



## TEX-21 Congressional and Legislative Targets

The TEX-21 Legislative Program is a collection of the transportation priorities supported by TEX-21 as an organization regarding what the membership sees as the best possible solutions for the multi-modal transportation system of Texas. In an effort to create an even stronger, more effective platform of advocacy for TEX-21's priorities, it has been proposed that a list of "Legislative Targets" be created and adopted to emphasize a handful of priorities to really get a big push from the group at the Federal, State, and Local levels.

The entire Legislative Program will still be presented and supported each time TEX-21 meets with a member of Congress or the State Legislature as the full picture of TEX-21's supported positions, but the "Legislative Targets" will be a condensed list of priorities that can be succinctly covered on a pointed, more in-depth level.

### 2010 Congressional Targets

- Ensure that the multi-modal transportation system is adequately funded. It is essential that the federal government take the lead role in funding multi-modal transportation needs to accommodate the rising population and increased movement of people, freight and goods.
  - *Possible Revision* → Establish national transportation and energy policies and plans that provide clear goals and objectives, to include adequately funding a national multi-modal transportation system.
- Index federal motor fuel tax to federal CPI beginning in 2011.
- Pursue an increase of Texas' return of Federal Motor Fuels Tax to a minimum of 95%.
- Encourage improved multi-modal connectivity to transit systems and airport systems.
- Support initiatives to mitigate congestion through the development of high speed rail, defined as intercity passenger rail capable of speeds in excess of 200 mph.

- Support the expedited reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
- Pursue initiatives that would facilitate greater velocity and throughput of goods and passengers through and near ports.
- Increase the number of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) officers in Texas to increase security and efficiency.

### **2010 Legislative Targets**

- Pursue ending or reducing diversions, starting with funding DPS out of general revenues and not transportation revenues.
- Support indexing of the State Motor Fuels Tax to the State CPI, but not to exceed 5% annually.
- Support increasing the State Motor Fuels Tax to fund additional roads as an alternative to the construction of additional toll roads.
- Monitor legislation that empowers metropolitan regions to enact a local option transportation tax with voter approval.
- Support measures that supply sufficient funding to increase the capacity, efficiency, and accessibility to passenger rail service.
- Support regional rail initiatives.
- Support measures requiring the installation of interlock devices in the vehicles of those convicted of DWI/DUI on their first offence at the expense of those convicted
- Support the simplification of vehicle registration fees