

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-063

A RESOLUTION REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF TEXAS STATE HIGHWAY 99 (SH99) (GRAND PARKWAY) SEGMENTS A, B, AND C IN GALVESTON AND BRAZORIA COUNTIES; AND PROVIDING THAT THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE FROM AND AFTER ITS PASSAGE AND ADOPTION.

WHEREAS, the City of Texas City (“City”) recognizes the important work Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) performs for the State of Texas including the advancement of transportation movements within Galveston County; and

WHEREAS, our region is subject to natural and man-made disasters that can lead – and have led – to mass evacuations, debilitating business disruptions, road closures, long-term transportation limitations, and fewer transportation options for everyone; and

WHEREAS, SH99, also known as the Grand Parkway, was first identified as a long-range, priority transportation investment in 1961 and specifically identified in Houston-Galveston area's first Regional Transportation Plan in 1989 and in all subsequent long-range plans; and was identified as a tolled facility in the 2025 Regional Transportation Plan approved in June 2005; and

WHEREAS, TxDOT and the counties of Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, and Montgomery entered into a Market Valuation Waiver Agreement in 2009 that defined the scope of the SH99, which was approved in 2008; and

WHEREAS, segments of SH99 north and south of IH 10, west of Houston, and east and west of IH 69, north of Houston, have been constructed and are operational and that these Grand Parkway segments are or have successfully paid for themselves through tolls, as would Segments B and A; and

WHEREAS, construction of the segment of SH 99 - Grand Parkway's Segment B - from I45 South to SH 288 AND Segment A – from I45 South to SH 146 are a) essential evacuation routes, b) critical corridors for citizens' daily use, c) a demonstrated means to reduce regional traffic congestion and d) will support on-going economic development across Galveston and Brazoria Counties; and

WHEREAS, Galveston County voters approved a bond issue in 2000 for use as Galveston County's share of the record of decision process made in November 2018 for construction of SH 99 segment B and A; and municipalities and counties, over the past 20 years, have committed and expended funds and resources toward the development of Segments A and B, under the assumption the TxDOT would continue to honor its commitments; and **WHEREAS**, TxDOT has defined Segments A, B, and C as well as completing the environmental determinations for Segment B; and

WHEREAS, progress on Segments A, B, and C of the Grand Parkway have stalled at the state level, and there have been conflicting and mixed messages from state officials from the Governor on down that have resulted in legal hold-ups, tentativeness, and confusion at all levels regarding the process to complete the Grand Parkway, thus keeping lives and livelihoods at risk and negatively affecting regional mobility and stifling commerce and economic development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF TEXAS CITY, TEXAS:

SECTION 1: The City Commission hereby requests TxDOT immediately begin the construction of Grand Parkway Segment B and fast-track the development and implementation of construction for Segment A through grandfathering and other appropriate actions that expedite the process, in accordance with state law and accepted practice, including, without limitation, ensuring no segments of the Grand Parkway are removed from the UTP.

SECTION 2: It is hereby found and determined that the meeting at which this resolution was passed was open to the public and that advance public notice of the time, place and purpose of said meeting was given as required by law.

SECTION 3: That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of July 2022.

Dedrick D. Johnson, Sr., Mayor
City of Texas City, Texas

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Rhomari D. Leigh
City Secretary

Kyle L. Dickson
City Attorney