wear a helmet," "Share  
12 the road. Run, ride and share." Because there's so  
13 much education out there now, and I think because of  
14 what everybody is doing, collaborating and becoming  
15 unified, that it's helped not only us but everybody  
16 else in the State of Texas that we need to be safer  
17 and better drivers.

18 We also created a brochure. And so we put  
19 these brochures out everywhere to make sure that --  
20 just to educate, again. Every activity we have --  
21 we have -- McAllen, we have Arbor Day, we have the  
22 Ride of Silence; we have several different  
23 activities in the City that we are able to go out  
24 and educate. We have a health fair booth, and we  
25 put our program booklets out there. We have over

1 2,500 armbands. So every opportunity that we have,  
2 we, of course, give an armband. And you've got  
3 several ways to wear it so that, again, you're able  
4 to be seen while you're out on the road.

5 What I have done also -- or we have done  
6 together is hit McAllen, Edinburg, Weslaco, Pharr,  
7 Hidalgo, Mission, Brownsville and Harlingen, and  
8 they have become partners with us. They are -- they  
9 have pledged to have more bike lanes. They have  
10 pledged to keep their streets clean, their shoulder  
11 areas clean, because if the shoulder area is clean  
12 then the cyclist does not have to move off of the  
13 shoulder area into the road to avoid the trash. And  
14 so we have an Operation Clean Sweep, which TX-DOT  
15 also helps us a lot. And all the different cities  
16 get their street sweepers and on one major day,  
17 which is May 16 this year, everybody in the Valley  
18 is cleaning their streets and the shoulder area.  
19 So, again, to avoid the fact that your cyclists has  
20 to go into the road off the shoulder area, because,  
21 you know, our flats cost. So we have really become  
22 very vocal on how we need to be safe and how we need  
23 to collaborate and how we need to work together.

24 All the different cities, we have the Run,  
25 Ride and Share program, the Run, Ride and Share

1 signage on all their hike and bike trails, they have  
2 brochures, they have armbands. They have as much as  
3 we do, so that again we are trying to make sure that  
4 all of us work in the same -- all towards the same  
5 goal and eventually then we will be, say, South  
6 Texas strong.

7           What am I looking for? I would love to be  
8 able to find an educator for every county or even  
9 South Texas just because -- to do what we do on a  
10 voluntary basis, make sure that they hit schools.  
11 Again, because it starts with the kids, because your  
12 child is the one that's going to educate us more  
13 than everybody else, don't smoke; please put your  
14 seat belt on, mom; don't -- you know, they are our  
15 educators in reality. And so because our kids --  
16 that's where we need to begin, and that's where I  
17 would like for us to collaborate, become partners  
18 and become stronger in our -- in voicing the fact  
19 that we need to be safe on the road. And, again,  
20 not only are the cyclists and the runners, but  
21 there's a lot of families that are out on the hike  
22 and bike trails now with their strollers, with their  
23 kids.

24           And I do know that the program, you know,  
25 Don't Text and Drive has been very active, and it

1 has helped.

2 But we continue to educate. Then we will  
3 continue again to be heard as we collaborate and  
4 stay together and make our voice stronger. Then we  
5 can only move forward stronger.

6 So the program is called Run, Ride and  
7 Share The Road. And I just want to just meet with  
8 you all this morning just to visit with you. And if  
9 you have ideas for us, I -- my business card is in  
10 there just so that, again, we can become a stronger  
11 community, because the voice -- the more voices,  
12 you're heard.

13 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Yes. Thank you,  
14 Commissioner. That was a wonderful presentation.

15 You guys have a great logo. Is that -- is  
16 that proprietary to your particular --

17 MS. WHITACRE: No, no --

18 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: -- region or area or  
19 something?

20 MS. WHITACRE: We -- we created it,  
21 we started it, we did everything.

22 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: You did a great job.  
23 It's very explanatory.

24 MS. WHITACRE: The lime green is  
25 because I wanted all of the Run, Ride and Share

1 signage on all the hike and bike trails to be lime  
2 green, because at least it would stand out. But  
3 TX-DOT told me at the very beginning, oh, I think  
4 you need to go blue. So I have stayed with my lime  
5 green, but I have -- and we have stickers. We have  
6 plenty of stickers. And so, again, people have them  
7 in their cars in different areas. So they know that  
8 the Run, Ride and Share program is out there. And  
9 Michael is on the mic -- the bike.

10 MR. McNEW: President of our  
11 bicycle -- local bike team, and then I'm also the  
12 chairman of our Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory  
13 Committee for the county. I have talked with Allie  
14 and some several others that are here to find ways  
15 and initiatives to raise money for each one of  
16 our --

17 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: And you didn't have  
18 a cycling accident?

19 MR. McNEW: No, not a cycling  
20 accident. It would have made for a much better  
21 story.

22 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: In a few minutes --

23 MS. ROBERTS: Take a photo and a  
24 video in the back and stay --

25 MR. McNEW: Yes, exactly. Not an

1 injury.

2 But we're trying to do as best as -- that  
3 we can for the communities to raise awareness,  
4 health, education, not just for our cities, because  
5 we have partner cities and --

6 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Well, that's great.  
7 Thank you very much. Our Committee is organized,  
8 but people from across the state, large cities,  
9 small cities, everything in between. And one of the  
10 great benefits of being on this Committee is the  
11 information shared. And so what you guys are doing  
12 down there really has some profound impact,  
13 implications, I think, across the State of Texas.  
14 So keep up the good work. And we appreciate it very  
15 much.

16 MS. WHITACRE: Yes, sir. Thank you.  
17 Thank you. Any questions anybody else has or  
18 concerns?

19 And our bike rodeo is -- real quick, Metro  
20 McAllen is part of our partners, also, and most of  
21 our bike rodeos hit the schools. We usually end up  
22 raffling off a bike for the kids at the end of the  
23 day. And then they furnish a lot of helmets for the  
24 kids, so that way the kids walk away with something.

25 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Awesome.

1 MS. WHITACRE: Thank you for your  
2 time. Thank you, Ms. Teri.

3 MS. ROBERTS: Thank you.

4 MS. KAPLAN: Thank you, Veronica.

5 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Moving right along.  
6 We now have a quorum. Great to see everybody. Ann  
7 Marie and David, great that you guys are here. And  
8 I think we have Romero, is that right, on the phone?

9 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: Yes, we do.

10 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Awesome. Thank you.  
11 So we have some minutes to approve from the last  
12 meeting. Hopefully everyone has had a chance to  
13 review those minutes. Do we have any changes,  
14 corrections, additions, deletions anyone needs to  
15 discuss? If not, we'll entertain a motion to accept  
16 the minutes.

17 MS. BLAZOSKY: I'm Allison. Make  
18 motion.

19 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Allison makes a  
20 motion to approve the minutes. Do we have a second?

21 MS. WEAVER: I'll second.

22 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Second by Karla.  
23 All in favor, say aye.

24 Any opposed?

25 Motion carries.

1 All right. So moving on along. The  
2 report that I want to give you guys today has three  
3 parts to it. The first has to do with the  
4 presentation that was made before the Commissioners  
5 a little over a month ago. We had -- we were asked,  
6 again, to -- to appear before the Commission and  
7 discuss our project -- I'm sorry, our progress with  
8 the -- the draft of the strategic bike plan. There  
9 were a lot of really, really good comments. There  
10 was a -- a lot of good dialogue. And in the end, I  
11 think the Commissioners were generally impressed  
12 with the work that the Committee is doing and  
13 thankful that we have volunteers that are willing to  
14 travel from, you know, the four corners of this  
15 great State to come here and help with  
16 cycling-related issues.

17 I will also tell you, those guys don't  
18 have an easy job, because I sat through the entire  
19 meeting. And, you know, there's a bunch of people  
20 that come, and they want the road. And then as soon  
21 as they sit down, the next group comes and they want  
22 the road. And there's a whole lot of that that goes  
23 on, isn't there, Eric? And so it was quite -- quite  
24 a day. But -- but I am thankful that they're  
25 interested in what we're doing. I'm thankful that

1 they're interested in the work that's being  
2 accomplished here. And so -- so it went very well,  
3 and I'll look forward to more meetings. Maybe we  
4 can share with them specifics about what's going on  
5 in this Committee.

6 The next thing I wanted to mention is  
7 something that happened to me this past -- since our  
8 last meeting, I guess this past quarter. And it may  
9 be happening to you. And, frankly, I didn't know  
10 how to handle it. And so I want to put this out  
11 there for discussion.

12 As many of you know, I'm in insurance and  
13 risk management business. And there's kind of a  
14 thing called constructive notes. What that means is  
15 when somebody informs you of a problem, now that  
16 you've got -- now that you've got knowledge of that  
17 problem, you know, you kind of need to do something  
18 with it. Okay? You don't need to necessarily just  
19 sit on it, because if you do that that could create  
20 problems if someone gets hurt or there's an incident  
21 or something somewhere down the road. And I  
22 received an E-mail from a gentleman in Longview,  
23 Texas, who was a motorist who was seeing a group of  
24 bicycles, you know, riding together, crossing a  
25 hill, I think it was, and he thought it was just

1 dangerous. And so, you know, whatever -- the E-mail  
2 went into some detail about why he thought that that  
3 was a problem. I didn't know the road, I didn't  
4 know the area. Didn't know anything about it. But  
5 I did know that he had basically written me in  
6 electronic format saying, "This is a safety issue."  
7 And I didn't know what to do except forward it to  
8 the TX-DOT staff here and say, hey, guys, you know,  
9 we've got somebody out here that's -- has -- has a  
10 problem.

11 And I also felt compelled to reach out to  
12 him. I asked him for some more specifics about  
13 exactly where this was and stuff like that. But  
14 because you all are serving on this Committee, you  
15 know, there may come times when people notify you  
16 specifically of dangerous situations. And, you  
17 know, the last thing in the world I want is for one  
18 of you to get an E-mail like that and then somebody  
19 winds up getting killed and then saying, "Hey, you  
20 know, I notified Karla. I sent her an E-mail and  
21 said this is dangerous and, you know, she didn't do  
22 anything about it."

23 So my suggestion, and I want to get Eric's  
24 thoughts on this, too, is when you get those types  
25 of E-mails, please go on and forward them to the

1 staff here. It is not our job to, you know, provide  
2 safety --

3 THE REPORTER: I'm sorry. Can you  
4 speak up a little bit? We've got some landscaping  
5 going on behind us.

6 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Oh, I'm sorry.

7 MS. ROBERTS: We've got machinery  
8 noise in back.

9 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: It always happens.  
10 The guy with the leaf blower always picks a meeting  
11 to go out there. It happens in Tyler, too, I can  
12 assure you.

13 So, Eric, can you maybe give us -- if you  
14 see maybe some kind of different solution to this,  
15 please let us know. I don't know what to do other  
16 than forward the information to you guys and let you  
17 then either evaluate it, send it out to your folks  
18 or what.

19 MR. GLEASON: I think that's the most  
20 direct route for Committee Members. We do have a  
21 system that the Department uses to track -- track  
22 when we get comments or questions or suggestions  
23 from the Department. It's really up for the person  
24 who actually contacted you and really up to them to  
25 enter into the system. But by all means send it to

1 us. Send it to Teri.

2 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay.

3 MR. GLEASON: You can copy me if you  
4 want.

5 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay.

6 MR. GLEASON: And we will take the  
7 necessary steps.

8 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay.

9 MR. GLEASON: Because I agree with  
10 you completely, you do not want to sit on that  
11 information. It's just valuable information for us,  
12 as well.

13 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Well, I was actually  
14 looking for kind of a liability buffer for members  
15 who serve on this Committee so that if there was  
16 some kind of litigation in the future that we didn't  
17 get named in that suit and didn't have to defend  
18 ourselves because we -- we --

19 MR. GLEASON: I wouldn't think that  
20 would be anything --

21 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Anybody else have  
22 any comments or questions about this?

23 MR. STEINER: Just a question. This  
24 is David. Just a question, forwarded to you; is  
25 there somewhere else -- the website we should direct

1 the person to rather than us take that --

2 MR. GLEASON: Why don't we -- Josh,  
3 can you can help with this? After the meeting we  
4 will send to the members the link to our comment for  
5 the public.

