

## Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor Shetter and members of the Burleson City Council

From: Aaron Russell, P.E., Public Works Director

Date: April 6, 2009

Subject: Resolution R-1150-09 supporting the closure of State Owned Rest Areas on IH35W known as Johnson County Northbound and Johnson County Southbound.

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### **Council Action Requested:**

Approve Resolution R-1150-09 supporting the closure of state owned rest areas on IH35W known as Johnson County Northbound and Johnson County Southbound.

### **Background Information:**

The City is currently pursuing the conceptual design of the alignment of CR711 and its bridge crossing over IH35W. This work is being done in advance of the Burleson Business Park development in order to accommodate a large potential user and to set the alignment of CR711 for the development of the Business Park Master Plan. On the east side of IH35W, the future alignment of CR711 will conflict with the existing rest area on northbound IH35W. Staff met with TXDOT regarding the possible need for closure of this rest area as well as the rest area to the north that serves southbound IH35W. TXDOT is currently pursuing the relocation of these rest areas farther to the south of Burleson and as a part of the relocation process has requested a resolution from the City supporting their removal. There are no specific plans or conflicts currently in the vicinity of the southbound rest area, but TXDOT has requested a resolution in support of its removal as well.

As the City of Burleson and other surrounding cities and communities have grown, these rest areas have become less necessary. Travelers may stop at businesses along IH35W with ease, which has reduced the use of the rest areas and over time they will become obsolete. TXDOT is currently planning new rest areas farther to the south that will serve more rural areas. Construction of these new rest areas is proposed within the

next 5 – 10 years. There is no immediate need to remove the rest areas, but TXDOT will keep this resolution on file for use when relocation becomes necessary.

Often, rest areas such as these become sites for suspicious or criminal activity. In fiscal year 2007-2008, the Burleson Police Department responded to 187 incidents at the northbound rest area and 264 incidents at the southbound rest area for a total of 451 incidents. Some of the incident responses were based on calls and some of the incident responses were officer initiated during their patrols.

**Board/Citizen Input:**

N/A

**Financial Considerations:**

There is no expenditure of municipal funds associated with this item.

**Attachments:**

1. Resolution R-1150-09
2. TxDOT Request for Resolution

**Staff Contact:**

Mandy Clark, Deputy City Engineer  
817-447-5400 ext. 292  
[mclark@BurlesonTx.com](mailto:mclark@BurlesonTx.com)

**RESOLUTION NO. R-1150-09**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Texas acquired and holds in its name two rest areas designated as Johnson County Northbound and Johnson County Southbound within the city limits of Burleson, Texas as shown on Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

**WHEREAS**, the urbanization of Burleson and adjacent communities has reduced the necessity for the rest areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Burleson is coordinating with TXDOT for future construction of improvements in the area of Rest Area Johnson County Northbound; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Burleson has studied the public need for said rest areas and has determined that they are no longer in the City's best interest.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURLESON, TEXAS:**

1. That the City Council of the City of Burleson, Texas supports the removal of the rest areas known as Johnson County Northbound and Johnson County Southbound by the Texas Department of Transportation; and
2. That the City Council recognizes that the removal will not occur immediately, but will occur as projects occur in the area or replacement rest areas are constructed south along IH35W; and
3. The City Manager is directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the District Engineer of the Texas Department of Transportation.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.**

