

NORTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY

2019 ANNUAL REPORT





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NET RMA COUNTIES

<i>Bowie County</i>
<i>*Camp County</i>
<i>*Cass County</i>
<i>Cherokee County</i>
<i>Gregg County</i>
<i>Harrison County</i>
<i>Kaufman County</i>
<i>Panola County</i>
<i>Rusk County</i>
<i>Smith County</i>
<i>Titus County</i>
<i>Upshur County</i>
<i>Van Zandt County</i>
<i>Wood County</i>

**TxDOT made a motion on August 29, 2019 to authorize the addition of Cass and Camp counties to the NET RMA. Their board members were not sworn in until January 2020.*



BOARD CHAIR REMARKS

As we enter 2020 and begin a new decade, I am honored to continue to serve as the Chair of this outstanding group of Board of Directors. I am humbled to think of the impact that we will have on the generations to follow us in East Texas.

This past year gave us the opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments as we prepare for expansion and new challenges. We celebrated the one-year anniversary of the Lindale Relief Route (Segment 4). Toll 49 now provides over 30 miles of toll road from US 69, just north of Lindale, to South Tyler and Highway 110. The feasibility study for Segment 6 was completed and we have narrowed the options to three possible routes. We have heard from many area stakeholders and are continuing forward with the environmental impact study. We look forward to the additional access Segment 6 will provide to the east side of Tyler and the nearby communities.

As we continue to further mobility in the region, we are grateful for the work of our transportation partners, member counties, and other local and elected officials that work with the NET RMA. We provided over \$600K in grants to member counties for projects impacting transportation for the fourth year in a row. Titus County was awarded \$320K to widen and straighten FM 1735, and Upshur County received over \$280K to fund a

feasibility study as they work to prepare US Hwy 271 to handle upcoming traffic needs.

The NET RMA has prepared new billboards that will be advertising Toll 49 across East Texas in 2020, reminding motorists that they can save time on Toll 49.

As the NET RMA continues to blaze new paths, I am proud to do a small part to improve mobility here in East Texas. Let's continue to make regional mobility a priority in our communities.

Sincerely,

Linda Ryan Thomas



Linda Thomas
Chair



Mission: The NET RMA, in cooperation with its regional partners, will provide solutions to expedite transportation and mobility projects that will improve the quality of life, enhance the regional economy and assure efficient mobility in the North East Texas Region.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Gary Halbrooks
Vice Chair
Smith County