6 MR. STEINER: That would be great. I  
7 would do both, forward it but then also recommend  
8 they take this action.

9 MR. GLEASON: That would be fine.

10 MR. STEINER: Go to this website,  
11 this is where you should --

12 MR. GLEASON: So we can give all  
13 Committee Members that information so you will have  
14 that.

15 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I like that.

16 MR. GLEASON: That we would give to  
17 the Committee Members the link and the information  
18 that they would -- would then allow them to let the  
19 person who contacted them know the way to contact  
20 TX-DOT. They will also send it to us and we will  
21 close the loop at our end.

22 MS. ROBERTS: Romero, can you hear on  
23 the phone? Are you able to hear us, Romero? Maybe  
24 not.

25 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Wow. Okay.

1 MS. KAPLAN: Romero?

2 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: I'm okay. I'm  
3 okay. I can hear you guys.

4 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: All right. All  
5 right. So the third thing that I wanted to mention  
6 to you today had to do with a -- a conversation I  
7 was having with Commissioner Austin. And I noted  
8 that many of you go on rides, many of you  
9 participate in statewide types of cycling events  
10 going on. And I wanted to know if there was a way  
11 that we could recognize you guys who are doing this  
12 kind of stuff. So I suggested that we all have a  
13 jersey. And TX-DOT was kind enough to send their  
14 artist -- put their artist to work on it. So if you  
15 want to pass this around, Teri, or show them a  
16 picture of the jersey up there, this would be for  
17 the Committee Members. And this is a -- I think an  
18 interesting way of being able to, you know, let the  
19 public know when you're out on these rides that  
20 you're very actively involved and giving of your  
21 time for free to this Committee and traveling back  
22 and forth to Austin and those kind of things.

23 Now, I noticed that on the -- on this deal  
24 they had a place to put your name on the back. I  
25 would suggest that you put the name on the front.

1 And I've been told that they don't want the names  
2 under TX-DOT, because it makes it look like you work  
3 for TX-DOT. So we can just put the names on the  
4 other side over there would be fine. But my hat's  
5 off to whoever the artist is that dreamed this up,  
6 because it is really, really good. And Romero, can  
7 you still hear me?

8 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: Yes, I can hear  
9 you. I'm good.

10 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Unfortunately, it  
11 was one of those you had to be present to win kind  
12 of things. No, I'm just kidding.

13 So here's the way it's going to work. I'm  
14 going to ask Teri to send you an E-mail asking for  
15 what name -- you know, the proper -- whatever kind  
16 of name. Some of you may have short names. Make  
17 sure you got the spelling right and all that, and  
18 let her know what size you are. And then she'll  
19 take care of it from there. I'm going to cover the  
20 cost of it, because TX-DOT can't give gifts to  
21 Committee Members and things like that, but it's my  
22 way of saying thanks for traveling back and forth  
23 and doing all the stuff on your own free time. We  
24 appreciate it. It will be kind of -- a bit of a,  
25 you know, kind of a fun legacy thing. Yes, sir,

1 Eric?

2 MR. GLEASON: So, just to add, I  
3 mean, this is actually going to be a product the  
4 public can buy. We're going to do a limited  
5 production of it and put it on our Don't Mess With  
6 Texas product website. And so it's something  
7 that -- and we'll sort of see what the interest is.  
8 If there is a level of interest in it, we'll buy  
9 more.

10 I'm told the price is, I think, \$52 for a  
11 jersey, and if you want your name added it's more.

12 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Yeah.

13 MR. GLEASON: So it's actually become  
14 part of your regular product line under the Don't  
15 Mess With Texas icon. And so I think it's a good  
16 deal.

17 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: All right. So if  
18 you want more than one jersey -- you know, you're  
19 going to get the first one comped. But presumably  
20 if somebody wanted to order two or three they can do  
21 that.

22 MR. GLEASON: Yeah. Everyone just  
23 needs to pay for the jersey one way or the other or  
24 the jersey needs to be paid for one way or the  
25 other.

1                   CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I got it. So for  
2 Bobby, for example, who will need seven, I'm paying  
3 for the first one, Bobby, not the other six.  
4 Anybody got any questions or comments?

5                   MS. WEAVER: Yes. I was wondering,  
6 is it already live on the website? Is this  
7 something we can advertise to our regions and to  
8 tell our cities about or folks?

9                   MR. GLEASON: This is in the moment  
10 development. I don't think it's up yet. I'll  
11 confirm.

12                   MS. WEAVER: When it's available will  
13 you let us know?

14                   MS. KAPLAN: I will definitely notify  
15 the Bicycle Advisory Committee Members as soon as  
16 it's available on our -- through our website.

17                   MS. WEAVER: Would there be  
18 opportunities in the future for maybe a T-shirt  
19 version of this for those of us who aren't as  
20 spandexy as others perhaps?

21                   MS. KAPLAN: I love it.

22                   MS. ROBERTS: Yeah.

23                   MS. WEAVER: Thank you. Just --

24                   CHAIRMAN HIBBS: That's a great idea.

25                   MS. WEAVER: Just a suggestion.

1 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: On a lot of like  
2 walk or pedestrian-type things and stuff like that,  
3 you don't want to show up with spandex. That  
4 T-shirt might be a better option. Good.

5 MS. WEAVER: Awesome.

6 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Anything else?  
7 Eric, I'm going to pass it back to you now and ask  
8 for you to give us the report on public  
9 transportation.

10 MR. GLEASON: I want to provide an  
11 update on our efforts with the Transportation  
12 Alternative Program projects. And then I want to  
13 focus on bike striping, let you know where we are.  
14 I want to do two things today. We're going to focus  
15 first on the transportation term program and where  
16 we are with implementing those projects. And then  
17 the second one is to update the folks on bike  
18 striping.

19 So TAP program projects. Just to kind of  
20 keep you in the loop, this continues to be, I would  
21 say, the primary focus of our efforts is to take  
22 those 50 projects that the Commission approved  
23 toward the end of last year and take them from  
24 Commission award to construction. And it's a --  
25 it's a big effort and it's a lot of details. And

1 it's critical we stay focused on this, because we  
2 want to make sure that this first group of projects  
3 get underway in a very strategic and deliberate  
4 fashion so we roll this program out in a successful  
5 manner. And -- and so that it doesn't get caught up  
6 in some of the perceptions and issues that are  
7 attached to the Transportation Enhancements program.  
8 We want to be able to demonstrate this is different.  
9 And it's taken a huge amount of Teri's time. And we  
10 will look at a matrix every week, which probably has  
11 15 columns on it, that represent all the little  
12 steps that have to happen to get these things  
13 constructed. And so we're -- we're making progress  
14 on that. But I want the Committee to know that  
15 sometimes when we're not moving as fast on some  
16 other thing it's because we're making choices to be  
17 successful with TAP. And we'll have to work other  
18 things into our schedules and we'll resource them,  
19 but we have Teri - and I wish I could clone her -  
20 and we have the help of Stephanie Lind with our  
21 consultant group. That's what we have right now to  
22 get this program going.

23 Having said that, bike striping.

24 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Before we leave, we  
25 have some information that was in the handouts --

1 MR. GLEASON: Yes.

2 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: -- that shows the  
3 various projects that are going on. I -- I didn't  
4 completely understand the difference on the legend  
5 where it says, "Recommended nonurban" and then  
6 "selected small urban."

7 MS. KAPLAN: That's a correction. I  
8 inadvertently sent you the wrong version. It  
9 probably should have said selected nonurban there.

10 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay. Okay. So  
11 these were --

12 MS. KAPLAN: So just cross --

13 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: -- recommended  
14 sites. Very good.

15 And so the second question that I had is  
16 in terms of these various projects, and there was a  
17 lot of money that was spent in these particular  
18 areas. This represents what brick of time? Was  
19 this over a three-year period since the last TAP  
20 call? So it's a four-year period?

21 MR. GLEASON: This is the first TAP  
22 call --

23 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay.

24 MR. GLEASON: -- for the Department,  
25 and it is actually a four-year span inclusive of

1 fiscal year '16 of federal funding for the TAP  
2 program for areas of the State under 200,000 in  
3 population. So this call totaled -- I think the  
4 total was \$52 million, but that's not an annual  
5 number. That's a four-year total. And so -- and --  
6 and the money has been awarded, and we're working  
7 hard to get to the point where we can begin spending  
8 it down.

9 One of our challenges in this timeframe is  
10 that older money, the fiscal year '13 money, we need  
11 to make sure we get under contract sooner rather  
12 than later, because if we don't we'll lose our  
13 ability to use it. And so we're really focused on  
14 making sure we get a subset of that 50 assigned to  
15 those fiscal year '13 dollars and get them allocated  
16 by the end of fiscal year '16. So that's our  
17 immediate challenge. And then '14 is right on us  
18 with fiscal year '17. So we're really trying to  
19 stay on top of that.

20 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay. Good. Well,  
21 this is extremely helpful information. I -- to  
22 speak for myself, we hear about all these projects  
23 that are being funded. I had no idea where they  
24 were being funded, I had no idea what the amounts  
25 were, what areas, what kind of money. I mean, this

1 is extraordinarily helpful. And I got to tell you I  
2 was pleasantly surprised at the geographic  
3 dispersion of what's going on here, although it  
4 looks like the Panhandle probably needs to get more  
5 active in some of these things.

6 MR. GLEASON: Yes, yes. I think we  
7 did well in most areas of the state. I think we  
8 have some work to do clearly in the west and north  
9 areas.

10 MS. KAPLAN: And a .pdf of this  
11 document has been forwarded to all of the members so  
12 you can print it out. I printed it on the back.  
13 It's hard to flip from the amount to see it here,  
14 but you have it in your E-mail.

15 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay. All right.  
16 Very good. I'm sorry I interrupted you, Eric. Bike  
17 striping is next thing.

18 MR. GLEASON: Bike stripe is next,  
19 and you also have in your packet. When we talked  
20 with you last, we mentioned that we thought -- we  
21 had a flow chart that we showed you which sort of  
22 identified the various steps that a community would  
23 need to go through to do bike stripe. And we felt  
24 it was important that we provide some additional  
25 information behind each of those boxes for someone

1 in the community to actually begin doing the work.  
2 And so what you have in front of you is a draft,  
3 although I think we're pretty comfortable with it.  
4 And unless the Committee has some very specific  
5 feedback for us, we're -- that -- that -- this is  
6 what we would put up on our website in conjunction  
7 with a letter that is under development to go out to  
8 ask communities to identify themselves as potential  
9 pilot communities to -- to roll this program out  
10 like we've talked about.

11 And so I don't know, Teri, do we -- this  
12 is part of my director's report. I think what we  
13 would ask of you, if you had a chance to go through  
14 this and want to send us comments on it, that would  
15 be great. I don't think, Mr. Chair, we need to  
16 necessarily have a discussion on that today.

17 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay. All right.

18 MR. GLEASON: But I do want to let  
19 folks know that this project was pretty much done.  
20 Stephanie Lind, our consultant, I give her a lot of  
21 credit for it. Personally, I like the style. The  
22 writing style seemed very familiar and very easy,  
23 that kind of thing.

24 So, anyway, send us, please, your  
25 comments. Send those to Teri. Otherwise, we'll

1 just proceed to finalize this and -- in conjunction  
2 with a letter which I hope to move through  
3 Administration in the next 30 days. We'll be moving  
4 ahead on the pilot effort. And that's one of those  
5 efforts I think we've had to manage our time around  
6 in terms of staying focused on TAP, but also trying  
7 to respond to the priorities of the community.

8 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I have two comments.  
9 First of all, I would like to make sure that any  
10 personal references in particular to me are removed  
11 in there. And I made a note of that.

12 MR. GLEASON: Absolutely. I wouldn't  
13 think that would be --

14 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I think it's better  
15 if it just says the Chair recommended, something  
16 like that, not me specifically.

17 MR. GLEASON: That would not be my  
18 intention.

19 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: And secondly, my  
20 hat's off to you guys. I think this builds a lot on  
21 the information piece. It's very necessary for a  
22 community to understand what's going on, and I agree  
23 with you. I thought the way it was put together  
24 and -- and presented will be very, very helpful to  
25 the public and for those members on the Committee.

