



August 13, 2014

The Honorable Joseph C. Pickett
Texas House of Representatives
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Dear Chairman Pickett:

Thank you for your letter of August 8, 2014, sharing the recommendations of the House Select Committee on Transportation Funding, Expenditures & Finance for guidelines on selecting projects to advance with any funding the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) receives should Texas voters approve the proposed constitutional amendment on transportation funding in November 2014. We appreciate the thoughtful consideration you and the committee members put into these recommendations.

As you are aware, TxDOT has formed a workgroup of external stakeholders from across the state representing a variety of transportation interests to develop and present a recommendation to the Texas Transportation Commission (Commission) on how to distribute any funds received under the proposed constitutional amendment. Former Commission Chairman Johnny Johnson will lead the workgroup. Chairman Johnson commands unrivaled respect throughout the transportation industry and we are confident that his involvement in this effort will result in outstanding recommendations. Under Chairman Johnson's leadership, the workgroup will meet several times over the next two months to solicit public comments and develop grassroots, bottom-up recommendations. We expect the workgroup will present its recommendations at the September Commission meeting.

We will share your letter with the workgroup for them to consider as they develop recommendations on this very important matter. Again, thank you and the select committee for your work and for sharing these recommendations with us.

Sincerely,



Ted Houghton, Jr.
Chair
Texas Transportation Commission

cc Members, House Select Committee on Transportation Funding, Expenditures & Finance
Texas Transportation Commission
LtGen J.F. Weber, USMC (Ret), Executive Director