



Regional Mobility Authority

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We don't want to become the next Austin

AUSTIN BUSINESS JOURNAL

If you asked most business executives if they loved the oozing, slo-mo challenge of a 15 mile commute at 7 MPH, you'd likely hear a resounding "Hell No." or "Are you off your medication?"



Welcome to Hell.

If you asked most business executives if they loved the oozing, slo-mo challenge of a 15 mile commute at 7 MPH, you'd likely hear a resounding "Hell No." or "Are you off your medication?" Most didn't locate in Austin to spend hours in traffic, far from Austin's creative core, natural beauty and rock solid funk that made coming here so appealing in the first place. They want to be in central Austin - the Cool Zone - where all the bike shops, new hotels, boutiques, parks, trails, highly touted restaurants, coffee shops, hip bars and renowned clubs are.

Fortunately, there's MetCenter, for those folks who want to be in the center of things and view commuting as a shameful waste. Who want to work close to where they play: in central Austin, where all the cool stuff is. If you want to work in the cool zone, pull off the freeway, get out of your car, stand tall and call Zydeco Development at 512.479.7850 or visit www.metcenter.com.



Work at MetCenter and avoid Hell altogether.

Problem Statement:

Mobility in Brazos County is becoming
difficult and time consuming

Congestion and Travel Times on our existing roads are Increasing

Levels of Service are Decreasing

Problem Statement:

What is an available tool that could help solve some transportation problems?

Regional Mobility Authority (RMA)

Quick Overview discussing...

1. What is an RMA?
2. How do we create an RMA?
3. Why consider an RMA?

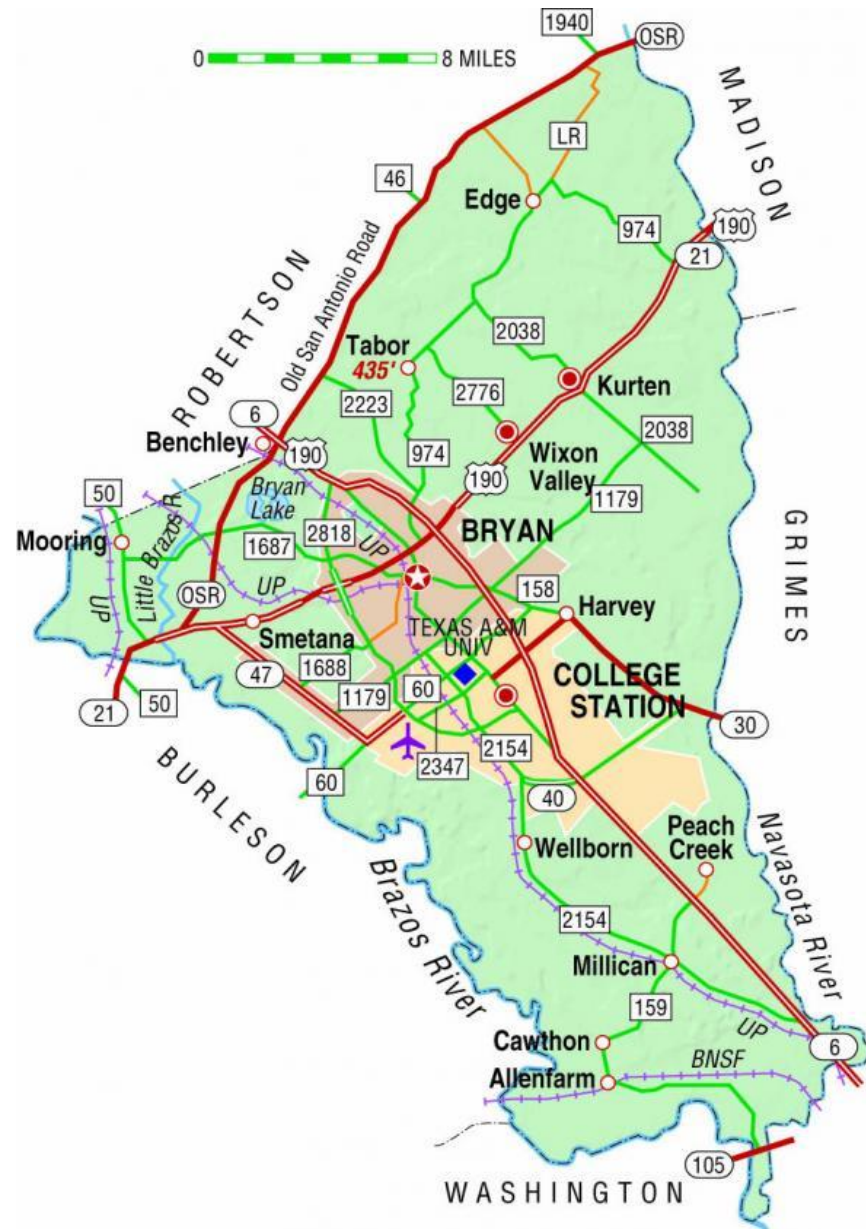
What is a Regional Mobility Authority? (RMA)

