

NTTA 2015 Legislative Priorities

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KEY MESSAGES

- **Continue to support enhanced toll enforcement remedies to aid the effective and equitable collection of tolls.** With the passage of S.B. 1792 in the 83rd legislative session and the Senate issuing an interim charge tasking the Senate Transportation Committee with studying the implementation progress of S.B. 1792, it will be important to review opportunities to improve the effective and equitable collection of tolls.
 - Revise NTTA statute to change “shall” to “may” regarding Justice of the Peace collection of tolls during the citation process (request of the JPs)
- **Seek opportunities to further enhance NTTA customer experience.** NTTA has implemented many initiatives to improve the customer experience. Finding legislative opportunities to provide customers a further enhanced experience is good for all parties.
 - Adjust ZipCash payment periods to allow for true monthly billing (21-25 days)
 - Create paperless, electronic-only billing notification option for ZipCash customers
 - Establish regional toll enforcement approach to include tolling services agreements
 - Protect customer and trip data from public disclosure
- **Support policies to protect NTTA employee safety.** In the 83rd legislative session, TxDOT vehicles were added to the list of emergency vehicles receiving protections under the "Move Over and Slow Down" law, which requires drivers to move over and away from the lane nearest an accident or construction site or slow to 20 miles below posted speeds when passing the site. NTTA inclusion in the "Move Over and Slow Down" law provides customers and staff with added safety protections while traveling on NTTA roads.
 - Add NTTA emergency vehicles to “Move Over and Slow Down” law; legislative effort led by Sen. Robert Nichols
- **Preserve existing authority for the effective operation of NTTA.** Protecting NTTA's current business tools is vital for day-to-day operations.
 - Align annual report due date with availability of audited financials – NTTA currently produces an annual summary in March of each year although our fully audited numbers for the previous year are not completed until June. This change would move the annual summary requirement to June to align with the completion of the audited financial report.
- **Partner with stakeholders throughout region and state to address transportation needs.** Where possible, it is important for NTTA to serve as a partner and ally in helping address the transportation needs of North Texas and throughout the state.
 - Formation of a Contiguous County Advisory Committee for contiguous counties with NTTA projects within their boundaries.