



# Transportation Reinvestment Zones - Value Capture Tool

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#### Texas Regional Mobility Authorities – In General

- A regional mobility authority (RMA) is a political subdivision of the State of Texas. RMAs are intended to develop, operate and maintain *transportation projects* that assist in the improvement of the regional and statewide transportation systems.
- A transportation project is broadly defined and includes: highways/roadways (toll and non-toll), rail facilities, ferries and airports, pedestrian and bicycle paths, parking facilities/meters, intermodal hubs, international crossings and mass transit systems.



#### CRRMA – Brief History

- Created by the City of El Paso in 2007
- Board of Directors: Chair is appointed by Governor, remaining six Directors are appointed by City Council
- Jurisdictional boundary is the City of El Paso; however, CRRMA is authorized to operate into the County of El Paso, into the State of New Mexico and the Country of Mexico (e.g. international bridges)
- CRRMA is an unfunded agency; no taxing authority
- Each project must have funding identified by the sponsoring agency



#### CRRMA – Brief History

- Involved in over \$1 billion worth of major transportation projects since the CRRMA's creation in 2007
- Involved in various types of transportation projects to date, including: toll roads, international bridge tolling facilities, heavy highway, pedestrian/aesthetic improvements, bike share, major arterial construction, etc.
- Provided different roles in the various transportation projects pursued to date, including planning, financing, design, construction, operation and maintenance





## State Spur 601 (Inner Loop)



#### Pass-Through Tolling



- Inaugural CRRMA bond issuance of \$233,355,000
- First Texas bond issuance that was supported solely by Pass-Through Toll proceeds
- Innovative partnership that reduced project costs for an important regional, State and Federal priority (BRAC)

## 2013 El Paso County CMP



### Optional Vehicle Registration Fees

- Over \$400 Million in regional priorities identified by TxDOT, El Paso County and CRRMA
- County imposed a \$10 vehicle registration fee (VRF) that was pledged to the CRRMA
- VRF pledge was used by CRRMA for two bond issuances (\$72M & \$36M) to develop 10+ previously unfunded regional priorities



## **2013 El Paso County CMP**







### City Design and State Grant Funds







### City Design and State Grant Funds













# I-10 at Airway - Aesthetics





## SunCycle – El Paso Bike Share

















#### **Background**

Regional El Paso partners agreed to prioritize a slate of projects in the region, which were bundled together as the 2008 El Paso Comprehensive Mobility Plan (2008 CMP).

One project from the 2008 CMP was the I-10/Loop 375 Americas Interchange Project.

In order to develop the Americas Interchange, a <u>Transportation</u> <u>Reinvestment Zone</u> was implemented to provide a portion of the project funds needed.



- Over \$1 Billion in regional priorities identified by TxDOT, City of El Paso, MPO & CRRMA
- Plan included toll and non-toll roadways, bus rapid transit and pedestrian and aesthetic improvements
- Each plan partner agreed to manage various components from the plan





The City of El Paso committed to providing \$70 Million toward the development of the:

- I-10/LP375 Americas Interchange;
- FM659 Zaragoza Direct Connectors; and
- LP375 Transmountain NE Mainlane Widening.

The City agreed to implement one or more Transportation Reinvestment Zones to serve as the repayment source for debt to be taken out by the CRRMA for the completion of these projects.

# Transportation Reinvestment Zones



A Transportation Reinvestment Zone (TRZ) is an area identified by a City or County within which incremental increases in property or sales tax are captured for use, often to satisfy debt incurred for a transportation project.

- A project funded by a TRZ must be located within that TRZ.
- TRZ must be within the limits of the entity creating such TRZ.
- TRZ must be a contiguous zone.
- The incremental increase is often attributed to a new transportation project that gave rise to the TRZ.

# Transportation Reinvestment Zones



### **Simplified Example:**

- City receives \$100 in property taxes on a parcel in 2019, the year the TRZ is created (TRZ base year).
- City taxes assessed on the parcel in 2020 increase to \$110.
- City continues to receive the \$100 in tax revenue established in the base year, while the TRZ Fund receives the incremental value (additional \$10).
- Additional \$10 is used to pay for the debt associated with the transportation project that gave rise to the TRZ.