1           There were a lot of questions about bike  
2 striping for the Commissioners. So I'm glad to see  
3 that we continued to make progress in this. And I  
4 know that we had talked at the last meeting about  
5 some -- some various kind of qualifiers that would  
6 enable us to be able to know which -- which cities  
7 might qualify for one of these pilot projects --  
8 projects. And two specific ones that, you know, I  
9 recall was having a bike plan, which I think Karla  
10 suggested, which was a great one, because that --  
11 that means that you're serious about cycling in your  
12 community. And secondly, I think we had a -- we had  
13 a quarter of 5,000 to 200,000, is that right, in  
14 terms of population for those cities?

15           And so once -- once the information piece  
16 of it is -- is completed, how do you go about  
17 reaching out to those communities? Is it going to  
18 be a letter from TX-DOT with this information on  
19 there? Is it going to be a website that they need  
20 to click on? How does that work?

21           MR. GLEASON: Right now what we're  
22 looking at is a letter that would include in it a  
23 link to a survey that would allow you to answer some  
24 very basic questions like, do you have a bike plan  
25 and things like that. That will allow us to

1 understand the level of interest and capacity in  
2 context of a pilot project to carry something  
3 forward.

4 Now, you know, in terms of -- we will use  
5 the same mechanisms we used under the Transportation  
6 Alternative program to get this letter out to the  
7 myriad of communities that -- you know, between  
8 5,000 and 2,000 [sic].

9 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

10 MR. GLEASON: We have -- our  
11 coordinators at the district level can help us with  
12 that. But we used the same mechanism we used with  
13 the alternative program to do that.

14 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Good. Good.  
15 Wonderful. Any questions from Committee Members?  
16 Yes, Karla.

17 MS. WEAVER: What's the sort of ETA  
18 that you're anticipating this to go live? Summer,  
19 fall?

20 MR. GLEASON: I'd like to be able to  
21 have the letter out and live June 1.

22 MS. WEAVER: Okay.

23 MR. GLEASON: I've not yet had a  
24 chance to brief administration on the complete  
25 packet of the pilot and get their by-op. So as a

1 target, June 1, 'it might got to mid-June.

2 MS. WEAVER: When the website is live  
3 or the letter goes out, could you guys let us know  
4 so we can let our contacts be aware of it or --

5 MR. GLEASON: Absolutely.  
6 Absolutely.

7 MS. WEAVER: Awesome. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Great. Thank you.  
9 Anything else? All right. Thank you, Mr. Gleason.  
10 We appreciate it very much.

11 Moving on along, Teri, you're up next to  
12 discuss the strategic direction report for TX-DOT's  
13 bicycle program.

14 MS. KAPLAN: I think I'll go over the  
15 chart that you have in your package first,  
16 implementing the strategic direction report and the  
17 focus areas that are outlined in the chart. And  
18 basically, we've looked at this as what we're going  
19 to do in the next 24 months as the primary focus.

20 MR. GLEASON: Teri, this is what the  
21 Committee discussed?

22 MS. KAPLAN: Right.

23 MR. GLEASON: This reflects the  
24 Committee's discussion of what we should be working  
25 on?

1 MS. KAPLAN: Right. Excuse me.  
2 These are the focus areas that you as a Committee  
3 have endorsed. And we've outlined this in a time  
4 table here. And we'd like to get any feedback that  
5 you have. And this is a draft -- the word draft was  
6 on the image when I printed it, but it didn't  
7 show --

8 MS. ROBERTS: It's at the top.

9 MS. KAPLAN: Oh, is it?

10 MR. GLEASON: I think it will always  
11 be a draft.

12 MS. KAPLAN: Yeah.

13 MR. GLEASON: We will just keep  
14 working on it if you all will be flexible.

15 MS. KAPLAN: But we are to some  
16 degree working on all of these activities. And to  
17 go along with that is -- we want to establish a  
18 Committee made up of TX-DOT staff to work with us on  
19 the various initiatives we've outlined as focus  
20 areas, whether it's design criteria, whether it's  
21 pavement markings and this -- this -- this -- the  
22 work group we -- we have not submitted this work  
23 group charter to administration for approval. This  
24 is just a draft. And we wanted to get some feedback  
25 from the Committee to make sure that we're including

1 all of the TX-DOT staff that you would see that  
2 would be important to participate as an internal  
3 Committee here at TX-DOT.

4 You can see in the middle the membership  
5 would include a representative from all of the  
6 critical divisions and would establish a -- a  
7 bimonthly meeting.

8 MS. WEAVER: Teri, I had a question  
9 about the meeting. The second Wednesday of the  
10 month, that's not this group's meeting; it's an  
11 additional?

12 MS. KAPLAN: This is internal to  
13 TX-DOT only.

14 MS. WEAVER: Okay.

15 MS. KAPLAN: And the internal TX-DOT  
16 work group would report back to the Bicycle Advisory  
17 Committee on the activities we're working on, where  
18 we're at on various focus areas that we've  
19 already -- the Committee has already identified as  
20 priorities.

21 MS. WEAVER: Got you.

22 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Well, Teri, I'm  
23 extremely excited that TX-DOT is going to set up  
24 some internal specific people that are going to  
25 presumably interface with us somehow on some of

1 these things, but I'm still not sure I completely  
2 understand how we can best, you know, interface with  
3 them. Is it -- do you think that maybe they should  
4 come to these quarterly meetings of the Bicycle  
5 Advisory Committee so they can kind of hear some of  
6 the discussion, dialogue that's going on, make  
7 presentations to us? Because clearly they're going  
8 to be meeting a lot more frequently than we are.  
9 And I'm trying to figure out what the idea is behind  
10 kind of the cross pollinization of these two  
11 meetings so that we're all on the same page.

12 MR. GLEASON: If I could, Mr. Chair,  
13 I would offer to the Committee that this internal  
14 group will actually be producing work product, which  
15 we will bring to you. And we may include subject  
16 matter experts from that group when we do that  
17 depending on the product itself. But I would  
18 imagine that with this Committee meeting quarterly  
19 that we will -- once we kind of get up and going we  
20 will have a regular stream of work product that we  
21 can time and schedule so that we allow the Committee  
22 to give us some feedback on before it's finalized,  
23 if that --

24 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Yes, that answers  
25 the question.

1 MR. GLEASON: Okay.

2 MS. KAPLAN: And being that this work  
3 group is new, all options are on the table. It's  
4 under development.

5 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: My only comment  
6 would be -- Teri, would be I know in the Pharr  
7 district, and I'm sure it might be in one of these  
8 divisions, but Steve Walker's a landscape architect,  
9 so I don't know if it's a separate division or if  
10 that's somewhere under one of these other divisions,  
11 but perhaps other districts use also their landscape  
12 architect as their bike path -- you know --

13 MS. KAPLAN: That's an excellent --  
14 that's an excellent point, Romero. The landscape  
15 folks are part of the design division, but we will  
16 make a point to --

17 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: Okay. Okay.

18 MS. KAPLAN: -- but because they are  
19 very different than roadway design landscaping,  
20 amenities are very different. We will identify that  
21 as a separate person to include as a member.

22 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: Okay. Yeah. I  
23 mean, I don't know if our -- if the Pharr district  
24 is just special in that way, but, you know, they  
25 might also have some good buy-in or some good things

1 to say.

2 MS. KAPLAN: Well, you're very  
3 fortunate to have Steve Walker down there, because  
4 he's been very proactive in getting projects  
5 selected for funding and making sure that they get  
6 implemented in a timely manner --

7 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: That's good.

8 MS. KAPLAN: -- and I will tell the  
9 Committee today that Stephen called me earlier this  
10 week to let me know that he's going to retire from  
11 TX-DOT. I'm kind of disappointed, because he's been  
12 such a terrific ally. I'm going to work with him to  
13 make sure that we advance the TAP project that was  
14 selected in his area before he leaves the end of  
15 May.

16 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: Wow. Wow.  
17 Okay.

18 MS. WEAVER: Romero's bummed.

19 MR. GLEASON: That's what you get for  
20 asking the question, Romero.

21 MS. KAPLAN: Sorry.

22 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I think we ought to  
23 just adjourn the meeting at this point. Right?

24 So do we have any further questions?

25 MS. WEAVER: Real quick, is safety

1 folks under your traffic operations?

2 MS. KAPLAN: Yes, they are.

3 MS. WEAVER: Okay.

4 MS. KAPLAN: And so in some of these  
5 divisions we might want a couple of representatives.  
6 And in talking with the division supervisor we'll  
7 make those determinations.

8 MS. ROBERTS: And the people that sit  
9 on the Committee will have access to whatever other  
10 resources that are in the division or the Districts  
11 to reached out to. It -- it -- they won't be just  
12 flying solo every time. They'll reach out to the  
13 resources.

14 MS. WEAVER: Great.

15 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: That's great.

16 MS. KAPLAN: I think this is  
17 exciting.

18 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Once again, I want  
19 to compliment TX-DOT on taking cycling seriously  
20 enough to have this work group. And I think there  
21 will be some really, really good opportunities to  
22 interface with them and get things done. That's  
23 terrific.

24 MS. KAPLAN: We would like to forward  
25 this charter for approval. So if you have any

1 comments on the document, the charter itself, we'd  
2 like to receive any comments you might have by the  
3 10th of May.

4 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay.

5 All right. So at this point we'll move  
6 along and discuss the Safe Routes to School  
7 non-infrastructure funding with a presentation by  
8 Terry Pence.

9 MR. PENCE: Well, thank you for the  
10 opportunity to meet with you all this morning. I  
11 guess the last opportunity I had was back in the  
12 fall, and you all had invited me to come and talk  
13 about our traffic safety program call that we  
14 have -- we're getting ready to submit. We opened up  
15 our call for proposals. And those are funds out of  
16 the National Traffic Highway Administration for  
17 fiscal year '17. We had the opportunity to do that.  
18 We went through our program call, and we're in that  
19 process right now. And we did receive a large  
20 number of proposals in from across the State, so I  
21 was able to give you all some information on that as  
22 well as share as an update in terms of where we were  
23 at with Safe Routes to School.

24 I think earlier last year Deborah  
25 Vermillion, who used to be with TX-DOT - she retired

1 this last year - had previously been in charge of  
2 the work with the Safe Routes to School program.  
3 And, of course, we have partnered, since Stephen was  
4 here this morning -- we have HWA doing the Safe  
5 Routes to School program. And in the fall meeting I  
6 had updated -- we were in the progress of moving  
7 forward looking at trying to utilize a similar call  
8 that we were using for our other traffic safety  
9 project. We were looking at using our electronic  
10 grand management system as a proposal submission as  
11 well as going out through that -- that same process,  
12 a Request for Proposal or we publish our Requests  
13 for Proposals to come in through the Texas Register.

14 We ended up -- looked at that whole  
15 process. Some of you all are also probably familiar  
16 that in the legislative session there was a new  
17 Senate bill, Senate Bill 20, that was passed that  
18 changed procurement processing fairly drastically  
19 within the State of Texas. And so we had been  
20 working with our procurement folks to say this is --  
21 we were wanting to move forward with the Request for  
22 Proposal process. And they actually directed us to  
23 go another way, another route, looking at a  
24 different call where we actually go out and request  
25 a statement for work for projects. And, again, at

1 that time -- we utilize that as we go out with our  
2 ad agencies. It's a different process within  
3 TX-DOT. And so what I wanted to take a few minutes  
4 this morning -- that's where we are. We actually  
5 went through, looked at the statement of work. We  
6 started working the procurement. We had actually  
7 looked at going another route, which was a  
8 solicitation for proposals, and then we're back to  
9 the statement of work. They've determined that  
10 that's going to be the best method for us to be able  
11 to get proposals submitted. So that's where we're  
12 at today. So I want to take just a few minutes to  
13 let you know where we're at.

14 I've provided a handout that basically  
15 talks about the safe routes to school. We're  
16 wanting to get kids to walk and bike to school and  
17 look at biking and walking as an alternative mode of  
18 transportation. Our target is primary and middle  
19 school students. Agencies for funding -- this  
20 actually falls in line -- this funding is coming --  
21 it's carryforward money that was left under a  
22 previous call for Safe Routes to School, whether it  
23 was funding that didn't get spent by some of the  
24 agencies and organizations. So we've collected all  
25 that information. And it's for non-infrastructure

1 type of projects. And so that will be what we're  
2 looking for in this call. And we've indicated here  
3 the types of agencies, so this falls in line with  
4 what we've done in our previous call, State, local  
5 and regional governments and nongovernment agencies,  
6 501(c)3 nonprofit and for-profit organizations, and  
7 there's approximately \$2.75 million. So the --  
8 funds that we'll be able to utilize the programs  
9 around the state. And this is one-time funding.  
10 Again, it's this carryforward funding.