- County-wide Independent Local Government Agency (Political Subdivision)
- REGIONALLY focused transportation development/implementation entity
- Works with LOCAL TxDOT District... a “TxDOT District w/in a TxDOT District”

TxDOT Bryan District



Brazos County Regional Mobility Authority



What is a Regional Mobility Authority? (RMA)

- County-wide Independent Local Government Agency (Political Subdivision)
- REGIONALLY focused transportation development/implementation entity
- Works with LOCAL TxDOT District... a “TxDOT District w/in a TxDOT District
- NO taxing authority
- Has powers of Eminent Domain

What is a Regional Mobility Authority? (RMA)

- Not limited to only roadways
- Encourages LOCAL CONTROL of building and operating transportation facilities in the region
- Other counties can be added after creation
- Projects could extend into other adjacent counties

Types of RMA Projects

- Roadways
- Airport/Aviation Facilities
- Pedestrian/Bike Facilities
- Public Utility Facilities
- Transit Systems/Public Transportation
- Parking Facilities
- Toll Roadways
- Rail
- Bridges
- Ferries

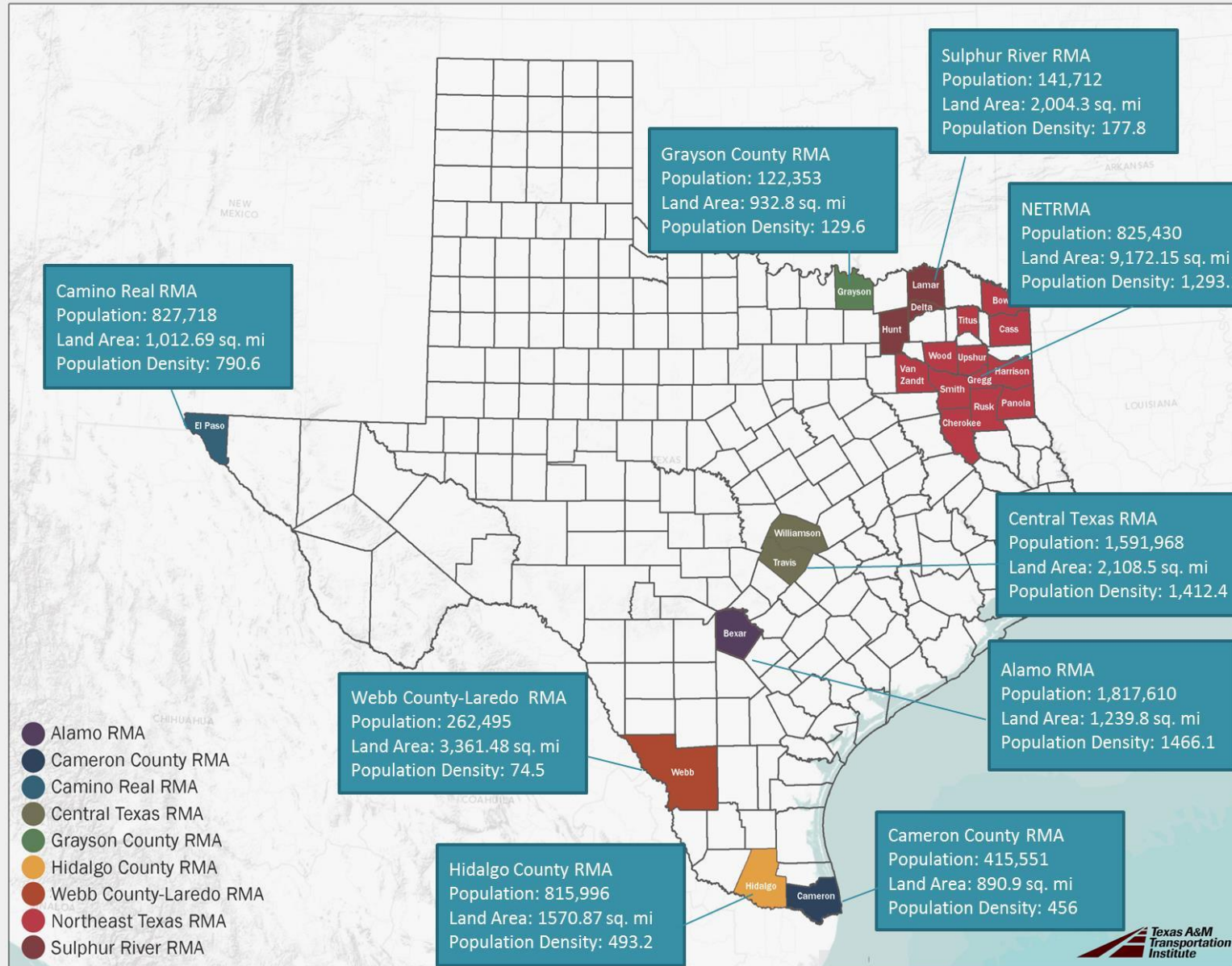
Courtesy of TTI: Regional Mobility Authorities in Texas: History and Current Status Final Report

RMA Funding Sources

- Receive Gifts
- Receive Grants
- Receive Money
- Receive Property
- Receive other contributions or things of value
- Issue Bonds
- Receive Loans
- Maintain a Revolving Fund

Courtesy of TTI: Regional Mobility Authorities in Texas: History and Current Status Final Report

Current RMAs



How is an RMA created?

STEP 1:

County Commissioner's court must authorize the creation of the RMA

