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January 19, 2010

The Honorable Robert E. Hebert
Judge, Fort Bend County
301 Jackson Street, Suite 719
Richmond, TX 77469

Re: Crabb River Road (FM2759/FM762) and
Grand Parkway Segment C (SH99: SH 288 to US 59)

Dear Judge Hebert:

The Grand Parkway Association has enjoyed a long relationship with Fort Bend County, and the County has financially supported the development of the Grand Parkway. The Association is excited about the opportunity to complete the bridges on Segment D and to receive environmental approval on Segment C. During the preparation of the Segment C environmental documentation, significant growth has occurred in the Crabb River Road corridor, in response to which Fort Bend County is pursuing a project to widen Crabb River Road. The Grand Parkway Association is very supportive of the need to improve mobility in the Crabb River Road corridor and recognize that the widening of Crabb River Road is necessary for mobility and safety.

The Grand Parkway Association, the Texas Department of Transportation and Fort Bend County worked together through the fall of 2009, in advance of the December public meeting regarding Crabb River Road. One issue that TxDOT required to be addressed was the relationship between the new proposed improvements along Crabb River Road and the prior plans prepared for the Grand Parkway Segment C. The county's consultant, IDC, developed some preliminary exhibits that showed how Segment C would be implemented, assuming the county's proposed Crabb River Road improvements are in place before construction of SH 99. The work by IDC shows that SH 99 can still be implemented; though with modifications to the design, changes in access, the relocation of some Crabb River Road pavement and increased cost.

During the Association's December Board meeting I reported on the proposed Crabb River Road project and the possible complications that it presents to the development of the Grand Parkway Segment C. In light of our long term relationship with the County and questions that had been asked of the Board by Fort Bend County citizens, the Board of Directors has asked that I communicate with the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court regarding these possible complications between proposed improvements to Crabb River Road and Grand Parkway Segment C.

Board of Directors
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Executive Director
David W. Gornet, P.E.

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The Grand Parkway Association's Board of Directors recognizes our primary goal is the effective development of the Grand Parkway to help meet regional mobility and safety needs. As the county continues to move forward with these projects, perhaps a workshop with the court might be appropriate to discuss the Grand Parkway and Crabb River Road relationship so that these projects can be implemented in a way that addresses the safety and mobility needs of the county in a cost effective manner.

I welcome the opportunity to meet with you, your staff or the full court to further discuss these important projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David W. Gornet". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

David W. Gornet, P.E.
Executive Director

DWG:dls