THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Texas Department of Transportation

Request for Information

New, Low-Carbon Emitting Freight Transportation Facilities

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TxDOT is seeking information regarding emerging technologies that can:

- Move freight more efficiently
- Relieve congestion
- Achieve low carbon emissions
- Become financially feasible

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Request for Information:

- Request for Information published in *Texas Register* December 13, 2009
- Responses due March 13, 2009

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We want to know:

- What is the state of technology development
- Are any applications showing promise
- What could make freight move more efficiently

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We want to know:

- What could move freight in a more environmentally friendly manner
- Are any approaches close to being financially feasible
- What is needed to make the best ideas implementable

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Congestion:

- Congestion worsening in the metro areas and major highways
- Texas population growth and concentration
- Growing truck traffic increasingly damaging to highway system

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Congestion:

- Texas ports are expanding
- Expansion of the Panama Canal
- Air quality problems
- Increased energy demands

TxDOT wants to be a leader in solving the problems

- Reduce congestion
- Enhance safety
- Improve air quality
- Expand economic opportunity
- Increase the value of our transportation assets

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TxDOT Research Program

- Project 9-1528 “Safe Freight Shuttle: An Alternative Container Transport System”
  - Innovative system for moving fully loaded freight containers

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TxDOT Research Program

- Project 0-5827 “Alternatives Analysis for Initial and Future TxDOT Deployment of a Dual Mode, Automated Transportation System”
  - Dual mode guideways are roads that could supply power and guidance for vehicles

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TxDOT Research Program

- Project 0-5974 “Estimating Texas Motor Vehicle Operating Costs”
  - Has identified companies working on emission-free freight vehicles

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TxDOT is looking to the future:

- New solutions for short and mid-haul freight movements
- Concepts may include coordination with Texas ports
- How to connect to other major cities in Texas
- Use of renewable energy sources
- Use of state right of way possible
- Possible emergency response, evacuation and military transport applications
- Consideration of a pilot project

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Information requested:

- Concept including engineering ideas
- Explain how TxDOT could participate in implementation
- Quantify efficiency increases
- Legal authority for implementation

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Information requested:

- Sources of financing (public or private)
- Conceptual business model
- Ownership and operation
- Conceptual costs and potential revenues
- Development ideas
- Potential air quality benefits

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Next steps:

- Submissions due March 13, 2009
- TxDOT review
- Determine feasibility and benefits of ideas
- Further discussion with proposers
- Pilot project consideration

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Next steps:

- Development of purpose and need statement
- Look for existing state right of way possibilities
- Explore Rail Relocation Fund possibilities

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Next steps:

- How to facilitate use of state right of way
- Possible Request for Proposals
- Legal considerations
- Development as state rail facility
- Execute a comprehensive development agreement

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Comprehensive Development Agreement

- Two step process
- Request for Qualifications
- Request for Detailed Proposals
- Stipends possible
- Selection of Best Value Proposal

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Comprehensive Development Agreement

- Could be for Master Planning
- Facility Implementation Plan
- Facility Concession Agreement
- Close of Finance

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Comprehensive Development Agreement

- Could be competitive development procurement
- Refined project scope
- Technical specifications
- Evaluation criteria
- Financial information

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All submissions are subject to the

Public Information Act

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Questions?

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