Dr. James Harris
Secretary
Harrison County



Robert Messer
Treasurer
Kaufman County



Cory Floyd
Bowie County



Andrea Williams-McCoy
Bowie County



Dan Droege
Gregg County



Keith Honey
Gregg County



Dave Spurrier
Gregg County



Robbie Shoults
Harrison County



Belinda Andrus
Panola County



John Cloutier
Rusk County



Barham Fulmer
Smith County



Mike Thomas
Smith County



Nate Preifert
Titus County



Larry Morse
Upshur County



Chet Clayton
Van Zandt County



Jason Ray
Wood County

A FOND FAREWELL

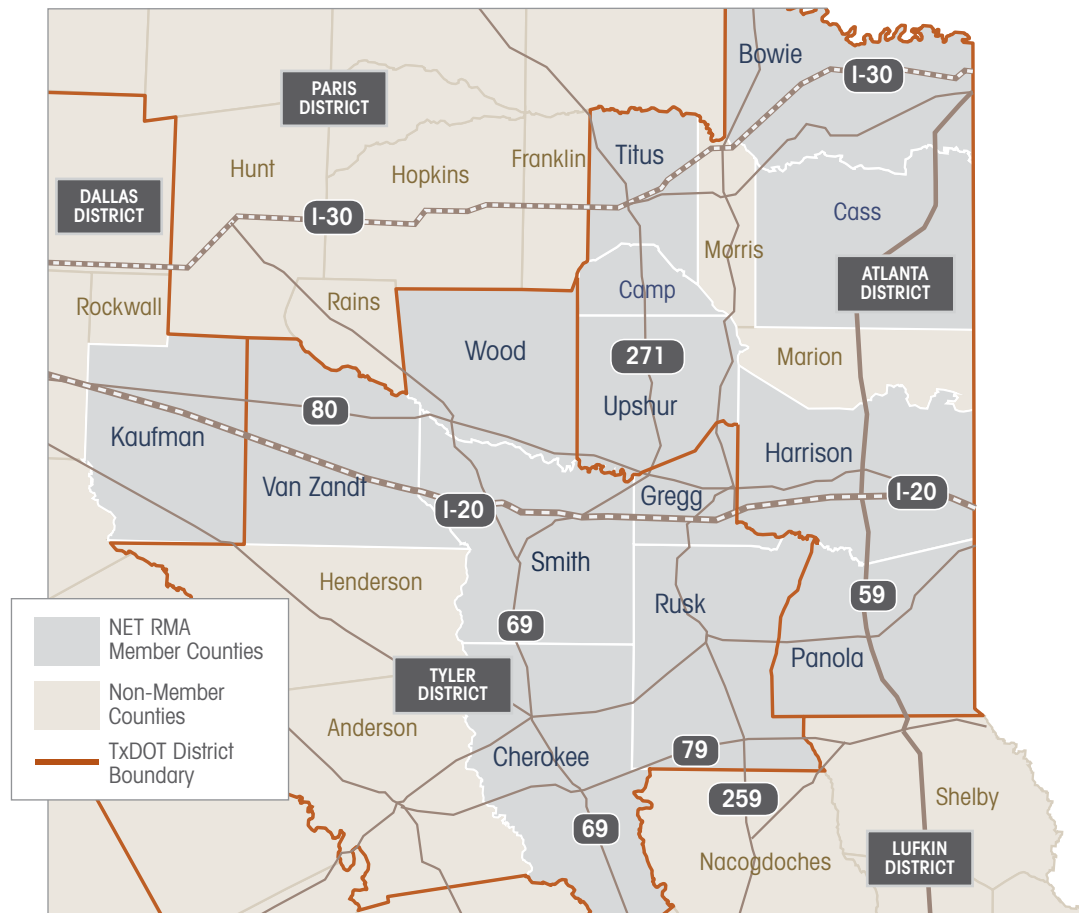
Tim McRae of Cherokee County and Bill McRae Ford Lincoln, is no longer on the board. He now serves as a city councilman in Jacksonville. The NET RMA is grateful for his passion and service to progressing mobility forward in East Texas.



