

2018 TEX-21 Officers

Tim Welch, Chair North Richland Hills Councilmember	Keith Self, Vice Chair Collin County Judge	Chris Brown, Vice Chair Ark-Tex COG Executive Director	Gary Fickes, Vice Chair Tarrant County Commissioner
Chris Coffman, Vice Chair Granbury City Manager	Tom Whitten, Vice Chair Bowie County Commissioner	Debby Bobbitt Treasurer Rowlett Councilmember	Adam McGough, Vice Chair Dallas City Councilmember

Who We Are

2018 VOTING MEMBERS:

ALLEN * Peter Vargas
 ARK-TEX COG * Chris Brown
 BOWIE * Gaylynn Burris
 BOWIE COUNTY * Tom Whitten
 CHILDRESS COUNTY* Jay Mayden
 COLLIN COUNTY * Keith Self
 COLLEYSVILLE * Richard Newton
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 SHERMAN * Robby Nefton
 SULPHUR SPRINGS * Marc Maxwell
 TARRANT COUNTY * Gary Fickes
 TEXARKANA * Bob Bruggeman
 TITUS COUNTY * Brian Lee
 TYLER COUNTY * Martin Nash
 WOODVILLE * Mandy Risinger
 WYLIE * Mindy Manson

TEX-21 is a collective, grassroots effort to improve the transportation infrastructure in the States of Texas and Oklahoma. With its growing membership of cities, counties, ports and other entities, TEX-21 creates strategies to increase investment in transportation infrastructure, improve the planning and management of our transportation facilities, and increase public awareness of the importance of multi-modal transportation that is required for efficient economic development and sustainability.

One of TEX-21's biggest strengths is two-thirds of the Texas Legislature and 90 percent of the Washington delegation are members of our Transportation caucus. During times of political transitions, the "voice" of TEX-21 provides stabilizing advocacy efforts for transportation policy. Our cooperative approach has consistently gained praise from policymakers at each level of government as we collaborate for effective transportation policy and tackle the challenges in our state capitol and with the new administration in Washington.

Benefits of Membership

Opportunities to create productive relationships with like-minded transportation advocates from across the States of Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas.

High-level access to transportation decision makers at the Federal and State levels through TEX-21's strong Legislative Caucuses, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Texas Transportation Commission, Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the USDOT

Opportunities to raise awareness of transportation needs in your region and collaborate with representatives from the State and Federal legislative and executive branches.

Focused attention on key transportation corridors in Texas and Oklahoma through Corridor Task Forces including IH-30, US 75/IH 45, US 287, IH-35, The Outer Loop in Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Grayson, Rockwall, and Kaufman Counties and also a key initiative on The Third Coast, opportunities created by the expanded Panama Canal.

Up-to-date information and analysis of key transportation policy issues. TEX-21 is currently focused on the highway funding crisis, with passage in 2015 of the Federal surface re-authorization bill, and the State's proposals to increase funding. Through TEX-21 research, a new funding proposal called the Expiring Revenue Enhancement (ERE) is being proposed, based on future growth of state sales tax dollars for a limited time.

For more information, contact Linda Harper Brown, Senior Public Policy Consultant for Dean International, Inc., at lhbrown@dean.net, 214.750.0123(o) or 214.663.9640(c).

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 Blue Ribbon Delivery * Chris Allen

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 TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
 Carroll Robinson
 TEXAS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE
 Dennis Christensen



TEX-21

Transportation EXcellence for the 21st Century

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Ark-Tex COG Executive Director

Debby Bobbitt, Treasurer
Rowlett Councilmember

Gary Fickes, Vice Chair
Tarrant County Commissioner

Adam McGough, Vice Chair
Dallas City Councilmember

TEX-21 Vision Statement

“Better Mobility Through Better Policy”

TEX-21 Mission Statement

“TEX-21 is an organization whose purpose is to join together cities, counties, private businesses, ports, and transportation entities in a collective, informed voice to the State and Federal Executive and Legislative Policymakers to improve transportation in Texas. This effort includes strategies to increase investment in multi-modal transportation infrastructure, improve the planning and management of our transportation facilities, and increase the awareness of the importance of transportation to all areas of Texas.”

TEX-21: What are people saying?