Four-level, fully directional interchange between I-10 and Loop 375 in far east El Paso

- 15 miles east of downtown El Paso, Texas
- Constructed in 3 phases
- Phase 1 was completed in 2013

Phase 1 included the construction of 3 direct connectors between Loop 375 and I-10

- Southbound Loop 375 to westbound I-10
- Northbound Loop 375 to westbound I-10
- Eastbound I-10 to Northbound Loop 375





- Americas Interchange Phase 1
   Project Cost: \$141,000,000
- <u>\$96M</u> American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA)
- \$15M Coordinated Border Infrastructure (CBI)
- \$30M Loan from the Texas State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) that was repaid with TRZ revenues assigned from City

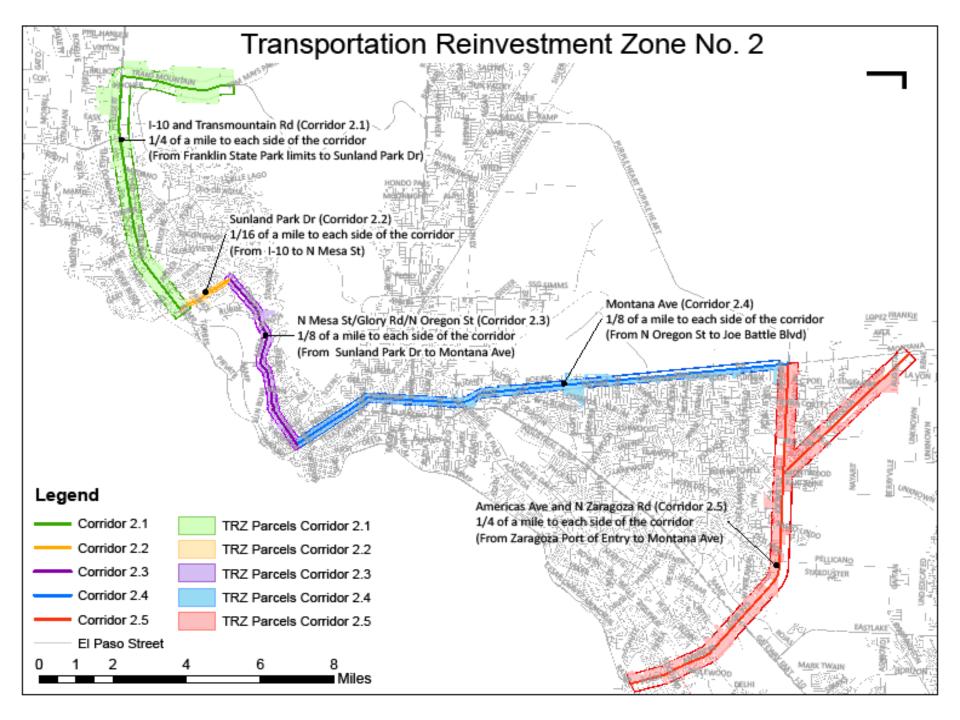


The City of El Paso agreed to create one or more TRZs to generate \$70 million (plus finance and interest costs) for three CMP projects. The City also agreed to assign such revenues to the CRRMA.

The CRRMA agreed to use the pledge of TRZ funds to issue debt, design/construct the projects, including the Americas Interchange.

The City originally created TRZ #1 for this purpose, but later replaced it with two separate TRZs:

- TRZ #1\* (2008) 3 Projects
- TRZ #2 (2010) 2 Projects (Americas Interchange & Zaragoza DCs)
- TRZ #3 (2010) 1 Project (Transmountain NE Mainlane Widening)





#### CRRMA's Use of TRZ No. 2 Increment

TRZ Revenues Assigned by the City to the CRRMA as

repayment source for a SIB loan

2010 SIB Loan \$30M loan to the CRRMA, as a Build

America Bond (BAB, Subsidy)

Interest Rate 4.95% (City General Fund Guarantee)

Loan Repayment Interest Only: 2011 – 2012

Payment Dates: 09/15, 2011 - 2040

BAB Subsidy 35% of each interest payment

City and CRRMA split BAB subsidy

City portion reduces debt

**CRRMA** portion is unrestricted



#### **TRZ Lessons Learned**

- Include City or County's financial team in the development of TRZ boundaries, not just engineers;
- Engage the appropriate consultants to develop projections that will drive the TRZ boundaries;
- Make sure public is educated on TRZs well in advance of any final vote (not a new tax);
- TRZ revenues are minimal in the early years debt should be structured accordingly (backstop may be required); and
- Be conservative with TRZ projections; since 2012, No. 2 has generated \$18M, while No. 3 has generated \$2.6M.



### Other TRZ Funded Projects from the 2008 CMP

#### **Zaragoza Direct Connectors**

- Provided partial funds for a TxDOT project
- \$20M SIB Loan to CRRMA
- TRZ No. 2

#### **Transmountain NE Mainlane Widening**

- Provided partial funds for a TxDOT Project (Aesthetics)
- \$6M SIB Loan
- TRZ No. 3

### **Questions?**