Tim McRae
Cherokee County



MEMBER COUNTIES



Bowie County

Cherokee County

Panola County

Upshur County

Camp County

Gregg County

Rusk County

Van Zandt County

Cass County

Harrison County

Smith County

Wood County

Kaufman County

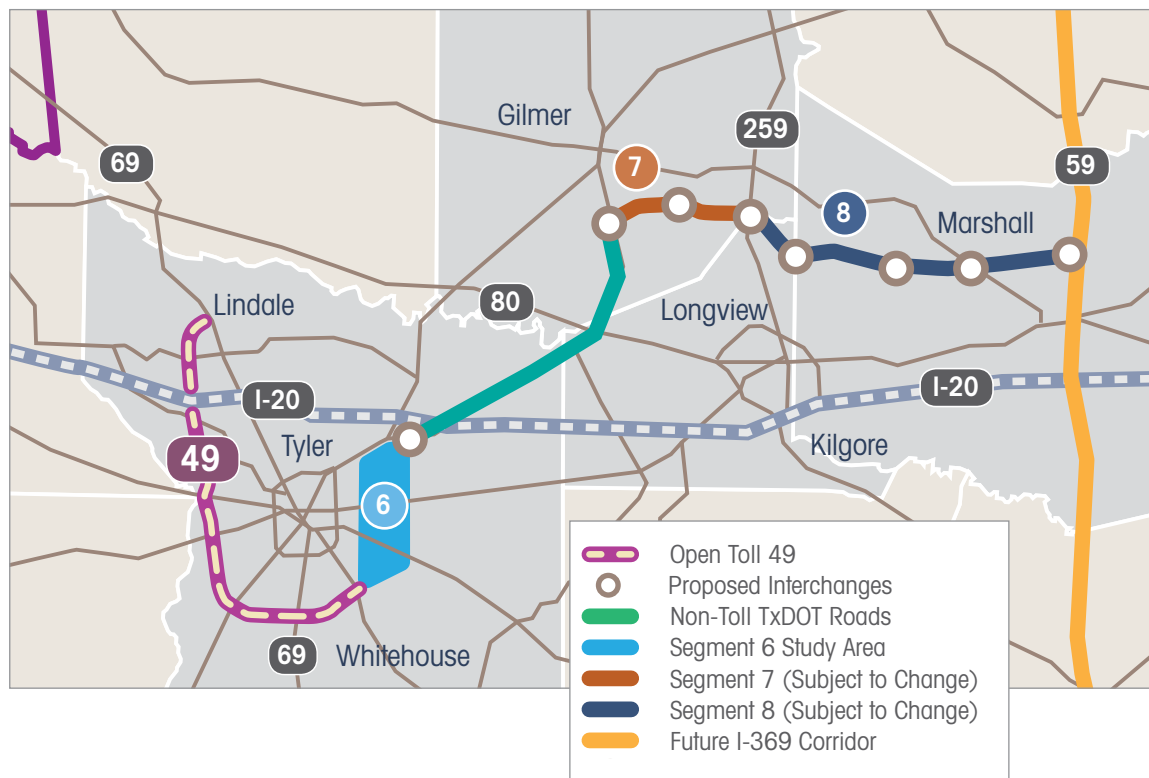
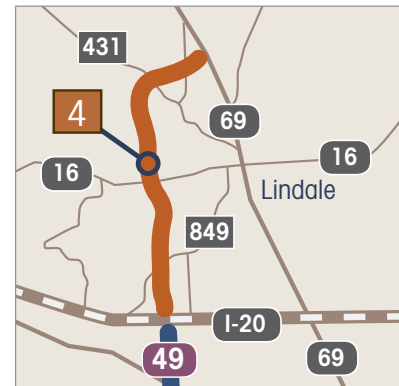
Titus County