STEP 2:

Petition for creating an RMA is prepared and submitted to TTC

- Benefit the region, and of the state for the “increase of their commerce and prosperity, and for the health, living conditions and public safety”
- Reviewed by TTC & TxDOT

How is an RMA created?

STEP 3:

After a successful review, the TTC will issue a minute order creating the RMA

STEP 4:

County accepts the TTC minute order and creates the RMA Board which is comprised of:

- Odd number of directors, appointed by Commissioner's Court
- Presiding officer, appointed by Governor

Why create an RMA?

- TxDOT assistance with RMA startup
- Obtaining a tool which can help solve some of our transportation problems
- Demonstrates to Brazos County is **Proactive, Organized, and Engaged** in solving Transportation issues.
- Local Control – Commissioner’s Court decides on how to comprise the board
- Not a taxing authority
- Allows for the opportunity to increase funding for construction
- Takes the Lead to complete a project
- Can complete many types of projects
- Works collaboratively

Summary

- Provides the community with another tool to utilize, which gives the region additional options which we do not currently have.
- Gives College Station/Bryan and Brazos County as a whole more visibility.
- Demonstrates to TxDOT and State we are **Proactive**, **Organized**, and **Engaged** and that we are doing all we can to solve our own problems.
- This topic has been openly discussed in public meetings, and obtained a tremendous amount of support.

Just remember at the end of the day...

We DON'T want to become the next Austin!

Discussion

Question and Comments