TEX-21

Transportation EXcellence for the 21st Century

"TEX-21 will give you an opportunity to create relationships starting at the grass-roots level on to the state and federal levels of government both from a legislative branch and executive branch perspective. With that being said, North Richland Hills had an issue with the funding of a bike lane that runs through our city. Instead of North Richland Hills having to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars toward the project, I was able to utilize my relationships with TXDOT executive staff as well as Victor Mendez, Deputy Secretary, Federal Highway Administration to bring the overall cost down. Not only did this save the city money, I was also able to get the project to construction earlier. These were relationships I created being active in TEX-21. Long story short, I have been able to save the city money on transportation projects over the last several years!"

-Tim Welch, Councilmember, City of North Richland Hills

"Tarrant County has been a member of TEX-21 for over 10 years. During this time, we have seen great benefits from our involvement. I would encourage you to join with us and 65 other counties, cities, and private sector companies across Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas that focus on the public policy side of transportation issues. Federal and state funding for transportation is in a crisis right now! For our counties to benefit, we must have the knowledge, know-how, and the right people on our side. For Tarrant County, this has been the formula we've used to move over \$5 billion worth of projects for our area since February 2010. WE are in the middle of a major turnover in Austin and Washington with the Texas State Legislative Session around the corner. TXDOT has experienced numerous changes in leadership and USDOT with the MAP-21 funding ending. With that being said, I think now more than ever we need the unified voice of TEX-21 that can make a positive difference in transportation policy and funding."

-Gary Fickes, County Commissioner, Tarrant County

"A high quality transportation system is at the foundation of our economic prosperity. The Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs at Texas Southern University understands the importance of a quality statewide transportation system to the future of all Texans; urban, rural, and suburban. TEX-21 knows that and is an advocate and consensus builder for Texas' transportation needs."

-Carroll Robinson, Associate Dean,
TSU External Affairs

"There needs to be a 'buy-in' on what needs to be done by including people outside of elected officials and state agency officials, but with a realistic approach to what is important to the traveling public. TEX-21 is made up of people who are involved in their communities, which enhances its credibility as an organization."

-Joe Pickett, Texas House of Representatives

"The lack of funding is most often the number one impediment to solving our transportation mobility problems. TEX-21 gives us a larger voice in seeking funding solutions to our local transportation problems. On a larger scale, TEX-21 provides a united front to develop plans for resolving our state's transportation problems, both short term and long term, and to make lawmakers in both Austin and Washington aware of our problems. This united front enhances our ability to secure a funding solution for the state's transportation project."

-Ken Shetter, Mayor, Burleson

"TEX-21 is vital to Bee County and all Texas rural counties. Often the voices of small rural counties are lost amid the shouts of large metropolitan counties, whose populations number into the millions. TEX-21 is also the voice for small Texas counties and helps to elevate our highway concerns to the same level of the larger counties. TEX-21 is a powerful voice for Texas infrastructure in Washington. Through lobbying efforts at the state and federal level, TEX-21 fights for more federal dollars for Texas highways and byways. More federal dollars means more roads for Texas and a sound infrastructure, which is the principal element of economic development."

-Jimmy Martinez, County Judge, Bee County

"I sincerely appreciate any effort to consolidate and focus the vast amount of information that floods our office during legislative session. We can depend on organizations such as TEX-21 to help us prioritize issues and make the right decisions."

-Kim Brimer, Texas Senate

"If we don't address transportation and traffic issues now, they will reach a critical stage in the very near future. It is important that local governments work together to help formulate solutions to these problems and TEX-21 offers a way to do that. TEX-21 is a valuable resource for legislators as we address the growing and changing transportation needs of our state. The information and feedback we receive goes a long way in helping formulate ideas and draft legislation."

-Bob Deuell, Texas Senate

"With such a diverse makeup, the 10th district of Texas faces many transportation challenges including: road mobility, high speed and commuter rail issues and port and aviation issues. The TEX-21 membership is vital in helping us address all of these complex transportation issues."

-Michael McCaul, United States Representative

"TEX-21 is important because it provides a vehicle to collaborate with other municipalities in developing a transit program that all can benefit from. Opportunities to work together and secure national resources for our state are created."

-Michael Berry, Councilman, Houston



"It's clear that TEX-21 is the authoritative voice of transportation in Texas.

If you want to be part of the Texas transportation debate, you want to be a part of TEX-21."

-Sam Johnson, United States Representative

"TEX-21 accomplishments are impressive - six of its ten initiatives passed the State Legislature! I am also pleased that the Coalition is proactively approaching the reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century (TEA-21) by sending a delegation to Washington, D.C., to raise transportation consciousness on the Federal level. The great leadership of you...and all the collaborative efforts of all the elected officials, transportation professionals, and private businesses who make TEX-21 successful are very much appreciated."