NET RMA HOURGLASS MAP

PROJECT CREATION AND HISTORY

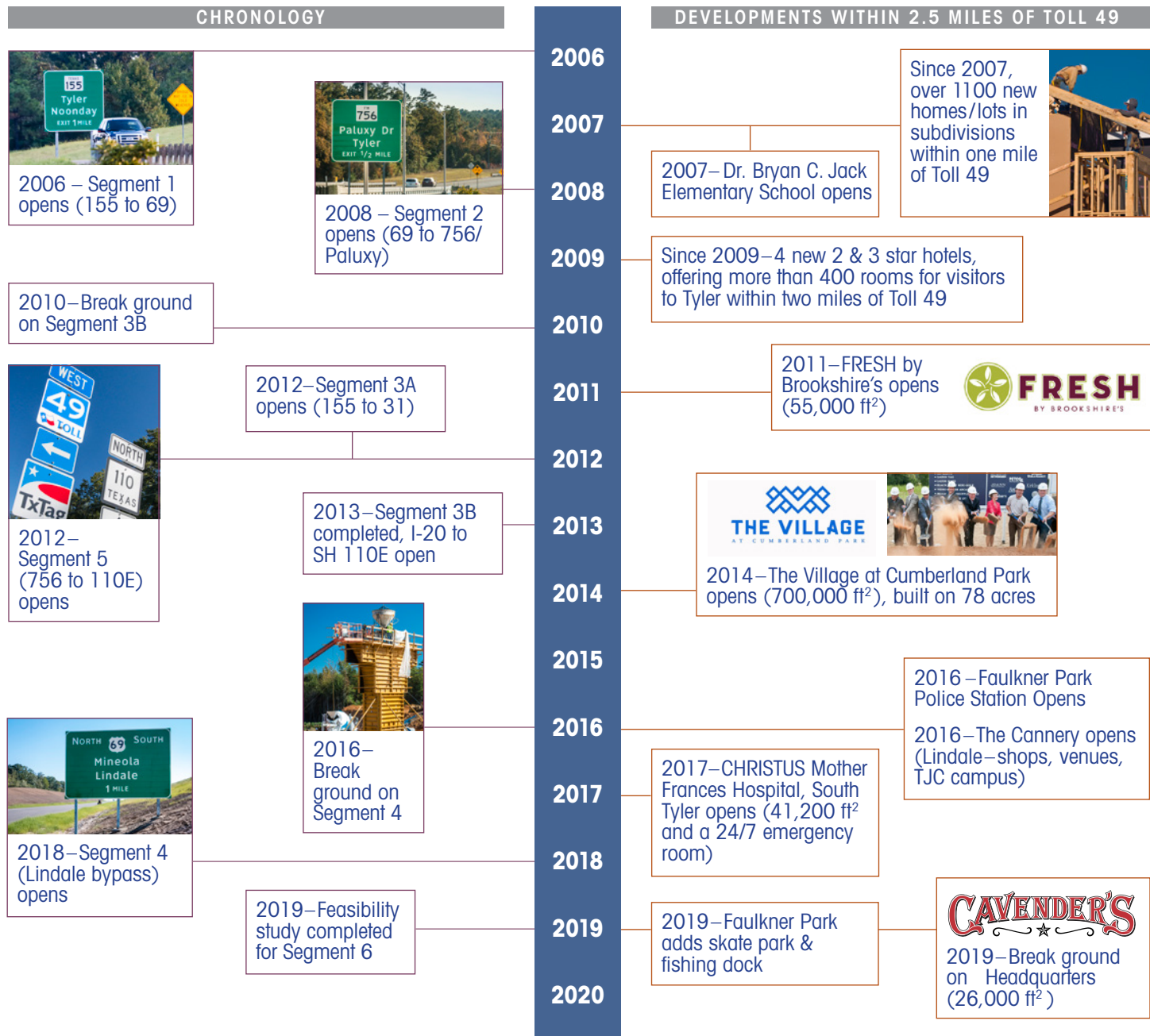
The East Texas Hourglass project is depicted below. The entire project is a proposed extension of the existing Toll 49 (pink below) that includes Segments 6, 7, and 8. Segments 1-6 total more than 46 miles in length, and Segments 7 and 8 would add more than 38 additional miles.

Segment 4 connecting Toll 49 at I-20 around Lindale to US 69 North was recently completed and has been open to traffic for more than a year.





TOLL 49 & LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE



TOLL 49 SPRING



TOLL 49 FALL



TOLL 49 MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENTS



The NET RMA maintenance team ensures that signs are secure and level.



A NET RMA maintenance team member uses a driver to install a new delineator.

TOLL 49 MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENTS



Regular mowing helps ensure that roadways stay clear of overgrown grass and other brush.

The NET RMA mows 4,236 acres each year, this is equivalent to mowing 8,472 home lots.

TOLL 49 MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENTS



DID YOU KNOW?



The maintenance team picks up over 21,900 cubic feet of debris each year. That would fill the back of over 300 pickup trucks.



The maintenance team installs and straightens over 150 signs each year!



The maintenance team removes an average of 3 dead animals every day from Toll 49, that is over 1,000 animals each year.



TOLL 49 CUSTOMER APPRECIATION

DISABLED VETERANS DISCOUNT PROGRAM

As a way to say thank you, the NET RMA offers toll charge exemptions for disabled veterans. There are currently 3,600 veterans taking advantage of this program. Any veteran, with a Disabled Veterans license plate, may call 833-762-



8655 once a toll bill is received. The NET RMA associates will gladly assist with registration. The NET RMA

is grateful for the service of the brave men and women who have served this country.

ROADSIDE RANGERS

NET RMA's Roadside Rangers drive Toll 49 every day to make sure there is no debris on the road and that the roads are staying clear. The Roadside Rangers stop to check on any cars that are pulled over on the side of the road. Services offered include changing a flat and offering motor oil or gasoline. The Roadside Rangers helped over 1,000 motorists in 2019. The NET RMA's Roadside Rangers also work to keep the road clean for East Texas motorists.



