

MoNAC Minutes 2007-4-17

Joyce Basciano, President of MoNAC called the meeting to order.

Sarah Eckhardt, Travis County Commissioner was introduced to the MoNAC meeting. She stated that she was for “moving more people” down the corridor in buses, vans and carpools. The commissioner said she approved the managed lane concept because it was not to generate revenue but to control traffic.

Sid Covington, Chair of the Austin-San Antonio Commuter Rail District then gave the background of the line that would run from San Antonio, through Austin (down the Union Pacific line on MoPac) and on to Georgetown. The update on the latest progress for ASA. The possible date for service is 2010 to 2011 which will cost at least \$612 million. There was discussion about the station at 35th Street and possible development. At present there are no plans other than a stop/station.

John Kelly, DMJM Harris and Mark Herber, TxDOT explained the function of the managed lane. The primary function is to express buses and vanpools through the corridor. At the same time the corridor would be monitored electronically to allow SOV's to use the managed lane using congestion pricing thus utilizing the new capacity to its fullest. They reviewed CAMPO stipulation for the corridor as stated in the 2030 Plan. A managed lane with construction to be at or below grade level, no elevated lanes and taking no new ROW. With the new construction there would be sound walls. The equation is: need for added capacity = new construction = soundwalls. Discussion followed about the location and construction of soundwalls, as well as the dB reduction created by the walls. There will be a Noise Workshop in the fall.

The question was raised about the Town Lake Bridge and the bottleneck that is created by having only two lanes. Mark Herber said TxDOT is requesting permission for FHWA to restripe the bridge to accommodate three lanes. They are waiting for an answer.

Meeting was adjourned

Substitute for Secretary Kay Newell
Frances Allen

NEXT MoNAC MEETING – JULY 17