

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NET RMA Priority Project Grant to Enhance Safety and Traffic Flow at
George Richey & McCann Road Intersection in Longview**

(Longview, TX) – The North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority (NET RMA) is awarding one of its priority projects to Gregg County for safety enhancements at a busy intersection in one of the fastest growing areas of the City of Longview for business. The \$200,000 NET RMA grant along with additional funding will be used to install a traffic signal at the intersection of George Richey & McCann Roads.

The area near Longview North Business Park has seen tremendous growth in recent years with the additions and expansions of several businesses, including the Dollar General distribution center, Gap and Old Navy.

NET RMA has funded dozens of transportation projects in its 14-member counties by utilizing funds generated by revenues from Toll 49.

“Interconnectivity throughout our county and throughout this region is paramount for economic development. NET RMA is distributing funds back to those counties and those citizens who might be paying the toll to use Toll 49,” says Bill Stoudt, Gregg County Judge. “This program is an investment in the future of transportation.”

“When you look at the congestion in areas of the state like Houston, Dallas and Austin, it makes it attractive for companies considering East Texas communities for expansion,” says Wayne Mansfield, President and CEO of the Longview Economic Development Corporation. “The George Richey-McCann intersection is very important and traffic will only increase in the area. This improvement project will go a long way for having safe vehicular flow for citizens and businesses along that corridor.”

George Richey Road is a five-lane facility that carries over 9,000 vehicles per day and provides connections to destinations and principal regional arterials, between US 259 (Eastman Road) and SH 300 (Gilmer Road).

City and county officials say they’ve received complaints about safety and traffic flow at the George Richey-McCann intersection and the new traffic signal is warranted.

“The expense of doing different transportation projects throughout our region are becoming more and more expensive,” says Judge Bill Stoudt. “The support from NET RMA is critical to reduce the cost to all of us and we get more done.”

Engineering is underway and construction is expected to be complete by next summer.

About the North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority (NET RMA)

The NET RMA is an independent government agency created to accelerate the development of transportation projects in North East Texas. Our mission is to implement transportation solutions that will enhance the quality of life and the economic environment in our area. The NET RMA is governed by a 21-member board of directors that represent each of the member counties: Bowie, Kaufman, Cass, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Panola, Rusk, Smith, Titus, Upshur, Wood and Van Zandt. Texas RMAs were made possible through an initiative passed by the State Legislature in 2001. The NET RMA was established in October 2004. For more information visit, NETRMA.org.