This Project Partially Funded and Supported by



North East Texas
Regional Mobility Authority

2019 PRIORITY PROJECTS



TITUS COUNTY

Project: Widening & Straightening FM 1735

Funding: Titus County

Monies allocated: \$320K

This project will improve safety on this well-traveled route that is used for residential commutes, Chapel Hill ISD K-12 attendance, and Northeast Texas Community College attendance. The residents here are very grateful for NET RMA's assistance, as the project has been in TxDOT plans since the early 2000's.



UPSHUR COUNTY

Project: US Hwy 271 Feasibility Study

Funding: Upshur County and TxDOT's rural transportation funding

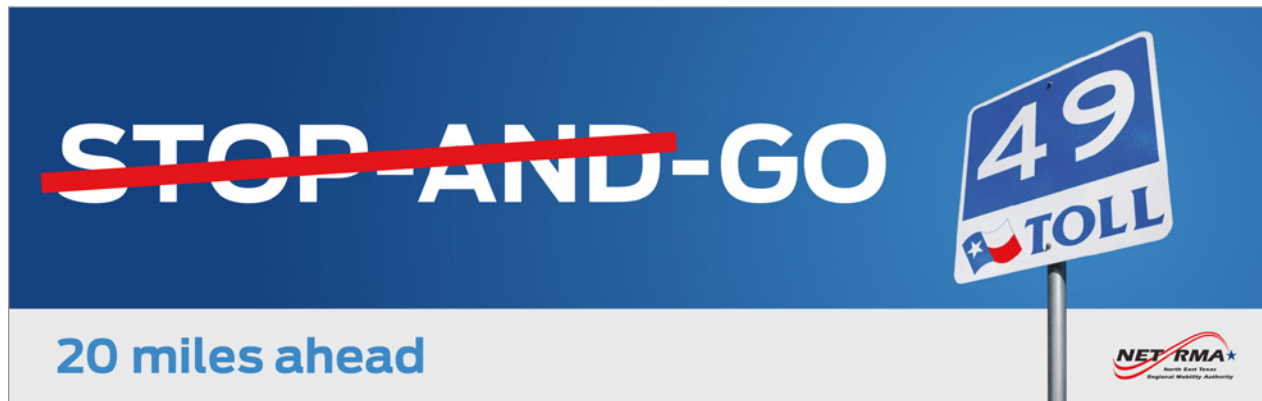
Monies allocated: \$280K+\$40K (previously awarded)

As Gilmer looks to the future, this study will allow the community to make a plan for reducing congestion and improving mobility for motorists on US Hwy 271. This stretch of highway, which includes two school zones, is used by a mix of pedestrians, school buses, and through-traffic that includes heavy trucks.

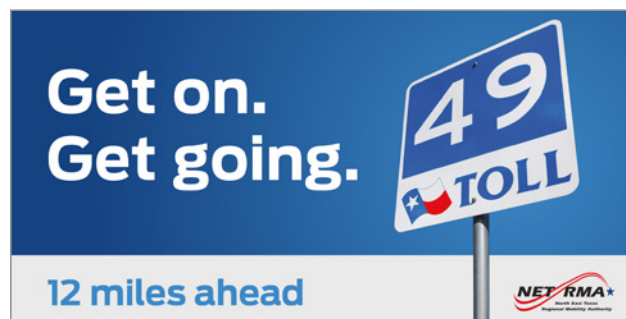
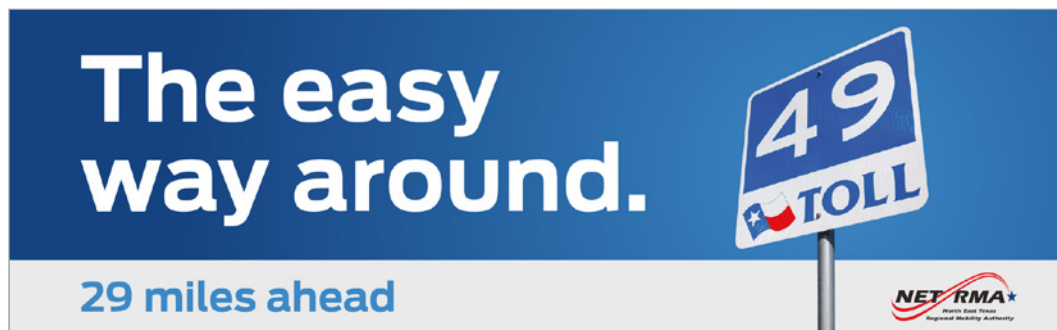


COMING SOON: 2020 NEW BILLBOARD ADVERTISING

In 2019 NET RMA worked with an advertising agency to produce new billboard designs. These new billboards will be seen across East Texas in 2020.