-Mary Poss, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Dallas

"TEX-21 is very important to Collin County, as well as the entire state. TEX-21 is one of several agencies in the North Central Texas region that promotes mobility and advocates increased funding for mobility."

-Jack Hatchell, County Commissioner, Collin County

"Investment in transportation creates new jobs and new business opportunities, while also creating safer communities. TEX-21 is working to make sure that Texas reaps the rewards of a great transportation infrastructure."

-Ralph Hall, United States Representative



"Our involvement with TEX-21 has been an outstanding learning experience. By attending the meetings, we meet with leaders from throughout the state, learn how they are dealing with the transportation challenges they face, and how we can be a more effective organization."

-Michael Reeves, President, Ports-to-Plains Corridor

"Transportation is one of those issues that is often overlooked, unfortunately. TEX-21 recognizes that effective transportation leads to improved economic development and quality access to education, healthcare, and other important resources."

-Rodney Ellis, Texas Senate

"It has been a pleasure to serve as a member of the TEX-21 Legislative Transportation Caucus. It is reassuring to know that there is a group out there protecting the best interests of all Texas Communities with regard to transportation."

-Ray Allen, Texas House of Representatives

"Transportation issues continue to be at the forefront on all levels of government and improvements are constantly being sought. TEX-21 is a proven transportation resource for the state of Texas and the constituents of Senate District 30. Their efforts to prioritize local, regional, and statewide transportation needs greatly benefit the citizens of the great state of Texas."

-Craig Estes, Texas Senate

"In today's challenging economy, transportation and the needs of our individual communities must become a top priority for policy makers. TEX-21, and our participation in this very important organization, allows the City of Forest Hill to plan for the future transportation needs of southeast Tarrant County, particularly along U.S. Highway 287. It's a great opportunity for our voice to be heard."

-Jo Pirtle, Councilmember, City of Forest Hill

"TEX-21 continues to be a great resource for the country. Their efforts to make local, regional, and statewide transportation at the forefront are a terrific value to our citizens."



TEX-21

**Transportation EXcellence
for the 21st Century**

"We think that the coalition is going about its goals in a logical and industrious manner, and we are delighted with the leadership... TEX-21's efforts will benefit the entire state."

-Lubbock Avalanche-Journal

"TEX-21 members realize that a collaborative effort on the part of all regions is the best approach to finding solutions to the state's infrastructure shortcomings, and that one region cannot prosper satisfactorily without transportation needs being met in other regions. This bigger picture approach is fresh and it holds promise of being successful in making a case to the state legislature and Congress that more money is greatly needed for Texas roads and highways."

-Houston Chronicle

"Thus, economic development is at stake, public safety is at risk and properly managed growth hangs in the balance. That's why it's good to see the TEX-21 group taking a serious, sophisticated, informed, and organized approach to improving transportation funding in Texas."

-El Paso Times

"Lt. Gov Rick Perry already has signed on, calling a news conference last week in Austin to announce that transportation, along with education, will be his top two issues in the upcoming legislative session. The several transportation solutions he outlined mirror those endorsed by TEX-21."

-San Antonio Express-News

"The recommendations from TEX-21 are solidly researched, meticulously prepared, and desperately needed throughout the state."


-El Paso Times

"What makes TEX-21 unusual is its commitment to presenting transportation as a statewide issue rather than pitting region against region for specific projects."

-Fort Worth Star-Telegram

"TEX-21 has been an important ally and an instrumental force for improving our transportation infrastructure and addressing innovative infrastructure alternatives, such as road bonds, toll roads, streamlining the design and engineering process, and pavement warranties to protect the taxpayers' investments."

-Rick Perry, Texas Governor




TEX-21

2208 Routh Street
Dallas, TX 75201

214.750.0123 ph
214.750.0442 fax

www.tex21.net



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TEX-21 Transportation Legislative Caucus

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TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
Carron Robison
TEXAS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE
Dennis Christiansen

BRANDON CREIGHTON
CRAIG ESTES
SYLVIA GARCIA
BOB HALL
KELLY HANCOCK
JUAN HINOJOSA
DON HUFFINES
BRYAN HUGHES

ALMA ALLEN
ROBERTO ALONZO
CAROL ALVARADO
DOC ANDERSON
RODNEY ANDERSON
DIANA AREVALO
TRENT ASHBY
CECIL BELL
DWAYNE BOHAC
DENNIS BONNEN
CINDY BURKETT
ANGIE CHEN BUTTON
GARNET COLEMAN
NICOLE COLLIER
DONNIE CONDIT[^]
BYRON COOK
YVONNE DAVIS
JOSEPH DESHOTEL
CHARLOTTE DOUGLAS^{*}
GARY ELKINS
JESSICA FARRAR
DAN FLYNN
CHARLIE GEREN
HELEN GIDDINGS
MARY GONZALEZ