11 So we'll do our call, identify our  
12 projects and then we'll implement the program.  
13 We're anticipating -- we're moving along pretty  
14 well. We've gone through multiple drafts of this  
15 statement of work. So I'm anticipating by the first  
16 of June we will have opened up the statement of work  
17 and begin that process.

18 I'll briefly walk you through how we'll be  
19 doing that. And so we're hoping to be starting late  
20 here in fiscal year '16 and then implement the  
21 projects during fiscal year '17. The process --  
22 there's actually a flow chart on the back of your  
23 handout there that talks about how the statement of  
24 work process will go. It's about a 30, 35-day  
25 timeframe. We look at the dates when it opens up

1 and then closes and then have to look up for the  
2 holidays in between there. So it's somewhere  
3 between 30, 35 days. We'll have a question/answer  
4 period. We'll have a designated time that questions  
5 have to be submitted and then we will prepare the  
6 answers. And then we'll post all of the questions  
7 that came in and then post the responses to that.  
8 That way anybody that's interested in this will be  
9 able to see that.

10 Part of this process, which is a little  
11 different for some of you that maybe have applied  
12 through other proposal process, is through the  
13 statement of work process is that you would notify  
14 our procurement division that you're going to intend  
15 to submit a proposal. So that happens during that  
16 process. So that way they're anticipating X number  
17 of proposals are going to be submitted when the  
18 final comes through. And then those will come in  
19 electronically and there will be specifications in  
20 the statement of work that will talk about the  
21 number of pages, the size of the font, what  
22 information has to be included in that statement of  
23 work. And so that will be submitted electronically,  
24 and then we will actually comprise an evaluation  
25 team that will be looking at the proposals. There

1 may be an opportunity - it will be spelled out in  
2 the statement of work - where we might ask for  
3 discussions with the proposing agencies,  
4 organizations. We also may have oral presentations  
5 conducted for any proposals that will be coming in.  
6 So we'll just determine once the evaluation team  
7 looks at it and determine whether or not they -- see  
8 if we need to have the oral presentation. So we'll  
9 go through and then do the proposals. We'll select  
10 those. Negotiate.

11 And then the next step after that is then  
12 we will go to the Transportation Commission here at  
13 TX-DOT and recommend those proposals to move  
14 forward. And then the document that we'll be  
15 executing with the agency organization will be a  
16 purchase order versus a grant or a contract.

17 So, again, that was totally different than  
18 what I was telling you all in the fall, the  
19 direction we thought we were going to go. And so,  
20 again, with all the new procurement processes they  
21 determined this was going to be actually probably  
22 one of the quickest processes to be able to get the  
23 funding out.

24 I've also indicated down at the bottom of  
25 the page that we're looking for really two types of

1 programs. I can't really go into details, because  
2 the details will be in the statement of work and all  
3 there. But we've kind of divided it into two areas.  
4 One, we were really interested in educational kits  
5 to go out to the schools at the primary level and at  
6 the middle school level. And what I've brought  
7 along with me today to give you an idea, we have  
8 been probably -- probably five years working with  
9 high schools doing a team click or ticket safety  
10 belt campaign. So what we've been doing is actually  
11 shipping out -- and this year we had over 1,000 high  
12 schools participate with us. So we had phenomenal  
13 participation across the State, a kit that they can  
14 use during the springtime to promote safety belts.  
15 Included in that kit - I want to open it here - we  
16 actually provide a banner that they can put up in  
17 the school. Again, this is something we're kind of  
18 envisioning would be perfect for Safe Routes to  
19 School, provide something already available for the  
20 schools. We provide kits with a banner, got the  
21 rope to hang the banner. We actually put a thumb  
22 drive in there that includes all of the materials  
23 that we have here so if they want to print more of  
24 those they'll have all the artwork for that. We  
25 actually do school announcements. We give them lots

1 of information on the thumb drive to help them  
2 implement the program within their school. And then  
3 we actually -- we put five yard signs in. They've  
4 got the stands. And so on this one it's like, "If  
5 you love it, click it." These are nice, durable  
6 yard signs that they can put out around the school  
7 campus.

8 And then, also, for this particular kit we  
9 did a variety of posters, so they've got lots of  
10 different posters that they can utilize throughout  
11 the school. Again, English on one side, Spanish on  
12 the other. And so we actually work in conjunction  
13 with our print shop to do a number of these  
14 materials out here.

15 And so, again, we were thinking this would  
16 be great if we could get this in a large number of  
17 elementary schools across the State as well as  
18 middle schools. So we're envisioning we would have  
19 two kits, one that would be targeted towards the  
20 elementary school and then a kit that could go to  
21 the middle schools.

22 And then the other part of the call what  
23 we're looking for is then education and training  
24 programs. Any agency, organization, vendor that  
25 ends up submitting what we're looking for as

1 statewide projects. We want that continuity so that  
2 all the schools around the State are getting the  
3 same kit and that the education training programs --  
4 that all the schools are getting the same education  
5 out there.

6 So we're really excited that things are  
7 moving along, and we're at the point that we will  
8 soon be issuing the requests for statements of work.

9 MS. WEAVER: What does a kit like  
10 that average cost to produce and then get it to the  
11 schools?

12 MR. PENCE: That's a good question.  
13 I actually asked that yesterday, because I just got  
14 this this morning because it had just gone out to  
15 the schools.

16 MS. WEAVER: Yeah.

17 MR. PENCE: The shipping and all that  
18 for a thousand of them, the thumb drive, the  
19 shipping, everything with -- without the printing,  
20 it ran about \$20,000 for us to get a thousand kits  
21 out.

22 We did all -- we were able through our  
23 print shop to be able to print the banners, the  
24 posters, the yard signs. That was an internal cost  
25 of TX-DOT.

1 MS. WEAVER: Included in that cost of  
2 20?

3 MR. PENCE: That's not included in  
4 there.

5 MS. WEAVER: In addition to that?

6 MR. PENCE: That was a separate cost.  
7 So TX-DOT -- so that will be something we'll have to  
8 see whether our print shop will be able to help us  
9 this next year as we go forward with Safe Routes to  
10 School.

11 MS. WEAVER: If people want to  
12 purchase additional kits, do you have a sale price  
13 on it?

14 MR. PENCE: No. These would be  
15 provided at no cost.

16 MS. WEAVER: Okay.

17 MR. PENCE: They're being produced --  
18 the safety belt ones are being produced with federal  
19 funds and, of course, these -- the safe routes would  
20 also be federal funds, The Federal Highway  
21 Administration, as opposed to these were produced  
22 with the National Highway and Traffic Safety  
23 Administration funds. But the schools absolutely  
24 love this.

25 MS. WEAVER: They're awesome.

1 MR. PENCE: You get it and  
2 everything's done for you. You place the materials  
3 around the school and then can also do their  
4 campaigns.

5 MS. WEAVER: Yeah.

6 MR. PENCE: What we're envisioning,  
7 too, is that in case we have multiple vendors or  
8 agencies and organizations conducting they'll need  
9 to coordinate the message, because we want the  
10 education training programs to support what's in the  
11 kit and the kits to support what's in the  
12 educational training programs.

13 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Teri, I know I  
14 should know this, but what exactly are you clicking  
15 in there? I noticed some of the material said click  
16 it.

17 MR. PENCE: The only thing --

18 MS. WEAVER: Seat belts.

19 MR. GLEASON: Click it.

20 MR. PENCE: It's Click It or Ticket  
21 campaign, so it's a safety belt campaign. So  
22 they're saying if you love it, click it.

23 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: That's a car.  
24 Right?

25 MR. PENCE: Yes, yes, yes.

1                   CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I'm sorry. Thank  
2 you for that.

3                   MR. PENCE: Yeah. Get up closer and  
4 you can see all that. But it's our safety belt  
5 campaign targeted towards teens. Unfortunately, our  
6 teens don't buckle up as much as other adults do.  
7 So we do a really special emphasis during the school  
8 year to get them to buckle up.

9                   CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay.

10                  MR. ROBERT GONZALES: I just have a  
11 real quick question. I'm all for the  
12 non-infrastructure initiatives and programs. I  
13 think that's a great idea. The implementation of  
14 these projects -- of -- of the non-infrastructure,  
15 you said fiscal year '17?

16                  MR. PENCE: Correct.

17                  MR. ROBERT GONZALES: Is there an  
18 update on any funding for the infrastructure  
19 projects or like --

20                  MS. KAPLAN: The -- the Safe Routes  
21 to School projects are eligible under the  
22 Transportation Alternatives program. And a number  
23 of the 50 projects that were funded in 2015 are Safe  
24 Routes to School projects.

25                  MR. ROBERT GONZALES: Okay. Is there

1 more to come the next --

2 MR. GLEASON: Yes. We have a  
3 five-year federal authorization.

4 MS. KAPLAN: With more funding.

5 MR. GLEASON: And inclusive in the  
6 FAST Act. The Transportation Alternatives program  
7 is not a separate program anymore. It's part of the  
8 Service Transportation Program block grant. But  
9 there's a set aside within that which is still the  
10 TAP program, so there is money through 2020  
11 authorized. Now, it's not been appropriated yet,  
12 but we have authorization for the program. And so  
13 we would imagine -- we have begun to talk generally  
14 about another project call for TAP sometime after  
15 the first of the next calendar year. So I don't  
16 want to -- that's not a firm date for us. But I  
17 think at some point in the next 12 to 18 months you  
18 will see the Department go out for another round of  
19 TAP project calls anticipating the authorization  
20 levels in the FAST Act as they become appropriate.

21 MS. KAPLAN: We're also looking at  
22 possibly having more of a regimentation in our  
23 process so that the community -- the entities across  
24 the State would know that TX-DOT's going to have a  
25 call for projects in, say, January, and the projects

1 are due in May. I mean, we're wanting to move to a  
2 more predictable timeframe for these programs. As  
3 long as we know that we have a transportation bill  
4 that covers us through 2020 we can do that until the  
5 next transportation bill.

6 MR. PENCE: That's the nice thing  
7 about the FAST Act that it does cover multiple  
8 years. One, which is our current transportation  
9 bill, was passed; it was a two-year time period.  
10 Now it's been extended. This helps us with all our  
11 programs in terms of TX-DOT in terms of being able  
12 to help with funding projections --

13 MR. GLEASON: That's an authorization  
14 bill?

15 MR. PENCE: That's correct.

16 MR. GLEASON: Congress still --

17 MR. PENCE: That's --

18 MR. GLEASON: -- meets each year to  
19 appropriate it --

20 MR. PENCE: That's correct.

21 MR. GLEASON: -- before we really  
22 have money.

23 MR. PENCE: Yes.

24 MR. GLEASON: It's great to have the  
25 authorization. It's something we have not had for a

1 while, that kind of a long-term authorization.

2 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Very good. Any  
3 questions for Terry? Thank you.

4 MS. KAPLAN: Thank you, Terry.

5 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: It's time to talk  
6 about our web page and development. And Stephanie  
7 Lind is going to give us an update on that.

8 MS. LIND: Good morning, everyone.  
9 So since our last meeting -- at the last meeting we  
10 had Michael Sledge come in and give a presentation  
11 on some options for the website for the bicycle  
12 program. If you remember that, he brought a couple  
13 of boards. And so since that time we sat down with  
14 him -- Teri and myself and Josh sat down with him to  
15 kind of go over what our options were for the  
16 website. And also you all provided a bunch of  
17 comments, which thank you for providing that, on  
18 content and the architecture for the website.