This billboard will be seen in Jacksonville as travelers are headed towards Tyler.



Canton and Van residents can take advantage of using Toll 49 for faster access to Lindale and Mineola or South Tyler and Whitehouse destinations.

TOLL 49 CUSTOMER SERVICE

MULTIPLE WAYS TO PAY

There are multiple ways to pay for toll charges. Everyone can find a convenient option to pay for charges from Toll 49.

Choose any tag-based provider in the state and benefit from discounted toll rates across Texas. Tag providers automatically deduct tolls from a prepaid account, so there's no need to worry about checking the mail for a bill.

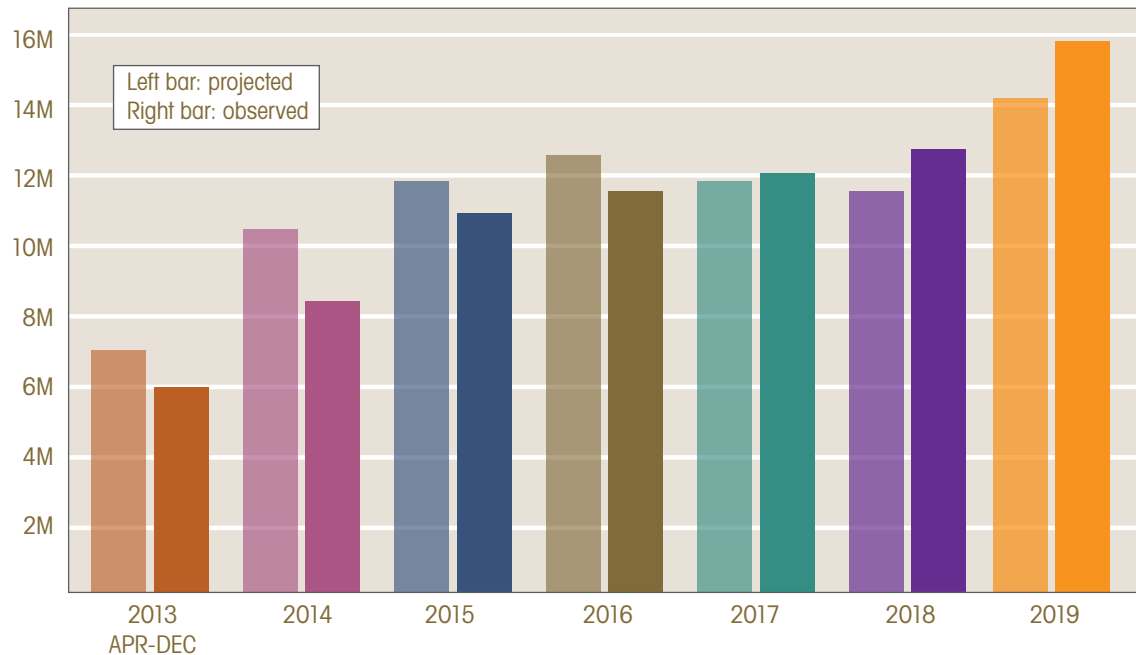
Without a toll tag, bills are delivered through the mail. There are options to pay the toll charges online, over the phone, or by check.



TOLL 49 TRANSACTIONS

TOLL 49 USAGE ANNUAL TRANSACTIONS IN MILLIONS

Total transactions for 2019 reached 14.1 million, exceeding 2018's total by 2.4 million.



*Transactions in 2017 and 2018 were depressed due to significant widening and overlay construction on Toll 49.



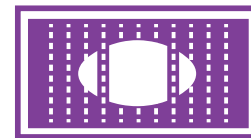
390x

A total of 1,626,000 cubic yards of embankment material was used on Toll 49, that would fill over 390 Olympic-sized swimming pools!