SENATE MEMBERS

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EDDIE LUCIO JR.
JOSE MENENDEZ
JANE NELSON
JOSE RODRIGUEZ
BILL SAMPLE^{*}
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VAN TAYLOR
CARLOS URESTI
KIRK WATSON
ROYCE WEST
JOHN WHITMIRE
JUDITH ZAFFIRINI

HOUSE MEMBERS

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RYAN GUILLEN
ROLAND GUTIERREZ
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COLE HEFNER
DAVID HILLMAN^{*}
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CELIA ISRAEL
PHIL KING
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ARMANDO MARTINEZ
RICK MILLER
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TOM OLIVERSON
CHRIS PADDIE

DADE PHELAN
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RICHARD RAYMOND
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SENFRONIA THOMPSON
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JASON VILLALBA
HUBERT VO
ARMANDO WALLE
JAMES WHITE
JOHN WRAY
BILL ZEDLER

Last Updated: 1.4.18

*Indicates Arkansas Member
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TEX-21 Congressional Caucus, 115th Congress

SENATORIAL CHAIR

JOHN CORNYN

CONGRESSIONAL CO-CHAIRS

MICHAEL C. BURGESS

EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

JOHN CULBERSON

PETE SESSIONS

CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS

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KEVIN BRADY
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SHEILA JACKSON LEE

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MARC VEASEY
RANDY WEBER
ROGER WILLIAMS
FILEMON VELA

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TEX-21 Corridor Task Forces in 2018

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Overall Goal

The members of the TEX-21 Corridor Task Forces will pursue policies and infrastructure improvements along the Corridors that will better enable the safe, fast, and efficient movement of goods to and along the Corridors, thereby enhancing ongoing efforts to attract and retain world-class corporate residents to this growing region. By fostering and encouraging an informed and energized effort at the federal and state levels focused on the importance and potential of these Corridors, the Corridors will be positioned to better provide for the mobility needs for the citizens of the state of Texas.

Mission

IH-35

The members of the TEX-21 IH-35 Corridor Task Force will pursue policies and infrastructure improvements along the Corridor that will better enable the safe, fast, and efficient movement of goods to and along the Corridor, thereby enhancing ongoing efforts to attract and retain world-class corporate residents to this growing region. TEX-21 will identify ways by which the IH-35 corridor will not only attract further funding but have increased national visibility and mobilize representatives from the cities, counties, businesses and organizations along this corridor to speak with one voice about issues facing IH-35 including but not limited to the possible repeal of NAFTA.

IH-30

Due to IH-30's lack of continuous service roads, an accident can prohibit the free movement of traffic along the corridor. The TEX-21 IH-30 Corridor Task Force will bring together key stakeholders along the entire IH-30 Corridor in Texas and Arkansas tasked with the creation of a focus on reinvigorating and greatly enhancing the commerce of transportation along one of the most vibrant and fastest-growing transportation Corridors in the country. With one in three vehicles traveling down IH-30 being a semi-truck (TxDOT) it is vital to encourage an informed and energized effort at the federal and state levels to better provide for the mobility needs of the region's corporate and residential citizens.

US 287

US 287 is the only highway in Texas running from Beaumont-Port Arthur all the way to Canada. At the southern end of US 287, the Port of Beaumont is the number one strategic military port in the world. The US 287 corridor is also a critical evacuation route for Texas residents during hurricanes. The goal of the US 287 Corridor Task Force is to obtain interstate status. Which will position its members to attract further funding and available resources at the federal and state levels. By encouraging proactive efforts at the federal and state levels, TEX-21 US-287 Corridor Task Force will promote the importance and potential opportunities available within the US-287 Corridor. As a result of these energized efforts, US-287 Corridor will be suited to better provide for the mobility needs of the region's military, corporate, and residential constituents.

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 CANTON Robinson
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TEX-21 Corridor Task Forces in 2018

Overall Goal

The members of the TEX-21 Corridor Task Forces will pursue policies and infrastructure improvements along the Corridors that will better enable the safe, fast, and efficient movement of goods to and along the Corridors, thereby enhancing ongoing efforts to attract and retain world-class corporate residents to this growing region. By fostering and encouraging an informed and energized effort at the federal and state levels focused on the importance and potential of these Corridors, the Corridors will be positioned to better provide for the mobility needs for the citizens of the state of Texas.

