



# SAN ANTONIO MOBILITY COALITION, INC.

*Transportation Solutions for an Improved Quality of Life*

13526 George Rd, Suite 107 ♦ San Antonio, TX 78230 ♦ (210) 688-4407 ♦ (210) 688-4507 Fax

[www.samcoinc.org](http://www.samcoinc.org)

## 2011 State Legislative Priorities San Antonio Mobility Coalition, Inc. (SAMCo)

*As approved by the SAMCo Executive Committee on January 10, 2011*

**State Funding for Transportation** – Support the following revenue enhancement options to provide adequate and sustained funding for maintenance and expansion of our state's highway, transit, and rail infrastructure:

- Phase out Fund 6 (motor fuels tax) legislative diversions
- Increase and/or index the motor fuels tax
- Increase and/or index the vehicle registration fee
- Expand the sales tax base to gasoline sales
- Additional bonding (Proposition 12, 14, etc.)
- Expand/protect Texas Mobility Fund
- Transportation reinvestment zones
- Appropriate share of any additional revenue authorized by the Legislature

We also support a Constitutional Amendment to allow Texas voters to decide whether to increase revenue through an increase in gas tax or through other means, for transportation projects.

**Local Option Mobility Fee** – Support enabling legislation authorizing counties to implement a local option mobility fee or registration fee to generate new funding for transportation projects. A local referendum would be required to apply the local option fee based upon a specific implementation plan detailing projects, costs, and schedule. The additional revenue would be spent locally on projects benefitting the community and region.

**Transit Initiatives** - Support legislation to allow VIA to bond against future sales tax revenue in order to accelerate delivery of new projects. Also support legislation that will allow VIA to enhance service delivery and allow for the development of new transit initiatives. VIA will also seek to amend existing telecommunications fee legislation to allow VIA to pursue this as an additional revenue source. Also support legislation that will allow VIA to enhance service delivery and allow for the development of new transit initiatives, including the operation of transit vehicles on the shoulders of designated highways

**Freight Rail, Regional Passenger Rail, and Rail Relocation** – Encourage the Legislature and TxDOT to work together to identify an appropriate long-term revenue source to fund the Texas Rail Relocation & Improvement Fund. Rail infrastructure is a key component of the State's transportation system and voters approved creation of the Rail Relocation & Improvement Fund in November 2005.

**Regional Mobility Authorities** – Support extension of design-build CDA authority for regional mobility authorities (RMAs). Similar authority for HCTRA and NTTA does not expire, potentially placing the Alamo RMA at a disadvantage to its DFW and Houston counterparts. Support primacy for local public sector agencies such as regional mobility authorities seeking the right of first refusal for development of any toll projects within their region. This action ensures decisions are made at the local level and revenue is retained for the region.