

Manor Expressway Webcam Gives Public Around-the-Clock View of Construction Progress July 15, 2010



A unique, high definition construction camera is giving Central Texans and internet users worldwide the ability to watch construction of the Manor Expressway project in near real time. The portable remote control camera, which runs on solar power and communicates via a cellular data connection, is being used by the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority to document construction of the Manor Expressway interchange at US 183. As an added bonus, the Mobility Authority is making images from the camera available to the public via its project website at www.manorexpressway.com.

The camera system, developed by New Jersey-based [EarthCam](#), is capturing four high-definition images at different angles every 15 minutes. Each picture is then archived and made available on the

Manor Expressway website. Visitors can view the most recent pictures, monitor traffic conditions, or access thousands of archived pictures dating back to the beginning of the construction project. Visitors can adjust the pictures through an online tool that allows zooming and panning. For privacy reasons, the images available online are not high definition. There is also a panoramic function, which allows users to view the entire construction site in one wide-screen image. At the end of the project, the Mobility Authority will be able to produce a time-lapse video of the construction.

The tool also allows the Mobility Authority to watch live video from the camera using an internet-based remote control system. Engineers can zoom in to the monitor specific construction activities and are able to take specialized, high definition pictures of those archives as they occur. Each picture includes a date stamp, time stamp, and weather information.

“The Mobility Authority is excited to introduce the technology to Central Texas,” says Steve Pustelnyk, Director of Communications for the Mobility Authority. “Transparency is a priority for our agency, and this camera allows the public to watch out progress on the Manor Expressway any time, night or day.”

The Manor Expressway project is the largest roadway project currently under development in Central Texas. Construction began on the 6.2-mile project in March and is expected to cost in excess of \$600 million to complete. The portion of the project currently under construction is a flyover interchange at US 183. The \$59 million interchange project is being funded through the American Recovery and Investment Act. The project is employing more than 40 companies and 500 people. The Mobility Authority is in progress of acquiring a contractor the design and build the remainder of the 6.2-mile project. Construction on that portion of the project is expected to begin in 2011.

The Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority is a local, independent government agency created to improve the regional transportation system. Their mission is to implement innovative solutions that reduce congestion and create transportation choices that enhance quality of life and economic vitality. The Mobility Authority is the state's first Regional Mobility Authority, created in January 2003 to serve Travis and Williamson Counties. The Mobility Authority currently operates the 183A toll road in Williamson County and is currently working to extend the 183A project and construct the US 290 East (Manor Expressway) project.