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**NET RMA BOARD DISCUSSES CONTINUED PROGRESS FOR DESIGN-BUILD AGREEMENT
FOR TOLL 49 SEGMENT 3B PROJECT AND BOARD RESIGNATIONS**

Mineola, Texas – January 26, 2010 – The North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority (NET RMA) Board of Directors met Tuesday for its Board Meeting at the Mineola City Hall in Mineola, Texas. Among the topics of discussion were the continued procurement for the Toll 49 Segment 3B project through a Design/Build Comprehensive Development Agreement (CDA) and the resignation of two board members, Jamal Moharer, Smith County and John Cloutier, Rusk County.

“The Toll 49 project is progressing with great momentum. We have four shortlisted development teams. We are providing them with information so they can develop pricing; we are on schedule and moving forward,” said NET RMA Project Director Everett Owen.

John Cloutier’s resignation was accepted by the board. He was the first Rusk County Board member of the NET RMA and a great contributor to the organization. John Cloutier was instrumental in representing the NET RMA for the Vehicle Miles Traveled study performed by the Texas Transportation Institute. Loop 571 was an additional accomplishment that John Cloutier embraced. He worked with Rusk County and assisted the city of Henderson to ensure the project kept its momentum. “John has been a great asset to the NET RMA and Rusk County and I’m proud of all of his accomplishments during his tenure,” said Chairman Jeff Austin, III.

Jamal Moharer, also resigned from his position on the board. Jamal has been instrumental in the development of the proposal to TxDOT for a multi-modal transportation center in Smith County. The facility will be a hub for rail, bus and taxi services among others. “Transportation is vital for our lives, without it we are at a stand-still. This is about connectivity,” Jamal Moharer said. He has worked with many local corporations and governmental agencies to gain their support for the facility in Smith County. He has received financial support for the project and has submitted a grant to TxDOT for funding so the facility can become a reality for Smith County. “Jamal’s dedication to transportation throughout all of East Texas has been unparalleled. We congratulate you on all of your efforts,” said Chairman Jeff Austin, III.

The NET RMA will hold its next board meeting in March, details will be posted at www.netrma.org.

About the NET RMA

The NET RMA is an independent government agency created to accelerate the development of transportation projects in northeast 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 board of directors that represent each of the member counties: Bowie, Cass, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Panola, Rusk, Smith, Titus, Upshur, Wood, and Van Zandt. Texas RMAs were made possible through an initiative passed by state legislature in 2001. The NET RMA was established in October 2004.

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