



Dec. 26, 2024

Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority
3300 N IH-35, Suite 300
Austin, TX 78705

Dear CTRMA Board Members:

I write on behalf of the Eanes Independent School District (ISD) administration – one of the largest employers in the communities of West Lake Hills and Rollingwood west of the MoPac Expressway. Many of our 1,200 school district employees rely on accessing MoPac from Bee Cave Road or Loop 360. While we applaud a commitment to confronting the challenges of growth in the Austin Metro Area, the current design will significantly impact the lives of residents, employees and business owners using either artery. Our school district asks you to consider the following concerns:

1. Commuters using either Bee Cave Road or Loop 360 will lose access to northbound MoPac express lanes and, if the entrance near 15th street is eliminated, would be exposed to dangerous gridlock on the Cesar Chavez loop.
2. Current access to Bee Cave Road from southbound MoPac express lanes will be eliminated.
3. The exit to Cesar Chavez from the express lane and the entrance to regular northbound MoPac from Bee Cave Road will overlap, thus forcing drivers to crisscross in a bottleneck.
4. Exiting to Bee Cave Road from regular southbound MoPac lanes will require drivers to crisscross with drivers entering the express lane, thus creating a bottleneck.
5. Additionally expensive, imposing infrastructure changes in the 360 to Cesar Chavez corridor will provide no benefit to the communities directly impacted.

The Eanes ISD administration requests that portions of the expressway between Loop 360 and Cesar Chavez be redesigned. Impacts on commuters from the west or east must be taken into consideration. Specifically, we request that:

1. Drivers entering MoPac from Loop 360 should have access to the northbound express lane. TXDOT is spending over \$200 million dollars in the next 15 years to improve traffic flow along the 360 corridor. It would be counterproductive to execute on the proposed design at the 360/Mopac intersection, when this is the opportunity to improve all access points for the long term.
2. Bee Cave Road access from regular MoPac lanes must not require merging with express lane users.
3. Southbound commuters in the express lanes should still be able exit to Bee Cave Road rather than having to exit the express lanes south of Bee Cave Road, then travel down the frontage road and then use 360.
4. The current northbound entrance point to the express lanes near 15th Street should not be replaced with an exit. Express lane drivers can exit to regular lanes at Cesar Chavez and still easily access Enfield Road They do not need an additional exit near 15th Street.

These modifications would greatly alleviate risks and inconveniences to Eanes ISD staff and constituents, would improve rather than impede traffic flow from 360 to MoPac North, and would preserve the safety of drivers using Bee Cave Road, all of whom will bear the brunt of construction delays, imposing infrastructure changes and road noise.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jeff Arnett'.

Dr. Jeff Arnett
Superintendent of Schools
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