Mission

US 75/69

Through a coordinated effort of all stakeholders, the Task Force will identify and maximize available transportation assets and attract available resources at the federal and state levels for the improvement of U.S. 75/69. The TEX-21 U.S. 75/69 Corridor Task Force will seek to raise the status of U.S. Highway 75/69 to a Congressionally Designated High Priority Corridor.

Outer Loop

The regional outer loop, first proposed in 1957, is one of the important large-scale projects to be developed in the DFW Metroplex. Two sections of the regional outer loop are currently being developed: Loop 9 (authorized as CDA in 83rd Session) and frontage roads east of US 74 in Collin County have been constructed. The current initiative is to work with key stakeholders to develop the regional outer loop with a key focus on alignment, corridor preservation and stakeholder engagement and education. Benefits of the outer loop would include it being a reliever route for US 75, IH-35E, and other major trade and traffic corridors in the DFW Metroplex, and alternative freight corridor bypassing downtown Dallas and the highly congested center of the DFW Metroplex, and it connecting IH-45 and IH-35E in the south, creating a means to have US 75/69 designated as a true interstate highway.

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HISTORY & ACHIEVEMENTS

Transportation EXcellence for the 21st Century (TEX-21) was founded over eighteen years ago, as a result of the Transportation Summit hosted by the City of Irving. Summit attendees repeatedly lamented that "transportation is such a critical issue; we need to meet more than once a year." This concept became TEX-21. We are a non-profit organization made up of cities, counties, economic development corporations and private business that met on a monthly basis in various locations around the state in order to educate ourselves on diverse infrastructure needs and their cost, at the same time educating others on policy issues that needed change. In 1999, when TEX-21 began, we had five successful legislative points.

The first issue that TEX-21 undertook was transportation funding. In the past, each individual community or area of the state would fight to get funding for their specific project. The problem was that the funding was incredibly limited, so they were fighting over a "sliver from a very small pie."

TEX-21 adopted the theory that, "a rising tide raises all ships." The communities that banded together under TEX-21 worked to increase the size of the "pie" itself. At that time the transportation budget in Texas was only \$4 billion per biennium. Through various efforts, TEX-21 achieved their goal of raising awareness of the importance of mobility to individuals within communities throughout the state. They also educated them on how much tax revenue was raised, where it came from, and where the dollars raised were spent. In 2001, TEX-21 promoted the Mobility Fund Initiative and it passed. In 2003, TEX-21 passed ten Legislative Initiatives.

Of course, transportation funding continued to be a major imperative for TEX-21. We developed numerous tools adopted by the legislature that added additional dollars to the TxDOT budget. On the federal level, Texas has always been a donor state. We send more gas tax dollars to Washington, so TEX-21 worked with Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison to get a guaranteed percentage return to all states and allowing the remaining percentage to be used by states that do not generate enough gas tax dollars to maintain the interstate system. We also supported exemption from gas taxes for transit entities, a common sense initiative, because it was one taxing entity paying another taxing entity.

Through this process, several other initiatives were adopted. From the inception of TEX-21, one of the top priorities was to end diversions from Fund VI, which is the transportation funding account. The major diversion, besides the constitutional education funding portion (25% of the gas tax), was Department of Public Safety funding. We realized the need to end that diversion and instead fund DPS through the general fund. We protected taxpayers by leading an initiative requiring that before any type of tax increase was passed by the Legislature, all diversions from the transportation fund must be ended. Since the creation of TEX-21, there has not been a single tax increase. Our initiative is not solely responsible, however it did play a large role, as it seemed reasonable to most legislators and was heard repeatedly when the subject of a gas tax increase or indexing the gas tax came up.

One initiative that the municipal members brought forward and was adopted by the full membership early on was to reduce the municipal responsibility for utility relocation costs. This initiative was successful, and was renewed once again in later years.

Another TEX-21 objective was to streamline legislative processes, and over the years TEX-21 has generated ideas for several streamlined processes that have been adopted into practice. For example, it was TEX-21's initiative to streamline and simplify vehicle registrations, which has now been successfully implemented.

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TEX-21 has long advocated a multi-year reauthorization of the Federal Transportation Bill and Airport Bill (and others) so that the states would have long term funding continuity instead of passing a continuing resolution fix or a short term bill. This is critical because most projects take more than a year to plan, design and build. It is impossible to authorize a project if you are unsure that funding will be available the next year to complete the design process or the construction. We also accomplished modifications in each reauthorization bill, streamlining the processes to build a road and eliminating some of the many "silos" created which had unnecessarily specific federal requirements for their use.

