

BARTON TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS

I respectfully request \$53,635,000 to take the current US 287 Ennis Bypass, located in Ennis, Texas, from two lanes to four lanes from south of SH34 to IH-45.

The funding would be used by the Texas Department of Transportation to complete the second phase of the Ennis Bypass. The first phase was constructed in 1994 and was only two lanes. The funding would be used to plan, design, engineer, and conduct environmental review for the widening of US 287 from two to four lanes from south of SH 34 to IH-45. Completion of this project would allow motorists four lanes of highway from Fort Worth, Texas, to IH-45 at US 287, including bypasses of all cities. This project is the final segment to complete the widening to four lanes or more for US 287 throughout the State of Texas. I believe this additional capacity would be a significant improvement in safety for the residents of Ennis and surrounding towns in my district, and for those commuting between the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex and Ennis.

I respectfully request \$42,000,000 to fund improvements to a portion of IH-35E, from US 287 to US 77 North of Waxahachie, Texas.

This segment would help access to IH-35E, and provide additional capacity for a route with increasing overall volumes (40% trucks) due to NAFTA. This project is part of a larger system of projects to improve IH-35E and would enhance the safety and improve mobility and response time for emergency vehicles by reducing congestion. Additionally, it will provide motorists greater access to businesses along the frontage roads. This project is the final segment to complete the widening to six main lanes or more for IH-35E from Dallas to Waxahachie. A final benefit of the project is a reduction in emissions. This project will reduce idle emissions improving compliance efforts with the Clean Air Act in the North Texas region.

I respectfully request \$10,000,000 for construction of new roadway from Highlander to Bardin Road, including the South Center Street Bridge over I-20 in Arlington, Texas.

The project will reduce congestion on other north-south arterials that accommodate traffic beyond their capacity by providing Arlington with an additional north-south connection over IH20. It will improve access to Downtown Arlington, City facilities and the University of Texas at Arlington from south Arlington neighborhoods and will improve access to Arlington Municipal Airport and Tarrant County College from Downtown Arlington and North Arlington neighborhoods. The South Center Street Bridge will also improve access to Arlington Municipal Airport, the busiest general aviation in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area and will help spur economic development on vacant land in the heart of south Arlington immediately adjacent to IH20. It will also fill a gap in Arlington's system of linear parks and trails, improving mobility for bicyclists and pedestrians.

I respectfully request \$7,249,634 to construct frontage roads across Walnut Creek on US 287 from Walnut Creek Drive to Broad Street in Mansfield, Texas.

These improvements include the construction and/or reconstruction of continuous frontage roads, construction of two new turnaround bridges at Walnut Creek Drive and one new turnaround bridge just north of Broad Street. With continuous frontage roads, traffic would be converted from two-way to one-way operation. Given the growth in this area, this project would greatly enhance safety for motorists and improve congestion.

I respectfully request \$3,000,000 to construct the North Arlington Intermodal Transportation Center in Arlington, Texas.

This project would provide funding to construct an intermodal transportation center in North Arlington. The center would allow for a commuter rail stop in Arlington, Texas, along the existing Trinity Railway Express (TRE) line between Dallas and Fort Worth. With a population over 370,000, Arlington is the largest city in the nation without any public transportation. This fact is inhibiting Arlington's ability to reduce traffic congestion and offer reasonable commuting and travel alternatives to residents, businesses, visitors and tourists.

The North Central Texas Council of Governments, serving as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the North Texas region, has also recognized the need for Arlington's connectivity to the TRE and the construction of the North Arlington Intermodal Transportation Center. This station will allow Arlington commuters to directly access to public transit provided by the Fort Worth Transportation Authority (The T) and the Dallas Area Rapid Transit System (DART). In addition it will also allow public transit access to Arlington's entertainment district which includes several entertainment venues (Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, Six Flags over Texas, Hurricane Harbor, the new Dallas Cowboys Stadium, and the Arlington Convention Center). It will also allow a transit connection to a planned "mini-modal" transportation center in adjacent to Arlington's Entertainment District, which is currently under construction.

Recognizing the City of Arlington is not currently a member of a transportation authority, the ability to provide the construction funds to build this station would greatly enhance Arlington's position to ensure this station is constructed. This project could play a significant role in transporting attendees to and from major events in Arlington such as the 2011 Super Bowl.