

## **NET RMA Gets to Work on Loops 49, 571**

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MT. PLEASANT – Loops around Tyler and Henderson were key topics at this past week's board meeting of the North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority (NET RMA) in Mt. Pleasant. The board discussed the possibility of accelerating work on the Tyler area's Toll 49 Segment 3A so that the project might be included in the economic stimulus package being prepared by the Federal government. "We are keeping a close eye on the possibility of obtaining federal funding," said NET RMA Chairman Jeff Austin III. "The NET RMA wants to be in a position to act if the opportunity presents itself." Segment 3A, on the west side of Tyler, will run from SH 155 to I-20.

The board also authorized an interlocal agreement with Rusk County on a long-dormant project -- continued development of Loop 571 around Henderson. The most recent construction on the project was completed in 1996; the remaining portion, southwest of Henderson, has been untouched since then. Rusk County and the City of Henderson have worked to revive the project through the designation of funding and political support. The NET RMA is an independent government agency created to accelerate the development of transportation projects in North East Texas.