19 So the slide that's up here, which I think  
20 everyone has a copy of, this is the proposed  
21 architecture that we've been kind of working from.  
22 And it will start out with a landing page for the  
23 bicycle program. It's labeled as a main page. And  
24 then off of there we would have links to what we're  
25 calling right now Noble 40 Ride, the TX-DOT program,

1 a bunch of other links and then designing for  
2 bicyclists. And we developed this based on the  
3 input we got from all of you by looking at other  
4 states' bicycle web pages and then also kind of  
5 taking a step back and thinking about who the users  
6 of the page are going to be. And I broke it down  
7 that we think primarily people that are coming to  
8 the site -- this would help them get to the  
9 information that they need. It's going to tend to  
10 be people that are working with -- for or with a  
11 locality. They're looking for design guidelines or  
12 descriptions and then finding out what TX-DOT is  
13 currently doing, what the laws and regulations are  
14 throughout the State. Some of the stuff is already  
15 on the website so we're not going to have to come up  
16 with too much content. And then what we've done  
17 working from this architecture is developed -- I  
18 have it here; we didn't share it with you all. But  
19 I think it's about 30 pages worth of content that  
20 would match all these pages. And we're going to try  
21 to get photos and maps and make it very interactive  
22 to the extent that we can work from that template  
23 that you saw the last meeting. But there are some  
24 restrictions through the TX-DOT website to what we  
25 can do. But we're going to push as hard as we can

1 to make it really user friendly, have icons and  
2 photos and maps and all that kind of stuff.

3 So that -- this is pretty much all I had.  
4 If you have comments on it or...

5 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I'm pleased to hear  
6 that you got some feedback from the Committee  
7 Members on the web page. Thank you all for doing  
8 that. It's important that we let TX-DOT know our  
9 thoughts and ideas on that. And we kind of -- this  
10 harkens back to one of these previous questions. Do  
11 we have kind of a -- and I know a website is never,  
12 ever completed, but do we have like an official  
13 launch date where we're going to go live and the  
14 public is going to be --

15 MS. LIND: We're -- we're --

16 MR. GLEASON: I think our next step  
17 is to -- we need to get our communication folks  
18 comfortable with the content. We need to sit down  
19 with them and I would guess we would have something  
20 for you maybe after we've done that.

21 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay. Well,  
22 congratulations. I know building these websites is  
23 a big job. And there is a tremendous amount of  
24 information that is going to be on here for the  
25 future cyclists of this State. It is really, I

1 think, going to be one of the probably crowning  
2 achievements of this Committee is for someone from  
3 out of state to be able to come to any place in  
4 Texas and be able to log onto this and see what is  
5 going on in terms of cycling. So thank you for your  
6 effort on that.

7 MS. LIND: Yeah. I think it will be  
8 really good for the Agency and for everyone.

9 Another thing I didn't mention is after  
10 meeting with Michael that there will be the  
11 capability to edit this site within the Public  
12 Transportation Division. So I think it will be  
13 easier to edit content and get things updated pretty  
14 quickly. So as things develop -- you know, as the  
15 City develops a plan, we are proposing to have a  
16 link to all -- this is going to be a tall task, but  
17 have a link to every City's plan or web page through  
18 here. We can update that as -- as needed. So...

19 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay. Any further  
20 questions?

21 MS. WEAVER: I have a real quick one.  
22 There are a couple of items that you see in a couple  
23 of places. Would those -- like laws and regs is on  
24 here, bike safety is on here twice in two columns,  
25 bike stripe, as well. Would there be different

1 content for the different box or you would just be  
2 able to access it multiple ways?

3 MS. LIND: Yeah, you would be able to  
4 access it multiple ways. I mean, we all know people  
5 find information differently, and so that's the  
6 point there.

7 MS. WEAVER: If you guys update one  
8 page does it update both of them?

9 MS. LIND: Yeah, it's going to be one  
10 page. And they'll just link from, you know,  
11 multiple places from the same information.

12 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Thank you very much,  
13 Stephanie.

14 All right. So this is actually my  
15 favorite part of the meeting time and it's where we  
16 get to hear from new members about what's going on  
17 around the State.

18 Romero, are you still there?

19 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: I'm still here.

20 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: All right. Do you  
21 mind starting, tell us what is going on in South  
22 Texas?

23 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: Sure. Well, I  
24 think you heard a little bit about it from  
25 Commissioner Whitacre. She did come to present here

1 in Brownsville, and we're very excited about that  
2 effort.

3 We're also working on a -- we called it  
4 the Lower Rio Grande Valley Active Transportation  
5 and Active Tourism Plan. We presented that at the  
6 Texas Trails and Active Transportation Conference.  
7 I believe Teri was there. We're very excited about  
8 that plan. It's ten communities in Cameron  
9 County -- actually, all communities in Cameron  
10 County, including The Island, Port Isabel, Los  
11 Fresnos (phonetic), Brownsville, Harlingen. And it  
12 really starts looking at a -- a regional plan for  
13 connections. We're talking probably over 120 miles  
14 of off-road trails and, you know, some other -- I  
15 can't recall the amount of on-road trail systems.  
16 So I actually -- you know, I look forward to perhaps  
17 presenting that plan to the Committee at the next  
18 meeting so that you kind of get an idea of -- a  
19 picture of really what we're working on here, where  
20 we're trying to go.

21 So other than that, I think Pedal to Padre  
22 is this weekend or next weekend. That is one of our  
23 premier rides. They close down the bridge and  
24 you're able to go on a bike over the causeway.  
25 Actually, it's this Sunday, now that I recall.

1                   CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I'm sorry, Romero,  
2 but you won't have your jersey in time.

3                   All right. Well, thank you very much for  
4 that update. We appreciate it.

5                   Allison, would you like to go next?

6                   MS. BLAZOSKY: Absolutely. Down in  
7 the Alamo area, San Antonio part, we are getting  
8 ready for National Bike Run, which is May, as you  
9 all know. We had -- this will be our 20th year of a  
10 Walk and Roll program that we really use bike month  
11 to recognize walking, taking the bus and riding your  
12 bike. And our big breakfast rally is this coming  
13 Friday, a week from today. And we'll have elected  
14 officials out there, bike contests, free food, free  
15 music, et cetera. And then we're also for the first  
16 time trying to recognize Bike-to-Work Day. We have  
17 a committee similar to this that meets monthly under  
18 the MPO called RP Mack (phonetic). They hold a bike  
19 night meeting three times a year. So this time  
20 they're going to really have kind of an event around  
21 Bike-To-Work Day and invite people to stop by after  
22 work. We'll have people giving -- I never can say  
23 it right. But the pinche que type storytelling  
24 presentation and the bike fashion show and that  
25 event on May 20th.

1           So those things are kind of keeping us  
2 busy down there right now. But there's a lot of  
3 folks getting excited about the great weather --  
4 well, usually -- the good spring weather usually  
5 becomes nice to be out on your bike. Hopefully we  
6 won't have hail for either of those events. But  
7 that's what's going on down there.

8           CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Great. Thanks for  
9 that report. Karla, would you like to go next?

10           MS. WEAVER: Yeah. I have a couple  
11 things. Since our last meeting our region adopted  
12 our Mobility 20/40 Plan, which has our new map for  
13 all of our bike trails, our on street routes and  
14 sort of secondary trails that are priorities for  
15 communities but might not connect cities. All of  
16 those have been mapped, digitized and they're  
17 available now for the public. That was a big  
18 effort. We brought all of our --

19           CHAIRMAN HIBBS: How does the public  
20 get those?

21           MS. WEAVER: They're available  
22 online. We have maps per county and break it out by  
23 city. We brought all of our cities and counties in  
24 to review all of the maps after we had drafted them  
25 to confirm them and review them, so there was a lot

1 of collaboration. My team did a lot of work on  
2 that, which we're proud of.

3 The other thing that's exciting for us is  
4 we have done our first year report of data  
5 collection. We have about 23 permanent bike peg  
6 counters in the Dallas/Fort Worth region. And I  
7 presented to our Policy Board last month about after  
8 a year of counting, some of our counters were only  
9 active a half a year when they got installed. We  
10 counted 4.5 million users on our trail systems. And  
11 we're excited to sort of see that as a baseline  
12 where we go next year. So that report's available  
13 online. It shows maps. We do 24-hour continuous  
14 counts, 15-minute increments. You can cut and slice  
15 it a million different ways, but that's been really  
16 exciting to see. My favorite quote by someone is if  
17 it's not counted, it doesn't count. So we want to  
18 count bikes and kind of see what's happening in our  
19 region.

20 The third thing that's kind of interesting  
21 is we've collected a lot of safety data from  
22 TX-DOT's Chris (phonetic) system. And we are  
23 putting together reports, we have a lot of the  
24 crashes, bike/ped, in our region. We're now trying  
25 to delve into contributing factors. We're trying to

1 look at age, gender, time of day, race, causation  
2 and sort of what are the patterns that we're seeing  
3 that are causing these incidents. I've got folks  
4 working on that, and we hope to have that report in  
5 the last month or so.

6 The last thing I'll mention is we have an  
7 Advisory Committee meeting in May coming up. We do  
8 them quarterly as well, and it's an interesting  
9 topic for us with bike and pedestrian use. We're  
10 bringing in Health Departments from our different  
11 counties, and we're talking about equity and  
12 environmental justice communities and sort of where  
13 we see health concerns are higher where we don't  
14 have access to trails and active transportation. So  
15 it's sort of a transportation and health and how  
16 they work together. It's a new road for us, but  
17 really exciting.

18 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Thank you for that.

19 MR. STEINER: If I may -- this is  
20 Dave Steiner. Karla, I would be interested, the  
21 bike accident study you're working on up there, is  
22 that something the results of which you could share?

23 MS. WEAVER: Sure.

24 MR. STEINER: I know I would be very  
25 interested in that and share it with others. I

1 think that would be useful.

2 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I agree.

3 MR. STEINER: You come from an area  
4 that has, unfortunately, maybe a bigger group --

5 MS. WEAVER: There's a lot.

6 MR. STEINER: -- so it's meaningful.

7 MS. WEAVER: I'll get that over.

8 MR. STEINER: Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Ann Marie.

10 MS. WILLIAMSON: So our hike and bike  
11 trails getting further extended around the City had  
12 a little hiccup -- our hike and bike trails, the  
13 extension of it, is moving forward, so we're really  
14 happy about that.

15 Also, we have our first meeting for the  
16 Hotter Than Hell 100 on Monday. Pray for me. So we  
17 can get geared up for that. We're always very  
18 excited about that.

19 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: How much -- how many  
20 riders are you expecting?

21 MS. WILLIAMSON: Probably between 11  
22 and 14,000.

23 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Wow.

24 MS. WILLIAMSON: It's a huge, huge,  
25 huge deal.

1 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: It is.

2 MS. WILLIAMSON: You know, we have  
3 probably 6,000 volunteers within the community  
4 that -- that help out with that, 3,000 of which are  
5 annual volunteers. I mean, they just really work  
6 hard year after year.

7 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: What's the economic  
8 development repercussions for Wichita Falls, you  
9 know, an economic standpoint? Have they done  
10 studies --

11 MS. WILLIAMSON: Huge. They have.  
12 They have. I wouldn't even begin to quote numbers,  
13 because I would be so far off. But it has a very  
14 significant impact on us from a financial  
15 standpoint, which is really, really nice.

16 And as well, the Hotter Than Hell  
17 Committee gives back to the community, as well. We  
18 use a lot of that money in charitable ways to  
19 promote cycling in the City, as well, in terms of  
20 even scholarships to cyclists. And we're happy.

21 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay. Thank you for  
22 that. David.

23 MS. KAPLAN: I have a question. I  
24 have a question. I have a question of Ann Marie.  
25 When was the event this year?

1 MS. WILLIAMSON: I knew you were  
2 going to ask me that. I don't know the date, but  
3 it's the last weekend in August, I think usually is.

4 MR. STEINER: Usually nine days  
5 before Labor Day.

6 MS. WILLIAMSON: Okay.

7 MR. STEINER: Is usually -- yeah.

8 MS. WILLIAMSON: Last weekend in  
9 August.

10 MR. STEINER: Although really it's a  
11 three-day event. That's how I remember. It's  
12 always nine days before Labor Day, so that will back  
13 that up. I've done it a few times.

14 MS. WILLIAMSON: You would think I  
15 would know since I'm doing it.

16 MS. KAPLAN: Sorry for interrupting.

17 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay, David.

18 MR. STEINER: Yeah. In Lufkin and  
19 just the general area, you know, since the last  
20 meeting I've really been in touch with some other  
21 communities. And what I find interesting is, you  
22 know, they're small groups. There's a small group  
23 up in Nacogdoches who you've talked to, Billy, led  
24 by a professor at SFA. They're getting together and  
25 meeting talking about where they want to go, what

1 type of infrastructure they would like to see. And  
2 so they're really starting to make some movements in  
3 getting those groups together. They have a meeting  
4 coming up, in fact, next week, you know, to talk  
5 about that and get some groups together, you know,  
6 get those folks together and at least start to lay  
7 out a plan. Okay.

