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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
January 14, 2009

## **Alamo RMA submits \$2.7 Billion stimulus request** *281 / 1604 Interchange could start construction this year*

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*Alamo RMA Press Releases are available at [www.AlamoRMA.org](http://www.AlamoRMA.org)*

**(SAN ANTONIO)** – January 14, 2009 – The Board of Directors of the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) approved the submission of a funding request for approximately \$2.7 Billion in federal assistance for safety and capacity projects in Bexar County.

“With the incoming administration making infrastructure investment a key priority to help our country recover from these tough economic times, there may never be another chance for this tremendous level of investment to help address our regional mobility,” said Dr. William Thornton, Chairman of the Alamo RMA Board of Directors. “These projects are long-term positive improvements for our community, which provide congestion relief and help provide relief to drivers today instead of waiting for years for other funding to become available.”

The Alamo RMA stimulus request includes funding to construct both safety improvements along US 281, north of Loop 1604; operational improvements in the Loop 1604 and State Highway 151 area as well as long-term congestion relief projects along the US 281 and Loop 1604 Corridors.

One of the key projects included on the list, which could be “shovel-ready” by the middle part of this year, is the environmentally cleared interchange of US 281 and Loop 1604.

“This approximately \$214 Million dollar project would provide the needed connection between these two busy roadways which often ranks as the worst spot for traffic accidents in our community,” said Jim Reed, chairman of the Alamo RMA planning committee. “This is a project which is needed today, and a project which can help spur additional jobs in our area through construction and improved access to this area.”

“Our goal is to secure federal funding to pay for the full costs of these projects,” said Henry Muñoz III, chairman of the Alamo RMA finance committee. “This is chance to address mobility needs for our region today, instead of having to apply band-aids as we have so often done in the past. This is the type of investment we are hopeful the Obama Administration will recognize as having the long-term impact necessary to help our economy recover.”

While the rules for the federal stimulus program are still being developed, the projects proposed by the Alamo RMA range from immediate implementation to up to four years for construction to start, and include long discussed and needed improvements for increased mobility in Bexar County.

The listing of all projects submitted by the Alamo RMA for consideration for the federal stimulus program can be downloaded from the Alamo RMA website, [www.AlamoRMA.org](http://www.AlamoRMA.org).

**About the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority**

Overseen by a seven-member Board of Directors, the Alamo RMA includes a professional staff and consultant team that are committed to finding ways to empower our local community to take charge of our transportation future. The purpose of the Alamo RMA is to provide Bexar County with opportunities to accelerate needed transportation projects - through the direction of a local board making local choices about local mobility needs - that enhance the quality of life and economic growth for all residents in our region.

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