

# **CAMINO REAL REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY BOARD RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority (CRRMA) worked cooperatively with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) on the development of the César Chávez Express Toll Lanes (Managed Lanes), and upon the opening of the Managed Lanes, which occurred on January 10, 2014, the CRRMA was tasked with the associated operation and maintenance activities; and

**WHEREAS**, development of the Managed Lanes was approved by the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (El Paso MPO), and the requirement for El Paso MPO approval of certain terms and conditions for the operation of the Managed Lanes was satisfied by action of the El Paso MPO Transportation Policy Board on April 1, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, the CRRMA, via Motion of December 9, 2015 and upon the request of State Representative Joe Pickett, directed staff to meet with TxDOT to discuss options available to remove tolls from the Managed Lanes, provided that any such removal resolved certain matters related to ongoing operations and maintenance, third-party approvals, and existing debt; and

**WHEREAS**, the 85th Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 312 which, in part, provides that on or after September 1, 2017, the CRRMA may convert the César Chávez project from tolled to non-tolled by removing tolls from the Managed Lanes, in which case TxDOT will assume all future operations and maintenance expenses and will transfer any CRRMA debt owed to TxDOT to the CRRMA's obligation for the Border West Expressway Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the CRRMA, via Board Resolution on June 6, 2017, directed the Executive Director to identify all steps necessary to remove tolls from the Managed Lanes and return to the CRRMA Board with a plan to implement such toll removal so that the removal may be effective on or after September 1, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Transportation Commission, via Minute Order No. 114979 on July 27, 2017 (Minute Order), authorized the TxDOT Executive Director to negotiate and enter into agreements and take all actions necessary to effectuate the conversion of the Managed Lanes to a nontolled project, subject to the CRRMA Board approving the conversion of the Managed Lanes to a nontolled project, and in accordance with and effective upon the completion of certain requirements contained in the Minute Order; and

**WHEREAS**, State Representative Joe Pickett and El Paso Mayor Dee Margo, via letter dated July 27, 2017, requested that the CRRMA suspend tolls immediately in order to minimize any public confusion over the timing on the removal of tolls, while continuing to prepare a plan to implement the permanent removal of tolls from the Managed Lanes, if approved by the CRRMA Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the CRRMA desires to direct staff to suspend the collection of tolls on the Managed Lanes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CAMINO REAL REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY:**

**THAT** the Executive Director is hereby directed to take all steps necessary to immediately suspend toll collection activities on the César Chávez Express Toll Lanes; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the Executive Director shall continue to pursue necessary collection and enforcement efforts against operators of vehicles who failed to pay the proper toll on the César Chávez Express Toll Lanes prior to the suspension of toll collection activities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the Executive Director shall continue to identify all steps necessary to remove tolls from the César Chávez Express Toll Lanes and return to the CRRMA Board with a plan to implement such toll removal so that the removal may be effective on or after September 1, 2017.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 9<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2017.**

**CAMINO REAL REGIONAL  
MOBILITY AUTHORITY**

**ATTEST:**

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Susan A. Melendez, Chair

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Joe R. Fernandez, Board Secretary

**APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:**

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Raymond L. Telles  
Executive Director