8 And that is something I've offered to them  
9 and Eric or others, Billy, if you have suggestions.  
10 You know, I have offered to provide just an update  
11 on what TX-DOT and what's happening across the State  
12 I thought would be appropriate to them. So that's  
13 going on.

14 There's also a doctor in the Livingston  
15 area that is doing something similar. And so they  
16 have some activities there. They want to improve  
17 the safety of cycling activities in the area,  
18 whether that's signage, they've talked about; they  
19 actually had an event where they provided an  
20 educational program for kids and giveaways around  
21 bike activities. So neat to see that going on.

22 Other things happening, we're about to  
23 kick off on Lake Sam Rayburn under Cassels-Boykin  
24 Park there's a -- we have funding through Texas  
25 Parks and Wildlife for some additional bike and hike

1 trails -- or not additional, but addition of bike  
2 and hike trails. That's supposed to -- we flagged  
3 the area; we had some volunteers flag it, and  
4 they're supposed to start cutting that in probably  
5 the first of this next month. So...

6 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay.

7 MR. STEINER: That's all I have to  
8 report.

9 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Bobby?

10 MR. ROBERT GONZALES: I've already  
11 done mine. Well, the City of El Paso is wrapping up  
12 their Bikeways Master Plan, which will supplement  
13 the 1997 Bikeway Study. It's due at the end of May.  
14 And soon thereafter they're going to start. They've  
15 already set aside a few of those projects. They've  
16 identified a few of those projects that they're  
17 going to start implementing. They're starting the  
18 design and then implementing them soon thereafter.  
19 So that's a good thing for El Paso. At the end of  
20 the day they're looking at about 832 miles of bike  
21 lanes, bike boulevards, two-way cycle track, which  
22 was huge. So that's a great thing for El Paso.

23 And we're excited about them starting  
24 projects up in June. So that's exciting.

25 The University of Texas at El Paso is

1 continuing their campus transformation, which  
2 includes bicycle pedestrian enhancements because  
3 they removed all the parking out of their campus,  
4 and they made it pedestrian bicycle friendly. So  
5 we're doing a lot of that work -- or my firm is. So  
6 it's really exciting to be a part of it and work on  
7 that -- on that plan.

8 And then, of course, we're also getting  
9 ready for bike -- bike month. And we have a slew of  
10 activities lined up for the month of May. So all's  
11 well in West Texas.

12 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Have you won any  
13 national championships?

14 MR. ROBERT GONZALES: Not yet. Still  
15 working on it.

16 MS. WEAVER: Does the City have a  
17 set-aside fund for bike implementation and  
18 infrastructure?

19 MR. ROBERT GONZALES: They do.

20 MS. WEAVER: They basically --

21 MR. ROBERT GONZALES: Yeah. What  
22 they do is anytime there are -- because they have --  
23 on their CIP program, they have street and  
24 improvement -- street and drainage improvement  
25 projects, some of which are retrofit. And when they

1 retrofit it if there is an identified bicycle lane  
2 or a path or a facility of some sort, they  
3 incorporate that into the design, and it gets built.  
4 So that's how we're slowly but surely building it  
5 in.

6 But this master plan shows, you  
7 know, future -- future routes that were on their  
8 major thoroughfare plan, and that's how they're  
9 going to start. You know, so the developer comes  
10 and they'll say, "Well, Mr. Developer, there's a  
11 bike lane that's -- that's set aside for this." So  
12 that's how they're working it in.

13 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I thank everybody  
14 for those reports. I think it's always helpful to  
15 hear that we have a very vibrant and active cycling  
16 community across the State of Texas. There is a lot  
17 going on.

18 MS. KAPLAN: Excuse me.

19 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: So, you know, one of  
20 the things that strikes me is that we might be able  
21 to incorporate more and more of these events on that  
22 TX-DOT website. So as we get further along in terms  
23 of our development, I think that there's a lot of  
24 the initiatives that are going on in particular  
25 areas that we can let the public at large know

1 about. So thank you for that.

2 All right. This is the public comment  
3 time. Robin Stallings [sic] has asked to address us  
4 on TAP and Bike Stride. So Robin -- and actually,  
5 Mark Stein, who was here in your absence last time,  
6 gave us a great program on Quebec and that enormous  
7 plan that they put together up there. It was  
8 absolutely fascinating. Please let him know how  
9 much we appreciated it.

10 MR. STALLING: I really appreciate  
11 that. Mark's the first string. I'm the second  
12 string for Bike Texas. And he's really done a lot  
13 of the great work, especially on our Bicycle Tourism  
14 Trails Program, which was inspired by the program in  
15 Quebec.

16 Legislation was passed in 2005 in Texas  
17 called Texas Bicycle Tourism Trails. And the idea  
18 was for TX-DOT to work with Parks and Wildlife and  
19 statewide, you know, stakeholder groups to identify  
20 routes and trails that could be connected across  
21 Texas for the purpose of tourism of all sorts -- for  
22 health, fitness, geographic, historic, all that kind  
23 of stuff. So we have made a lot of progress on  
24 that. They've completed their network in Quebec.  
25 And I know it's a great tourist destination, because

1 my wife and I went RVing up with our bikes and tried  
2 some different samples of the trails, which has  
3 become a much more common way for people to travel  
4 now.

5 As Romero was mentioning, the active  
6 tourism plan in Cameron County, I think that the  
7 rest of the State is going to have to get on it  
8 pretty fast to beat them, because they're looking at  
9 a countywide process to really make it a  
10 destination. And I know that Bobby must know about  
11 that in El Paso, because Franklin Mountain State  
12 Park, at one point I heard that, I think it was  
13 either 45 or 60 percent of the visitors to that park  
14 were there specifically for mountain biking.

15 MR. ROBERT GONZALES: That's correct.

16 MR. STALLING: You know, amazing for  
17 a State park that that many people are there just  
18 for biking. And, of course they want to feel safe  
19 and protected. That's one of the things that's  
20 attractive about mountain biking. And we've got a  
21 former state champion mountain biker who's the Chair  
22 of the BAC. But really everybody wants to feel safe  
23 like that. And that's why I wanted to mention with  
24 the Stripes Program that you're talking about, the  
25 bike stripes, protected bike lanes are front and

1 center, that they're included. A lot of times if  
2 it's planned, you know, from the beginning, the  
3 fallback is paint only, and that's really good. And  
4 sometimes all that can be done and it can be  
5 affordable. But when you start out with the idea  
6 that everybody really wants a protected bike lane,  
7 eventually a hard barrier, sometimes those start out  
8 as two striped painted lanes, because they've  
9 engineered the distance and the space for the  
10 protected bike lanes. And so the interim step gets  
11 you closer than if you're really just thinking about  
12 let's do a bike lane first and we'll think about  
13 protecting bike lanes in the future. So an analogy  
14 that I like is that if we had no cell phone system  
15 at all, like, you know, say, Afghanistan, you know,  
16 a decade ago, they didn't build an analogue cell  
17 phone system. They went to straight to digital cell  
18 phone system. And a protected bike lane are the  
19 equivalent of that digital system. It's what we  
20 really want to get to. And so I hope that -- and I  
21 haven't had a chance to review it. Bike Texas is  
22 happy to weigh in as we do on all the different  
23 transportation plans in TX-DOT if we have an  
24 opportunity to. But that's one of the things that I  
25 want to encourage you all to keep in mind.

1                   CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Rob, let me make a  
2 comment about that. You've done a great service I  
3 know to me personally to help me understand a lot  
4 about that. And that very issue, I think, we tried  
5 to address through the strategic plan part, because  
6 you're right, it's not going to happen unless TX-DOT  
7 in their engineering, formative, you know,  
8 conceptual part is thinking about these on the front  
9 end. And I think we have made a tremendous amount  
10 of progress on the front side of that. Bike stripes  
11 and some of these other things are kind of a low  
12 hanging fruit approach to cities who are demanding  
13 right now that they want to see some paint on the  
14 road and they want some bike lanes. But those have  
15 already been engineered. They're already there.  
16 Those streets are already there. There's not enough  
17 money to go back and tear the thing out and redo it.  
18 So our approach at this point is to try and  
19 accommodate their admittedly limited resources, that  
20 we have those communities that want to have bike  
21 striped lanes and at the same time on a much bigger,  
22 much more frankly affordable level is have a  
23 strategic direction for TX-DOT to achieve some of  
24 the things you're talking about. So I don't want  
25 you to think that your comments are falling on deaf

1 ears. They're not. We take them very seriously and  
2 we appreciate that.

3 MR. STALLING: Thank you. I really  
4 appreciate that. And something to keep in mind that  
5 a lot of the protected bike lanes that are going in  
6 around the state - Austin's probably got nine or 12  
7 different examples of it - that didn't require any  
8 road widening. Sometimes it's taking a lane from,  
9 you know, 12 feet to 11 feet, and you have several  
10 of those, you carve it out where you can. Sometimes  
11 you actually just make an extra wide sidewalk and  
12 you signal for it like they've done on Barton  
13 Springs Road; one side is extra wide sidewalk, the  
14 other side they've got it in the street. So there's  
15 a tremendous amount of creativity that's been  
16 applied to this. And we've been able to fortunately  
17 not have to make too much of it up in Texas, because  
18 what they've done in Europe and what they've been  
19 doing in other states. So I don't think we should  
20 rule it out, you know, even where it's --

21 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I agree. I agree.

22 MR. STALLING: -- money's really  
23 tight. But the other thing you touched on there is  
24 the engineering guidelines. If we're going to have  
25 this stuff, this is where perhaps on a future agenda

1 you could consider looking at the engineering  
2 guidelines, because we hear from districts all over  
3 the State that they can't put bike facilities on  
4 system roads, which means on the State  
5 TX-DOT-operated, you know, and maintained roadways.  
6 So I think that there's some disconnect between the  
7 engineering that's now done at the City level led by  
8 the National Association of City Transportation  
9 officials and what's happened at the State level at  
10 the American Association of State Highway  
11 Transportation officials, which is where TX-DOT  
12 usually gets its guidelines and adopts it. So if we  
13 can affect those engineering guidelines this would  
14 be a great place to consider it. Places like, you  
15 know, several of the MPOs and Brownsville is an  
16 example. Harlingen is another example where they  
17 have adopted the NACTO guidelines for local roads,  
18 but they still have some differences with their  
19 local TX-DOT districts over whether or not those new  
20 design guidelines for protected bike lines can be  
21 used on system roads. So it might be this could be  
22 a good place for that discussion to start for  
23 TX-DOT, because, you know, these things move slowly.  
24 And engineers are rightfully concerned not to rush  
25 into stuff, and that's what's great about engineers

1 is, you know, what's been proven, what's tested so  
2 that everybody's protected. And so it may be time  
3 for TX-DOT to look at those engineering guidelines.

4 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Well, I'm hopeful  
5 that the Committee that you heard that was  
6 established internally by TX-DOT today and presented  
7 to us is going to help address some of those  
8 concerns. I agree with you, if we've been doing  
9 something one way forever, it's kind of hard to turn  
10 the battleship in the bathtub unless you keep  
11 hauling it left turn, left turn, left turn. And I  
12 think we're starting to see that through some these  
13 cross-colonization efforts that I was talking about  
14 earlier that's going on between this Committee and  
15 what's going to be done there. Hopefully, we'll  
16 make good some progress.

17 MR. STALLING: And, fortunately, they  
18 do periodically update the engineering design  
19 guidelines anyway. It's a little overdue for the  
20 bike stuff from my point of view, of course.

21 The other thing I wanted to point out  
22 about TAP -- and congratulations on the great work  
23 on the TAP program and the \$52 million. It's going  
24 to make a huge difference to these communities of  
25 under 200,000. You know, we're hearing a lot about

1 trying to attract the economic benefits of active  
2 tourism like they're talking about in Cameron County  
3 or the northeast Texas trail from, you know,  
4 Farmersville to New Boston. But they need to, you  
5 know, figure out these funding mechanisms and how  
6 they can get some of this stuff, you know, paid for.  
7 And that's really very, very important.

