

July 4, 2014

Texas Department of Transportation
Attn: Lt. Gen. Joe Weber, Executive Director
125 East 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Lt. Gen Weber,

As advocates for our respective constituencies in North Texas, we are writing this joint letter to express our strong opposition to the Texas Department of Transportation's ("TxDOT") current plans to convert the US75 Express/HOV Lanes from I-635 in Dallas to South of McDermott Road in Allen to managed toll lanes.

While we appreciate the efforts of TxDOT and the Regional Transportation Council to reduce and relieve congestion on this busy stretch of highway, we do not believe that the current plan put forward by TxDOT is appropriate for the residents whom we represent nor does it provide the safety, access and relief our County and its residents expect and demand. Each of us has heard directly from many of our constituents who oppose tolling the US75 Express/HOV lanes. There is a strong feeling from residents and workers in our communities that they are already paying too much for travel upon our roadways due to tolling of the three major highway corridors in Collin County. Furthermore, our constituents have expressed their concern and frustration that the current plan proposed has not been proceeded by adequate public input from residents, business owners and commuters who frequently use this stretch of highway.

To our knowledge, the first opportunity given to our constituents to express their views on this proposal was at the Public Meeting, hosted by TxDOT, held on Tuesday July 1, 2014 at the Grand Hall of the Richardson Civic Center. While we are disappointed that this meeting did not afford the individuals in attendance a specific opportunity to publicly comment on the proposal, those of us in attendance feel strongly that it was clear that there is strong opposition by residents and commuters in Collin County to this proposal.

In that regard, as the duly elected State Legislators and members of the Collin County Commissioners Court, we respectfully request that the above referenced plan be placed on permanent hold and that TxDOT and regional transportation authorities, in conjunction with our offices, continue to investigate and evaluate other strategies to relieve and reduce congestion on US75. In doing so, we are confident that a plan can be developed that will adequately and effectively address our current congestion problems without adding undue additional burden to the citizens, business owners and commuters of Collin County.

Sincerely,

CC: Texas Transportation Commission, RTC & NCTCOG

Mr. Stephen Endres
TXDOT Dallas District Office
4777 E. Highway 80, Mesquite, TX 75150

(SEEK APPROVAL FROM THE FOLLOWING)

Senator Ken Paxton

Representative Jodie Laubenberg

Representative Jeff Leach

Representative Scott Sanford

Representative Van Taylor

Representative Scott Turner

County Judge Keith Self

Commissioner Chris Hill

Commissioner Mark Reid

Commissioner Duncan Webb

Commissioner Cheryl Williams