TEX-21 began coalitions along various corridors in Texas. For example, a task force on IH-30 that led directly to an official TxDOT Corridor Study, successfully accomplishing our goal. We currently maintain several Corridor Task Forces.

TEX-21 also pushed the State to use their bonding capacity authorized by the voters to the full extent possible instead of leaving the dollars unspent in years that projects were needed and other funding was not available. This was also accepted by TxDOT.

Toll road authorities in Texas operate under different rules for each entity. TEX-21 worked toward equality across all toll entities so all Texans would be treated fairly by these authorities. While not every aspect is alike, several of these differences were adjusted across the authorities. We also supported a universal toll system that allowed drivers to go from one area of the state to another and through the airports using only one toll tag.

We supported a successful initiative that if toll roads were to be built, the tolls should remain in the area they were generated, not used to build projects in other areas of the State. We fought unrealistic tenets of a public-private partnership which would not allow other roads to be built parallel or crossing a toll road that might reduce the return on investment to the toll authority, and successfully got a temporary moratorium on toll roads that gave ultimate granting authority to the Legislature.

TEX-21 also supported additional security and efficiency at the border, decreasing the illicit drug trafficking and human traffickers across the border.

TEX-21 has always supported commuter rail in Texas. We worked hard to ensure the cities that had been members of DART for many years finally received the rail service they were promised. This included Irving, Carrollton and Rowlett, and today they all have successful commuter rail systems.

We also supported expanding the rail division within TxDOT to more than one person, because multi-modal systems are essential for mobility, you cannot simply cover the state in concrete. TxDOT increased from one person to three, a marked improvement. We also supported the creation of the Rail Relocation and Improvement Fund in hopes of eliminating at grade rail crossings. The fund was created but unfortunately it was not funded.

TEX-21 was the first group to discuss high speed rail, with a goal to bring high speed rail to Texas. Our vision in the beginning was called the Texas T-Bone, which would be a line running from Houston to San Antonio, then north to DFW. We felt it would be the cheapest route that would cover the major cities because it eliminated the need for two independent lines running essentially parallel, Houston to DFW and San Antonio to DFW. We also were the first group to speak to the Japanese, French, and German Rail Companies about coming to Texas. At least one of those entities is planning to build high speed rail in Texas currently.

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We began our research on the expansion of the Panama Canal long before we began making the annual TEX-21 Mission to Panama in 2009. TEX-21 realized that the expansion of the Panama Canal could jeopardize the usefulness of Texas gulf ports because the major shipping companies would be using ships with a wider body and deeper draft. At the time, Texas ports could not accommodate the vast sizes of these new vessels.

We brought the research to the Texas Legislature and it was given a subcommittee hearing, but until recently, nothing moved forward. However this year, Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick realized through TEX-21's efforts that Texas is a Maritime State, and that billions of dollars in trade passes through these ports annually. He also understood that no one along the Gulf had prepared for the new ships, meaning Texas could be the first. Texas has a huge advantage over the West coast ports because it is a right to work state, eliminating the possibility of our gulf ports having the numerous labor problems that West Coast ports have historically been plagued with. The delays at West Coast ports can cost a big box store \$1.5 billion a day.

The Lieutenant Governor created the Senate Select Committee on Ports to study the sea and inland ports to determine what would need to be done to keep them competitive. Kudos to Governor Patrick for having the vision to establish the committee and to TEX-21 for continuing to present the information until someone took notice.

Join TEX-21 today, and be on the front lines of "better mobility through better policy"!

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Dennis Christiansen

City of Forney

ATTN: City Manager Wendle Medford

101 Main Street E.

Forney, Texas 75216

RE: FYE 2019 TEX-21 MEMBERSHIP DUES STATEMENT, PERSUANT TO TEX-21 BYLAWS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Annual Dues</u>	<u>Membership</u>
April 27 2018	13,956	\$2,500	Annual Membership Dues for FYE 2019 (October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019)
2019 Annual			
Membership Fees:		\$2,500	

**Official due date is October 1st, but many members prefer to prepay from current budget*

***Population number is based upon 2010 decennial census*

Please Remit to: **TEX-21**

Attn: Nan Wheat, Business Manager

2208 Routh Street

Dallas, TX 75201

Payable Upon Receipt