

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Thomas G. Wendorf, P.E., Director, Department of Public Works

**THROUGH:** Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

**COPIES:** Melissa Byrne Vossmer; Jason E. Cosby, P.E.; Manuela Gómez Shannon, P.E.;  
Douglas W. Yerkes, Ph.D., P.E.; File

**SUBJECT:** : Staff Briefing on the current status of Transportation Issues  
in San Antonio

**DATE:** December 18, 2003

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The purpose of this presentation is to provide City Council with a holistic overview of the current status of transportation in San Antonio; an in depth analysis of where our city is headed with the current rate of growth; major transportation partners; methods for managing roadway congestion and safety issues; and transportation funding issues.

There is no formal action requested.

**BACKGROUND**

Traffic congestion has steadily increased in San Antonio due to our city's growth rate. In 2000, San Antonio experienced the greatest percentage increase in congestion of the 75 largest U.S. cities. In 2001, San Antonio experienced the second highest percentage increase in the country. Given the current trend, San Antonio must continue to work together with agencies, committees and memberships to seek methods to solve congestion problems in a holistic manner. These partner agencies include the Alamo Area Council of Governments, Area Chambers of Commerce, Bexar County, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), San Antonio Mobility Coalition, Texas Department of Transportation, and VIA Metropolitan Transit Authority. It is the MPO that coordinates the efforts of the partner agencies. The MPO's mission is to provide comprehensive, coordinated and continuous ("3C") transportation planning for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods consistent with the region's overall economic, social and environmental goals. The above mentioned partners must work together in a concerted effort to benefit all users of the entire transportation network. This network is comprised of highways, primary and secondary arterials, collectors, and local residential streets.

Traditional transportation funding sources will be insufficient to solve San Antonio's existing and future transportation congestion problems. It is critical that all the area's transportation partners work together to identify new transportation funding tools and new methods of managing traffic throughout the community.

Staff's presentation will focus on the following:

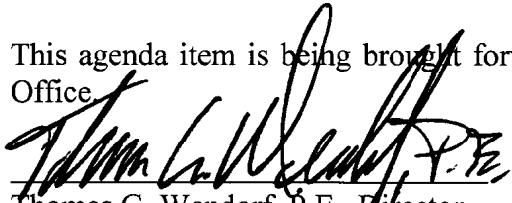
- Holistic plan for transportation network.
- Linkage between functionality, efficiency and effectiveness.
- Benefits to the multiple users of the transportation network.
- Maximize transportation resources.
- Importance of the local street network.
- Challenges:
  - Finance
  - Air Quality
  - Responsibilities
  - Technology
  - User Expectations

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

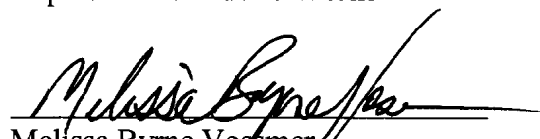
There are no direct costs associated with this Council briefing.

### **COORDINATION**

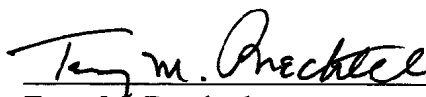
This agenda item is being brought forward at the request of the City Council and the Mayor's Office.

  
Thomas G. Wendorf, P.E., Director  
Department of Public Works

12/9/03

  
Melissa Byrne Vossmer  
Assistant City Manager

Approved:

  
Terry M. Brechtel  
City Manager