

AGENDA ITEM VI - ACTION

February 25, 2009

Resolution for SH 289 Designation as “Preston Trail Highway”

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The proposed naming of State Highway 289 as the “Preston Trail Highway”

Pottsboro Chamber President Rod Leird and Pottsboro Mayor Frank Budra are seeking the Sherman-Denison Metropolitan Planning Organization’s support of legislation that would name State Highway 289, which extends through Dallas, as “Preston Trail Highway”. They have targeted the cities and chambers along the State Highway 289 path (Frisco, Prosper, Celina, Gunter, Dorchester, Southmayd, Sherman, Denison, Grayson County Airport Board and Pottsboro) to support this legislation.

A brief history: **Preston Trail**, later known as **Old Preston Road**, was the north Texas part of an ancient Indian trail extending from Mexico through central Texas all the way to what is now St. Louis, Missouri and even on to Ohio where the Shawnee Indians lived. The primary portion of the Preston Trail started at Cedar Springs (now part of downtown Dallas) and led north all the way through Grayson County where it crossed the Red River. Preston Trail became part of the first official Texas military road in 1839. The route followed the earlier Shawnee Trail cattle trail. Today Preston Road or SH 289 has been paved near, but not on the original Preston Trail and as such is named after it, but the original Preston Trail crossed almost no streams from the Red River to Cedar Springs. It followed a geographic spine of topography that still exists today where rainwater draining to the west flows into the Elm Fork of the Trinity and rainwater draining to the east flows into the East Fork of the Trinity until the rivers merge below Dallas, Texas.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The Transportation Policy Board (TPB) is requested to approve the resolution in support of the naming of State Highway 289 as “Preston Trail Highway” and direct the staff to forward the resolution to our State Legislators.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution

Sherman-Denison Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
