STATE OF TEXAS

8

COUNTY OF FORT BEND §

## RESOLUTION BY FORT BEND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SUPPORTING LEGISLATION THAT EXPEDITES ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FOR LOCALLYFUNDED PROJECTS

**WHEREAS**, the current process for securing environmental approval from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has become arduous and protracted with unnecessary and excessive delays, especially for locally-funded projects that serve a public purpose; and,

WHEREAS, this process does not address project priorities, meaningful deadlines or accountability by TxDOT's Environmental Affairs Division; and,

WHEREAS, the process has resulted in millions of dollars obligated by local entities that cannot be spent on projects which have uncertain development and construction deadlines, preventing local officials from meeting obligations to the constituents who are paying property taxes to fund improvements on State Highways; and,

WHEREAS, the current environmental approval process endangers the lives of the traveling public and significantly increases construction and right-of-way costs while projects wait for approval.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Fort Bend County supports the adoption of a process for expedited environmental review for any project that is wholly or partially funded by local tax dollars or bond proceeds.

Passed and approved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011.

Robert E. Hebert, County Judge

Grady Prestage, Commissioner, Precinct 2

ames Patterson, Commissioner, Precinct 4

(SEAL)

/MTR/Resolutions/04.08.11/File No.

Richard Morrison, Commissioner, Precinct 1

Andy Meyers, Commissioner, Precinct

ATTEST:

Dianne Wilson, County Clerk