8 It also ends up helping not just from a  
9 transportation point of view but from a public  
10 health point of view. So in some people -- like in  
11 Cameron County they're working -- because of their  
12 local public health they realize that they can ally  
13 with tourism interests, because the economic impacts  
14 to get tourists there, and then the locals get to  
15 use those great new facilities, also. So there's a  
16 lot of the new and fresh allies in this that you  
17 don't expect in the transportation world  
18 necessarily, but public health has become a big one  
19 to understand the impact of a built environment and  
20 how important this is not just for injury prevention  
21 but also for -- just to get people out there more  
22 physically active.

23 Safe Routes to School is kind of at the  
24 center of that. And -- but keeping that in mind  
25 that we've got \$52 million here, we have now passed

1     \$300 million of that same type of funding, used to  
2     be called transportation enhancements, then it was  
3     called Transportation Alternatives Program, that has  
4     been redirected to other uses other than for biking  
5     and pedestrian facilities, even as the injuries are  
6     going up. I believe it's 16 percent now,  
7     approximately, but very high of fatalities are  
8     bicyclists and pedestrians in Texas on our roadways.  
9     And, of course, Terry's an expert on this, and he's  
10    got so many experts working for him. But that's  
11    pretty close to the actual number, and it used to be  
12    13 percent. So that's climbing. And yet we have  
13    redirected money. 165 million of it was redirected  
14    to highway rest stops. And a lot of these fabulous  
15    rest stops that can now park 100 or 200 semi-trucks  
16    have actually hurt local economies, because they've  
17    taken away overnight parking from the truck stops  
18    that use to generate sales taxes that benefited a  
19    lot of rural towns. So now by these massive and  
20    beautiful rest stops one of my biggest problems with  
21    them is that, of course, it's been funded with the  
22    Bicycle Trail Fund. And all these communities that  
23    need these for their public health benefits, to  
24    attract tourism, to allow people to age in place, to  
25    keep the college students from moving away from

1 their areas, they need these active transportation  
2 network and facilities. So this also is a good  
3 place for this to start. So there's 165 million in  
4 the past that went to the highway rest stops. And  
5 then in the last four years, in the same period of  
6 time that we accrued 52 million for the rural areas,  
7 we flexed or redirected 140 million that could have  
8 been used in rural areas or urban areas, any part of  
9 the State completely unrestricted, has been  
10 transferred away from those uses. And while it's  
11 still allowable, it's been transferred away so it's  
12 not programmed in, it's not becoming part of this  
13 every two-year process.

14 I know I've mentioned this before, but I  
15 want to kind of highlight that that \$140 million  
16 could be transformative for so many different  
17 communities. And I think that if the Bike Advisory  
18 Committee isn't kind of, you know, aware of that and  
19 looking at it I'm not sure who else at TX-DOT would  
20 really have it in their portfolio.

21 I just want to thank you all so much for  
22 your service. I myself served for, you know, many,  
23 many years on this committee, and I know how  
24 important the work is you all do. And thank you for  
25 giving me a chance to address those things.

1                   CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Thank you, Robin.  
2 Hang on just a second. You opened where you talked  
3 about Quebec, what's going on up there. And then  
4 you alluded to the fact that there's been some  
5 studies done, I think, by your organization in terms  
6 of how to do some type of ride across Texas thing.  
7 I know you didn't use those terms.

8                   But has there been some studies done by  
9 your organization where you could go east to west  
10 across Texas and how you could pull that off?

11                   MR. STALLING: Well, what we did is  
12 we actually -- the Legislature passed legislation,  
13 and we were heavily involved in it. So it's  
14 actually legislation. And we've done some  
15 conceptual ideas of these drawings. And there's  
16 also the U.S. Bike Route System that we think that  
17 Texas should tap into. We're not calling it the  
18 Texas Bicycle Tourism Trail, but tap into these  
19 national systems which are east, west and north,  
20 south. But there's not very many in Texas. I think  
21 we've got only one north south corridor on the east  
22 side of the State, and we've got a northern route  
23 and we've got a southern route that could tie into  
24 the U.S. Bike Run System. But there's no reason why  
25 we couldn't -- like in Quebec, they connected every

1 town with a protected bike facility so that mostly  
2 you don't even have to be on a country road; you can  
3 literally be on a separate facility. So it's not  
4 just a shoulder, but it's a shoulder that a car  
5 can't kind of ease into. So I think --

6 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: But there has been  
7 research done on this. Is that correct?

8 MR. STALLING: There's not -- not  
9 specific routes. But that would be easy enough.  
10 But there are some specific routes that could be the  
11 starter kits, you know, like Northeast Texas Trail  
12 could tie in. If you think about it, when we get  
13 the Northeast Texas Trail from New Boston connected  
14 to Texarkana, so that becomes a gateway to Texas and  
15 then from Farmersville you connect into the  
16 Dallas/Fort Worth area and Rockwall area and they've  
17 already got a five City trail plan from Dallas  
18 through Fort Worth. And I think it includes  
19 Arlington and Grand Prairie and Irving, that you've  
20 got basically from Texarkana to the west side of  
21 Fort Worth that you've got an incredible facility  
22 potential that is going to attract a lot of people  
23 and be a benefit to the locals.

24 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I have a question  
25 for Mr. Gleason. You mentioned earlier in your

1 presentation that the TAP call will occur 12 to 18  
2 months from now. And presumably that next TAP call  
3 is going to be for a certain amount of money. Do  
4 you have an idea yet how much money will be in that  
5 in total?

6 MR. GLEASON: No, I do not. We are  
7 looking at authorization in the FAST Act. We are  
8 trying to come up with what those totals might be  
9 and establish a level of comfort on the Department's  
10 part of that, how far in advance we might want to  
11 include in our call. So, for example, each year  
12 there are roughly 13 or \$14 million for areas of the  
13 State under 200,000 with roughly half of that going  
14 to communities between 5,000 and 200,000 and the  
15 other half going to communities with less than 5,000  
16 in population. Those aren't our thresholds. Those  
17 are federal highway thresholds -- program  
18 thresholds. So it's good to bundle, because we  
19 can --

20 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Sure.

21 MR. GLEASON: -- we can look at a  
22 larger set of projects and pick a larger set  
23 recognizing where communities may be in terms of  
24 readiness. But I would hope to be able to perhaps  
25 by your next meeting or the meeting after that to

1 have some information on how big that next -- next  
2 call might -- might be.

3 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Well, here's why --

4 MR. STALLING: 35 million that  
5 automatically gets transferred out that can be used  
6 anywhere in the State?

7 MR. GLEASON: So the question was in  
8 our next TAP call how much do we have envisioned  
9 here. The answer to that is it's about 13 million a  
10 year.

11 The statewide element that Robin is  
12 speaking to, the Department does have the authority  
13 to flex each year. As he did mention, it doesn't  
14 flex it away from application to these projects. It  
15 does flex it into a category where the Commission  
16 could choose to apply it against a broader set of  
17 profits.

18 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Okay. That's --  
19 that's where I'm going. So, for example, let's say  
20 that at the next Bicycle Advisory Committee Robin is  
21 prepared to give us a presentation on some  
22 suggestions on an east west and a north south  
23 corridor across Texas.

24 MR. GLEASON: Yes, sir.

25 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Is it possible for

1 us to talk about a mission to the moon kind of  
2 process where we say, "We want to see if we can  
3 designate all of that money that's coming up to this  
4 particular project to get it done"? And say these  
5 particular calls that are coming up, instead of  
6 being broken up into smaller pieces and spread out  
7 across the communities like we've been doing, can we  
8 focus on the build-out of this and get it done over  
9 a year or two or three or however many it takes to  
10 finish it out? Would it be possible to do something  
11 like that?

12 MR. GLEASON: So I want to make sure  
13 I'm clear. Those are two different pots of money.  
14 We will continue to pursue calls for projects, as we  
15 have, for those communities under 200,000 in Texas.  
16 The -- the amount of money that Robin is speaking to  
17 is a separate element of the overall state program  
18 which can be applied statewide. So it's not -- it's  
19 not limited to a community-sized threshold.

20 This committee - and I mean this in all  
21 sincerity - can talk about anything like that if you  
22 choose. It's actually part of your work program  
23 that you have identified for us if you look back at  
24 this --

25 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Yes, very familiar

1 with that.

2 MR. GLEASON: -- the very first task  
3 that you picked out of this strategic direction  
4 report - and these aren't ranked in order of  
5 priority - but the first one is statewide bicycle  
6 route designation. So if the committee has some  
7 suggestions to us how to begin to proceed in that  
8 direction, we will certainly look at them. And if  
9 that involves consideration of funding, I have no  
10 problem with forwarding that request up into TX-DOT  
11 administration.

12 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Well, it seems like  
13 the timing is right, because we just finished and  
14 completed these other things. We've got a little  
15 time before the next TAP calls go out.

16 MR. GLEASON: I want to separate  
17 those two.

18 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: No, I understand.  
19 But what I'm saying is those smaller communities may  
20 be on the route. And so as a part of this, if we  
21 identify, you know, 50 communities from 5,000 to  
22 200,000 that are in the north south corridor or the  
23 east west corridor, then that TAP money potentially  
24 could be available to help them finish out their  
25 part of it. Is that correct?

1 MR. GLEASON: Yes. And so if that is  
2 an interest of this committee, one of the  
3 suggestions you might have for us is don't make this  
4 next TAP call four years of funding. Keep it  
5 narrow. Keep it two. Because we're working on this  
6 statewide idea and we might want to be able to use  
7 some of that TAP funding to advance our conclusion,  
8 but we're not ready yet. So don't go commit  
9 everything.

10 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: You said that very  
11 eloquently, Eric. Thank you for doing that for me.

12 I would like to at this point get some  
13 feedback from the Committee Members in terms of the  
14 interest in pursuing what we just discussed. And  
15 that would be at the next committee meeting having  
16 Robin do a presentation on some possible north  
17 south, east west type of things like what we saw  
18 with the Quebec model that Mark Stein presented to  
19 us. And then have -- after we -- after we get kind  
20 of a visual on what we're talking about, then get --  
21 get the TX-DOT folks working on basically the  
22 financial side of it and -- and potentially be in a  
23 position where, then, we could make some  
24 recommendations to you in terms of whether to move  
25 forward with a specific, you know, TAP request for

1 the whole thing or we try and set aside some of  
2 these individual community requests like what  
3 we're -- what you just discussed.

4 Yes, please.

5 MS. BLAZOSKY: If I could briefly, so  
6 to help clarify, because I would be in support of  
7 that. And I know it's a great point to try to  
8 proceed toward. But, Eric, if you could clarify,  
9 the flexible portion that's statewide could also be  
10 potentially under discussion recommended by the  
11 Committee to pursue statewide bike routes with the  
12 flexed statewide portion. Right?

13 MR. GLEASON: Yes, ma'am.

14 MS. BLAZOSKY: So it could work  
15 really well if there were small communities that  
16 were in a rural or small urban that also fell on  
17 that and wanting to apply for the small urban TAP  
18 funding. But then there's also the potential of --  
19 instead of directing it to kind of a driving  
20 statewide route and the symbology there of the truck  
21 stops and rest stops it would be a bike statewide  
22 route and still citywide.

23 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: I think the only  
24 way, Allison, this is ever going to be built is not  
25 try to do it a piece up there in Texarkana and then

1 some down in McAllen and hope that one day it all  
2 gloriously comes together. Usually plans are very  
3 fractured in their approach like that.

4 I think what it needs to be is everyone  
5 needs to get in mind what it is we're talking about,  
6 first of all. Then we need to get an idea of how  
7 much it's going to cost. And then we need to figure  
8 out through TX-DOT and through their various means  
9 of funding, from whatever buckets they may have the  
10 ability to direct or redirect funds, how we pay for  
11 and then at that point be able to sell it to the  
12 Commissioners so we can say, "Hey, we got a plan to  
13 do what it was we said we were going to do on our  
14 particular mission. Here it is. What do you  
15 think?" And let them take it.

16 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: Well, I can --  
17 this is Romero. I can tell that you that we in our  
18 county plan -- in our Active Transportation Plan,  
19 Tourism Plan, we already have a plan for either the  
20 beginning or the end of U.S. Bike Route 55. So, you  
21 know, perhaps if Robin's going to present he can  
22 weave that into it so you can see an example of what  
23 that would look like here in the Valley.