4x

More than 1100 acres of litter is removed from Toll 49 each year. That's enough to cover all four Disney theme parks in Orlando, Florida.



49x

240,000 linear feet of pavement striping have been placed on the road. That's enough to stripe 49 football fields!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS

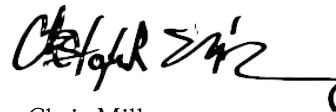
As Executive Director, it is my great honor to report that 2019 was a year of significant achievement for the NET RMA. Through the leadership and direction of the NET RMA Board of Directors, the hard work and dedication of the NET RMA staff, contractors and collaboration with the NET RMA's many partners throughout Northeast Texas, the following achievements were made:

- Increased daily transactions through greater focus on communication and outreach efforts on the benefits of Toll 49, 6.6 miles of Lindale Relief Route opened for traffic for more than a year, and completed road improvements.
- Completed the Feasibility Study for Segment 6.
- Launched Environmental Impact Studies for the potential future expansion of Toll 49 (Segment 6 and Segment 7).
- Worked cooperatively with the current member counties for the expansion of membership to include Camp and Cass Counties, bringing membership to 14 counties in Northeast Texas.
- Awarded \$600K in priority projects last year (total \$2M over 4 years).
- Continued strong commitment to operation and maintenance of Toll 49
 - » 94 lane miles maintained
 - » 219 tons of debris removed
- Assisted over 83 drivers on a monthly basis.
- Transitioned to new back office provider, Cofiroute.

- Greatly enhanced financial operations through hiring of new Financial Controller.
- Secured over 7 miles of abandoned rail for future transportation utilization.

I have enjoyed working hand-in-hand with our board members and County Judges during the last four years. I am excited about the role the NET RMA is playing in the region and the future of transportation mobility in East Texas. As the Agency works closely with its board members and County Judges, it will continue to focus on strategic, economic and practical mobility issues in the Region. I am proud of past accomplishments of the NET RMA and look forward to continuing to help the agency grow and achieve more in the years to come.

Sincerely,



Chris Miller
Executive Director, NET RMA 2019



Chris Miller
Executive Director

NET RMA FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Actual and Budgeted Revenues and Expenses for the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2019 and
Budgeted Revenues and Expenses for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2020.

	FY 2019 ADOPTED	FY 2019 ACTUAL	FY 2020 ADOPTED BUDGET
Revenue:			
Toll revenue - electronic	12,751,903	12,222,330	14,000,000
Toll revenue - video	5,465,101	7,545,820	7,640,000
County contributions	36,000	36,000	40,000
Other Income	0	64,188	0
Income on investments	250,000	110,849	0
Interest income	130,000	868,340	650,552
Total Revenues	18,633,004	20,847,527	22,330,552
Expenses:			
Administration	1,957,819	1,769,488	2,451,389
General engineering consultants	379,437	271,254	315,050
Project development support	600,000	308,021	1,417,817
Roadway maintenance	1,186,300	1,154,969	1,469,780
Toll processing/collection costs	1,014,316	3,469,476	3,049,200
Toll maintenance support	544,597	329,062	581,194
Toll operations support	305,227	555,101	454,801
Total Expenses	\$ 5,987,696	\$ 7,857,371	\$ 9,739,231
Net Before Financing Costs	\$ 12,645,308	\$ 12,990,156	\$ 12,591,321
Financing Costs			
Interest expense	7,194,841	7,691,525	7,664,751
Net After Financing Costs	\$ 5,450,467	\$ 5,298,631	\$ 4,926,570
Other Non-Cash Expenses			
Bad debt expense	0	2,981,628	0
Depreciation expense	6,550,000	10,130,540	10,523,788
Total Other Non-Cash Expenses	\$ 6,520,000	\$ 13,112,168	\$ 10,523,788
Change In Net Assets (Decrease)	\$ (1,099,533)	\$ (7,813,537)	\$ (5,597,218)





PAY BY MAIL
\$1.00 SERVICE FEE PER INVOICE





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Tyler, TX 75701

903.630.7894

NETRMA.org

