

Press Release

June 17, 2013

Galveston County Rural Rail Transportation District

The Galveston County Rural Rail Transportation District (RRTD) announced today that an Agreement has been executed between the RRTD and Legacy Port Partners, LPP (Legacy) for the Feasibility Study of a new freight rail connection to Pelican Island and construction of a new four lane bridge to serve auto and truck traffic on Pelican Island. Legacy has agreed to fund the Feasibility Study and its' "fair share" of the estimated \$1.3 million toward the engineering and environmental studies to get the proposed capital improvements to "shovel ready" status. Legacy has already conveyed initial funding to the RRTD to begin the Feasibility work.

John W. Ford, President of the RRTD announced that he has been working with representatives of the Navigation District, and Galveston Economic Development Partnership, toward gaining support for the initial Feasibility study, and engineering/environmental work. Representatives of Legacy indicated that their group is dedicated toward achieving the connectivity with Pelican Island which will enhance the economic development of the Port, City of Galveston, and private sector. Ford gave credit to Judge Henry and the Galveston County Commissioner's Court for their support of a rail connection to Pelican Island.

Many other stakeholders will be involved in this effort, Ford stated, including the City of Galveston, Port of Galveston, Port of Houston, Texas A & M University, Texas Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and Federal Railroad Administration. "All stakeholders need to work together toward a consensus driven solution which provides future economic development on Pelican Island."

Ford indicated that Barry Goodman of The Goodman Corporation will be leading the RRTD feasibility study and other coordinating efforts toward achieving the RRTD project objectives.

For additional information contact Barry Goodman at The Goodman Corporation
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