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COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
LAND & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, CBO
HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

District 28 TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 28, 2008

Mr. Amadeo Saenz
Executive Director
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

Dear Director Saenz:

I would like to thank the Texas Department of Transportation for allowing the citizens of Waller County the opportunity to voice their concerns and ask questions about the TTC-I69 Corridor on January 22nd at the KC Hall in Hempstead, Texas. However, it has been brought to my attention that a large number of citizens were not able to ask questions or attend the event due to problems with traffic and parking in the area that evening. By 7 p.m., the parking lot at the Knights of Columbus was at capacity and the shoulder along Mack Washington was packed all the way to FM-1488. Law enforcement eventually blocked off Mack Washington to prevent vehicles from approaching the KC Hall parking lot.

Many people looked for alternative areas to park, but the ground was too saturated from all the recent rains and the majority of them reluctantly left. For the few that managed to find parking, they walked at least a quarter of a mile to get to the KC Hall in very inclement weather. Therefore, I request that another town hall meeting be scheduled to accommodate those who were unable to attend on January 22nd. It is my understanding that TxDOT recently extended this courtesy to the citizens of Walker County by scheduling another town hall meeting for Walker County on January 30, 2008, due to overcrowding at the January 23rd town hall meeting. I feel that it is only proper to extend a similar opportunity to the citizens of Waller County.

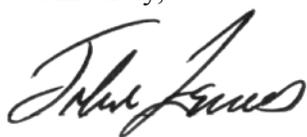
In addition, I have serious concerns about TxDOT holding two DEIS hearings in two separate locations on the same evening. After the January 22nd town hall meeting, it is clear that the KC Hall in Hempstead may not have sufficient capacity for this type of event. I request that the DEIS public hearing at the KC Hall be rescheduled to be held at a larger venue with better parking in Waller County on a different date than Feb. 27, 2008. By re-scheduling one of the DEIS hearings to a different date, it will accommodate Waller County citizens who can not make the hearing on Feb. 27th.



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I know the department is committed to hearing as much public input as possible, and I believe my requests will better enable you to hear the public's voice. I thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter for the citizens of Waller County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Zerwas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

John Zerwas, M.D.
State Representative, District 28

cc: Gary Trietsch, Houston District Engineer, TXDoT