



Mobility board backs Amtrak to DFW

By [MAGGIE SOUZA](#)

Thursday, August 21, 2008

TYLER — Catching a flight out of the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport might become a bit less of a hassle for East Texans who don't like to navigate the congested city highways.

The board of directors of the North East Texas Regional Mobility Authority officially threw its support behind the push to have Amtrak establish a stop at the CentrePort/DFW airport station.

**COMMENT ON THIS STORY**

The board on Wednesday adopted a resolution encouraging Amtrak to provide the rail service as part of its Texas Eagle line, which runs through Longview.

To make that possible, Amtrak would have to redirect the Texas Eagle onto the Trinity Rail Express line, which stops at the CentrePort station. From the station, rail passengers have direct access to the airport shuttles.

- **COMMENTING:**  
[Would you ride Amtrak to the DFW Airport?](#)

"I think this is a great visionary move," noted board Chairman Jeff Austin III, adding that it would help with Texas Eagle ridership.

Also during Wednesday's board meeting, directors approved a resolution asking for all entities engaged in development of multilane public roads to preserve corridors for future rail lines whenever possible.

"This is important as we look at new roads such as the possible (Interstate 69) hourglass (connecting corridor)," Austin said.

In other business, the board approved a proposal to change the county participation fee to \$2,000 per board member, starting next year. Gregg County, which has three board members, has been paying \$5,000 annually.

At the beginning of the meeting, which was held at the Tyler Junior College West Campus, the board welcomed its two newest members: Bill Runnels of Cass County and Ed Smith of Harrison County.

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