



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
JOE STRAUS
SPEAKER

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**SPEAKER JOE STRAUS ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENTS TO THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON TRANSPORTATION FUNDING**

AUSTIN---Today, Speaker Joe Straus (R-San Antonio) announced the formation of the House Select Committee on Transportation Funding to highlight the need for increased transparency and accountability in Texas transportation and to analyze current and future transportation funding requirements.

"Texans expect a fiscally sound transportation policy that meets the infrastructure and mobility challenges of our growing state," said Speaker Straus. "Our transportation agency must be accountable and efficient."

The House Select Committee on Transportation Funding will develop transportation proposals for the next legislative session. The committee's analysis will include a study of ways to increase accountability in transportation planning and a review of the effectiveness and efficiency of current funding options.

Speaker Straus has appointed Representative Larry Phillips (R-Sherman) and Representative Eddie Rodriguez (D-Austin) to serve as chair and vice chair respectively of the full committee. The House Select Committee on Transportation Funding will operate as a full committee and will also conduct business in two subcommittees.

Members of the full committee who will serve on the Subcommittee on Funding are Representative Drew Darby (R-San Angelo), chair of the subcommittee, Representatives Patricia Harless (R-Spring), Todd Hunter (R-Corpus Christi), Ruth McClendon (D-San Antonio), Joe Pickett (D-El Paso), Eddie Rodriguez (D-Austin) and Vicki Truitt (R-Keller).

Members of the full committee who will serve on the Subcommittee on Planning & Accountability are Representative Ryan Guillen (D-Rio Grande City), chair of the subcommittee, Representatives Roberto Alonzo (D-Dallas), Bill Callegari (R-Katy), Edmund Kuempel (R-Seguin), Armando "Mando" Martinez (D-Weslaco), Wayne Smith (R-Baytown) and Senfronia Thompson (D-Houston).

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PROCLAMATION

APPOINTMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

Pursuant to Rule 1, Section 16, House Rules, I, Joe Straus, Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, create the House Select Committee on Transportation Funding.

The committee shall study and make recommendations regarding transportation funding needs for the State of Texas. As part of its work, the committee shall:

- (1) focus on the need for increased transparency and accountability in all facets of transportation planning, development, and implementation;
- (2) review the current funding options being utilized to determine their effectiveness at meeting future funding demands;
- (3) analyze the amount of funding needed to meet future transportation infrastructure and maintenance needs;
- (4) assess the dollars per mile spent in construction (considering the state's varying geographic, environmental, and climate conditions) to determine whether our state is making efficient use of current transportation funding resources;
- (5) explore innovative approaches to encourage local government entities to participate in the development of critically needed transportation projects; and
- (6) consider the feasibility of using alternative funding options at the state and local levels to meet the expected growth and demand for transportation infrastructure, rail relocation, and high speed rail.

The committee shall have 15 members.

The following members are hereby appointed to the House Select Committee on Transportation Funding:

The Honorable Larry Phillips, Chair
The Honorable Eddie Rodriguez, Vice Chair
The Honorable Roberto Alonzo
The Honorable Bill Callegari
The Honorable Drew Darby
The Honorable Ryan Guillen
The Honorable Patricia Harless
The Honorable Todd Hunter
The Honorable Edmund Kuempel
The Honorable Armando "Mando" Martinez

The Honorable Ruth McClendon
The Honorable Joe Pickett
The Honorable Wayne Smith
The Honorable Senfronia Thompson
The Honorable Vicki Truitt

The committee shall conduct a portion of its business in two subcommittees as follows:

Subcommittee on Funding

The Honorable Drew Darby, Chair
The Honorable Patricia Harless
The Honorable Todd Hunter
The Honorable Ruth McClendon
The Honorable Joe Pickett
The Honorable Eddie Rodriguez
The Honorable Vicki Truitt

Subcommittee on Planning & Accountability

The Honorable Ryan Guillen, Chair
The Honorable Roberto Alonzo
The Honorable Bill Callegari
The Honorable Edmund Kuempel
The Honorable Armando "Mando" Martinez
The Honorable Wayne Smith
The Honorable Senfronia Thompson

The committee shall file a final report in the manner provided by Rule 4, Section 61, House Rules, not later than December 1, 2010.

The committee expires on the earlier of the date its final report is released or the date the 82nd Legislature convenes.

February 19, 2010



Joe Straus
Speaker of the House