24 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Good. Wonderful.  
25 Wonderful.

1                   MR. STALLING: Two things I'll  
2 mention as you all are thinking about this.  
3 Currently the TAP money -- TX-DOT can't give it to  
4 itself unless it flexes it out. So there's probably  
5 a way to think it through so that TX-DOT could run a  
6 statewide program like that. There still needs to  
7 be match involved so there's at least 20 percent  
8 match. Usually that comes from the local entities.  
9 It's got to be state or local or private, but it  
10 can't be more federal money.

11                   And then the other thing that I think you  
12 hit on is when you take that -- that 35 million was  
13 there for this type of purpose and it's broken up  
14 into 17 2 million-dollar projects it kind of  
15 frustrates a lot of people. Everybody gets a little  
16 bit, but they don't get enough for a network. So,  
17 for example, if Dallas/Fort Worth got 35 million to  
18 build this five city trail or Cameron County got  
19 35 million to build out their whole protective  
20 bikeway network, you get some fantastic examples  
21 even if we're not doing the linear routes that would  
22 be awesome. But they might not serve as many people  
23 if you're trying to just add up how many people  
24 would get use out of them.

25                   And then there's another good example.

1 The Northeast Texas Trail, they're providing -- you  
2 know, applying for little pieces here and there. So  
3 I think this idea of using 35 million-dollar chunks  
4 or 70 million-dollar chunks or 140 million-dollar  
5 chunks for projects of a scale that maybe that's the  
6 best use of this, because then you get some great  
7 examples on the ground. Because we'll all learn  
8 from Cameron County or Dallas, whoever gets it.

9 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: So Robin, can I ask  
10 you to be ready at the next meeting to make a  
11 presentation on recommended north south and east  
12 west corridors utilizing things like Romero just  
13 discussed where we've already got, you know, some  
14 things that have already been put into place and how  
15 you guys would recommend that might all come  
16 together as a statewide program?

17 MR. STALLING: Sure. And how it  
18 connects in with stuff that's already there to  
19 leverage off of those, sure.

20 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: That's right.  
21 That's right. That's right. Thank you.

22 MR. GLEASON: If I may, just one  
23 final comment. I want the committee to also  
24 consider that having flexed that money out that  
25 the -- the process around selecting how to use those

1 funds becomes more flexible.

2 So, in other words if it remains in the  
3 TAP program, then we are compelled by our rules that  
4 we proceed with those funds on a competitive project  
5 basis. If the better way to build a statewide  
6 infrastructure is to somehow not break it into  
7 smaller chunks competitively with projects but to in  
8 a deliberate way decide what you need and go proceed  
9 about it, then it could be that having flexed those  
10 funds out allows you to take a different process in  
11 picking your project.

12 So I -- I understand Robin's comments  
13 completely. All is not lost because it's been  
14 flexed out. I think the -- once flexed out the  
15 burden becomes on how compelling is the project.

16 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Right, right.

17 MR. GLEASON: And there is -- it's  
18 a -- it's just a different environment to work the  
19 decision through.

20 What I'm hearing from the Committee is  
21 that you want to see some work in this next  
22 intersession of time on this first one.

23 Now, my inclination for you would have  
24 been to have worked on the second one, which was the  
25 design guidelines. And I don't want to pretend we

1 can do both very well --

2 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Right.

3 MR. GLEASON: -- just because of  
4 staff resources. So if it is the desire of this  
5 Committee for us to focus first on bringing clarity  
6 in this next timeframe to the Statewide program we  
7 can do that.

8 The other approach the Committee could  
9 take is to let Robin kick it off at the next  
10 meeting, don't make any decisions at the next  
11 meeting --

12 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Right.

13 MR. GLEASON: -- and we could  
14 possibly fit this in down the road having had the  
15 benefit of that conversation.

16 So I don't want exceptions to be more than  
17 we can meet.

18 MR. STALLING: And you get -- address  
19 design guidelines you could actually build,  
20 something we could come up with, because the design  
21 guidelines are core; they affect every district,  
22 every municipality. And that's really kind of a  
23 building block to get whatever you want done.

24 MR. GLEASON: It's just a choice.

25 MS. WEAVER: If Robin takes the lead

1 at presenting the initial information in July, would  
2 it be okay with the committee or TX-DOT if he  
3 contacted some of the larger regions that have more  
4 completed systems to feed information into that  
5 presentation?

6 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Absolutely.

7 MR. GLEASON: We'll put together what  
8 the Committees wants.

9 MS. WEAVER: I'm not sure what you're  
10 doing. Okay.

11 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: And understanding  
12 this is kind of like the first draft.

13 MS. WEAVER: Big picture, yeah.

14 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: And one of the  
15 reasons why we can go ahead and get a visual on it  
16 is that the people who are highly knowledgeable,  
17 like Romero, about what's going on in his part of  
18 this State, he can look at that map and say we need  
19 to tweak it here or there to do a better job of  
20 tying this all in together at a lower cost. But,  
21 you know, you've got to start somewhere. And to  
22 me - I'm kind of a visual guy - I like to see it on  
23 paper, so I've got a good idea what I'm looking at.  
24 And I like Eric's idea of running down parallel  
25 paths here together. The entire burden is not on

1 TX-DOT to have to do all this between now and the  
2 next meeting. Frankly, Robin, you know, you guys  
3 may put the stuff up there and it just doesn't --  
4 TX-DOT is not drinking your Kool-aid.

5 MR. STALLING: That never happened  
6 before.

7 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: But my guess is that  
8 there's going to be a lot of -- of really good  
9 information that will come out of that presentation.  
10 And I want to thank you again for all the work you  
11 do for cycling.

12 I promised this Committee we were going to  
13 be out of here early today. We have about eight  
14 minutes left. Is there any other further business  
15 that needs to come before the Committee today?

16 If not, we will stand adjourned. Thank  
17 you all very much.

18 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: Thank you.

19 MS. KAPLAN: I'm sorry. Before it's  
20 officially adjourned, I did want to make two points.  
21 One is that PTD, Public Transportation Division  
22 Office, was selected to conduct a research project  
23 that I proposed on data collection. I have invited  
24 Karla Weaver to be one of the project advisors on  
25 it, because she's been involved in some projects

1 that has a conference she's going to next week on  
2 that very subject.

3 And also to let everyone know that we're  
4 planning up a field trip, not for our next meeting,  
5 but for our October meeting, a bike field trip for  
6 you all.

7 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Awesome.

8 MS. WEAVER: Thanks.

9 MR. ROMERO GONZALEZ: Thank you,  
10 Teri. Thanks.

11 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Do we have a motion  
12 to adjourn?

13 MS. WILLIAMSON: So moved.

14 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: So moved by Ann  
15 Marie.

16 MR. ROBERT GONZALES: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN HIBBS: Seconded by Robert.  
18 All in favor say aye.

19 Thank you very much everybody.

20 (Meeting concluded at 11:53 a.m.)

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1 THE STATE OF TEXAS )  
2 COUNTY OF TRAVIS )

3 I, Rhonda Howard, Reporter in and for the  
4 State of Texas, do hereby certify that the above and  
5 foregoing contains a true and correct transcription  
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17 the preparation of this Reporter's Record is \$  
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<p><b>1</b>  <b>1</b> 35:21 36:1  <b>1,000</b> 49:11  <b>100</b> 67:16 82:15  <b>10th</b> 43:3  <b>11</b> 67:21 78:9  <b>11:53</b> 99:20  <b>12</b> 55:17 78:6,9 86:1  <b>12/31/16</b> 101:7  <b>120</b> 62:13  <b>12th</b> 101:1  <b>13</b> 30:10,15 82:12  86:12 87:9  <b>14</b> 30:17 86:12  <b>14,000</b> 67:22  <b>140</b> 83:7,15 94:4  <b>15</b> 28:11 65:14  <b>16</b> 11:17 30:1,16  46:20 82:6  <b>1600</b> 101:8  <b>165</b> 82:13 83:3  <b>17</b> 30:18 43:17  46:21 54:15 93:14  <b>18</b> 55:17 86:1  <b>1997</b> 71:13</p>	<p><b>20th</b> 63:9,25  <b>23</b> 65:5  <b>24</b> 36:19 65:13  <b>29</b> 1:8</p> <hr/> <p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>3</b> 46:6  <b>3,000</b> 68:4  <b>30</b> 33:3 46:24 47:3  58:19  <b>300</b> 82:1 101:8  <b>336-4000</b> 101:9  <b>35</b> 46:24 47:3 87:4  93:12,17,19 94:3  <b>3:00</b> 9:8</p> <hr/> <p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>4.5</b> 65:10  <b>40</b> 57:25  <b>4136</b> 101:6  <b>45</b> 75:13  <b>450</b> 7:23</p> <hr/> <p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>5,000</b> 34:13 35:8  86:14,15 89:21  <b>50</b> 27:22 30:14  54:23 89:21  <b>501</b> 46:6  <b>52</b> 25:10 30:4 80:23  81:25 83:6  <b>55</b> 4:5 8:18 92:20  <b>571</b> 101:8  <b>5:00</b> 8:6</p> <hr/> <p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>6,000</b> 68:3  <b>60</b> 75:13</p> <hr/> <p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>70</b> 94:4  <b>76102</b> 101:9</p> <hr/> <p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>800</b> 101:9  <b>832</b> 71:20  <b>8:00</b> 8:8 9:7</p>	<p><b>a</b></p> <p><b>a.m.</b> 8:6 9:7 99:20  <b>ability</b> 30:13 92:10  <b>able</b> 10:1,23 11:3  12:8 22:23 23:18  28:8 34:6 35:20  43:21 45:10 46:8  47:9 48:22 51:22,23  52:8 56:11 60:3,4  61:2,3 62:24 73:20  78:16 86:24 90:6  92:11  <b>absence</b> 74:5  <b>absolutely</b> 33:12  36:5,6 52:23 63:6  74:8 97:6  <b>accept</b> 16:15  <b>access</b> 42:9 61:2,4  66:14  <b>accident</b> 14:18,20  66:21  <b>accommodate</b> 77:19  <b>accomplish</b> 6:19  <b>accomplished</b> 18:2  <b>accrued</b> 83:6  <b>achieve</b> 77:23  <b>achievements</b> 60:2  <b>act</b> 55:6,20 56:7  86:7  <b>action</b> 22:8  <b>active</b> 12:25 31:5  62:4,5,6 65:9 66:14  73:15 75:5 81:1,22  83:1 92:18  <b>actively</b> 23:20  <b>activists</b> 8:22  <b>activities</b> 10:23  37:16 38:17 70:16  70:17,21 72:10  <b>activity</b> 10:20  <b>actual</b> 5:18 82:11  <b>ad</b> 45:2  <b>add</b> 25:2 93:23</p>	<p><b>added</b> 25:11  <b>addition</b> 52:5 71:1  <b>additional</b> 31:24  38:11 52:12 70:25  71:1  <b>additions</b> 16:14  <b>address</b> 74:3 77:5  80:7 83:25 96:18  <b>adjourn</b> 41:23 99:12  <b>adjourned</b> 98:16,20  <b>adjourns</b> 3:3  <b>administration</b> 33:3  35:24 37:23 43:16  52:21,23 89:11  <b>admittedly</b> 77:19  <b>adopted</b> 64:11 79:17  <b>adopts</b> 79:12  <b>adults</b> 54:6  <b>advance</b> 41:13  86:10 90:7  <b>advertise</b> 26:7  <b>advisors</b> 98:24  <b>advisory</b> 1:8 14:12  26:15 38:16 39:5  66:7 83:17 87:20  <b>affect</b> 79:13 96:21  <b>affordable</b> 76:5  77:22  <b>afghanistan</b> 76:15  <b>age</b> 66:1 82:24  <b>agencies</b> 45:2,19,24  46:3,5 48:3 53:8  <b>agency</b> 48:15 50:24  60:8  <b>agenda</b> 3:5 78:25  <b>aggressive</b> 3:5  <b>ago</b> 17:5 76:16  <b>agree</b> 21:9 33:22  67:2 78:21,21 80:8  <b>ahead</b> 3:21 33:4  97:15  <b>aid</b> 98:4  <b>alamo</b> 63:7  <b>all's</b> 72:10</p>
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[allie - bigger]

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[biggest - champion]

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[presentations - quorum]

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