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

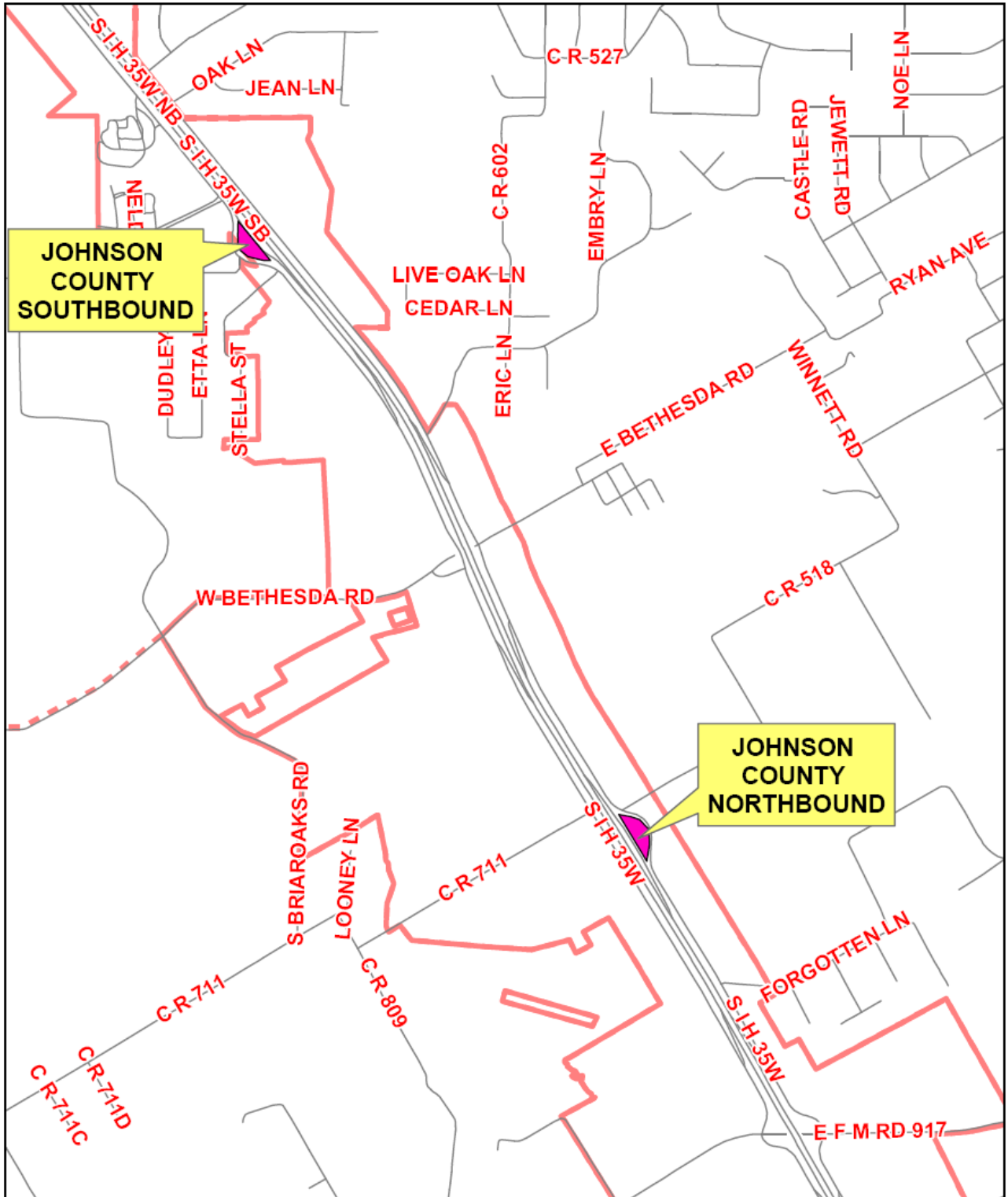
**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Secretary

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

EXHIBIT A



REST AREA CLOSURE LOCATIONS

April 6, 2009  
1F - 5



## ***Texas Department of Transportation***

Johnson County Area Office  
2200 FM 2280 – Cleburne, Tx. 76031  
(817) 202-2900

April 1, 2009

David Wynn  
Deputy City Manager  
City of Burleson  
141 West Renfro  
Burleson, Tx. 76028-4261

Subject: IH35W Rest Area

Dear My Wynn,

Our office concurs with the City of Burleson's proposed conceptual design for CR 711 crossing IH35W that would utilize a portion of the existing rest area. After the construction of a larger modern rest area in Hill County, in the near future, the Texas Department of Transportation would be amenable to working with the Federal Highway Administration on the closure of the existing facility in Burleson with the concurrence by resolution of the local officials.

If you have any questions on this matter give me a call at 817-202-2900

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Bowers, P.E." in a cursive style.

Randy Bowers, P.E.  
Johnson County Assistant Area Engineer

RLB/jea