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Alamo RMA announces change in Bandera Road Study Federal Highway Administration determination requires study to proceed as an Environmental Impact Statement

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(SAN ANTONIO) – April 11, 2007 – The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) announced today that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has provided notice that the Bandera Road Study, looking at possible long-term solutions for this corridor, will proceed as an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

In the summer of 2006, the Alamo RMA, in accordance with the process and procedure required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and the current Federal Highway Act, submitted a letter to FHWA requesting a determination if the Bandera Road project could proceed as an Environmental Assessment.

“With the direction from FHWA, the Alamo RMA will now begin the EIS process, a process which, according to national averages, can take between 48 to 60 months to complete,” said Terry M. Brechtel, Executive Director. “We will do all we can to proactively manage this process to bring relief as soon as possible to our community.”

“Until the EIS is complete, no long-term improvements can be started on Bandera Road, regardless of funding, and we can expect traffic to continue to increase in this corridor,” said Brechtel.

Work previously done on the study, including the input received at the Bandera Road public meeting held in July 2006, and the efforts being taken by the Bandera Road Community Working Group will be included in the documentation for the EIS and as part of the record of the project.

“By taking the time to undertake such a detailed study, we can do the in-depth examination our community wants us to do on this project,” said Robert Thompson, a member of the Alamo RMA Board of Directors. “While the traffic will continue to build on Bandera Road in the interim, we will proceed as quickly as we can with the EIS to ensure whatever the ultimate solution is, it is respectful of the cultural, civic and natural environment within our community.”

For more information, including a projected timeline for the EIS process, please visit www.AlamorMA.org/BanderaRd.html

About the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

Overseen by a seven-member Board of Directors, the Alamo RMA includes a professional staff and consultant team that are committed to finding ways to empower our local community to take charge of our transportation future. The purpose of the Alamo RMA is to provide Bexar County with opportunities to accelerate needed transportation projects - through the direction of a local board making local choices about local mobility needs - that enhance the quality of life and economic growth for all residents in our region

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