

# GRAYSON COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY

EMPOWERING THE GRAYSON COUNTY COMMUNITY  
TO CREATE AN INTERMODAL REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION  
NETWORK FOR NORTH TEXAS.



## 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It's an honor to have been appointed by Governor Greg Abbott to preside over the Grayson County Regional Mobility Authority. I look forward to working with Grayson County Judge Bill Magers and County Commissioners Phyllis James, Bart Lawrence, David Whitlock, Jeff Whitmire and the entire community to address one of the greatest challenges facing our county – regional mobility. The way we address regional mobility will have a significant and lasting impact on our local economy and quality of life.

This annual report gives you a look back to 2015. I would like to look forward. The most immediate challenge for GCRMA for 2016 is replacing NTRA airport manager Mike Shahan who resigned to accept a job in Galveston in July. We will have this challenge met no later than early second quarter and with a long term strategy in place for the operation and development of the airport. On the long term issue of regional mobility, GCRMA is committed to taking a leadership role in organizing a broad based community effort to identify and prioritize long term transportation needs. One priority previously identified, and in the process of implementation, is the connection of Grayson County transportation infrastructure to the North Dallas Tollway near Gunter. This will be another connection between Grayson County and one of the most powerful economic areas in the country. Trains, planes and automobiles are essential to moving people and products to, from and around Grayson County. An effective plan, well executed, will improve our quality of life, grow our economy, bring jobs and improve access to the employment base to our south. The Grayson County Regional Mobility Authority is excited to be part of making Grayson County a wonderful place to live, work and do business through efficient regional mobility.

If you are interested in becoming involved in this process, please give us a call. Mapping out solutions to regional mobility is best accomplished through a broad based community effort. We welcome the involvement of the entire community as we build a consensus for moving Grayson County forward.

*Clyde M. Siebman*

Chairman, Grayson County RMA



# Grayson County Regional Mobility Authority 2015 Annual Report

G C R M A

## GRAYSON COUNTY RMA

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The Grayson County RMA saw several changes in board membership in 2015. Chairman Bill Hubbard and Secretary/Treasurer Jeff Christie left the Board after several years of Service.

Clyde Siebman, a local attorney, was appointed Chairman of the Board by Governor Greg Abbot. Mr. Siebman is a partner in Siebman, Burg, Phillips & Smith, LLP law firm and manages the firm’s Sherman and Plano offices. Mr. Siebman has served as a member on the board of directors for

the Red River Authority of Texas and Red River Boundary Commission as well as Conservator of the Riverbend Water Resources District by appointment of the Eighty-Second Texas Legislature. He is a graduate of Southern Methodist University where he received a BBA from the Cox School of Business, BA in Psychology and a Juris

Doctor from the Dedman School of Law.

Robert Brady was appointed by Grayson County Commissioners Court to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Christie’s departure from the Board of Directors. Mr. Brady retired from Johnson & Johnson in Sherman and has been very active in the community. He has served on the Denison City Council as a councilman for six years and as Mayor for six years. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of Denison Development Alliance.



### GRAYSON COUNTY TOLLWAY PROJECT

The Grayson County RMA continues to work with Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) on the Grayson County Tollway Project. In 2015, Grayson County RMA requested TxDOT to revise the scope of work on the project to allow Brown & Gay Engineers to complete the routing, schematic, right of way mapping, and the environmental clearance of the segment of the tollway from the Grayson County Line to FM 121 in Gunter, TX. It was also requested that the revision include the final design of a two-way concrete curb and gutter southbound frontage road. The funding for the project will utilize any remaining funds from the Grayson County Tollway Study.

The Grayson County RMA’s secondary focus is to use grant funds to study a proposed relief route south of Gunter, TX. This project will provide a non-stop route on FM 121 running east-west between U.S. 75 and the proposed Grayson County Tollway.

# NORTH TEXAS REGIONAL AIRPORT

The North Texas Regional Airport-Perrin Field has continued to grow under the leadership of the Grayson County RMA. Several projects for 2015 included protecting the approach to Runway 17L, completion of the work included in the Capital Improvement Project, and hangar facility upgrades to two hangars.

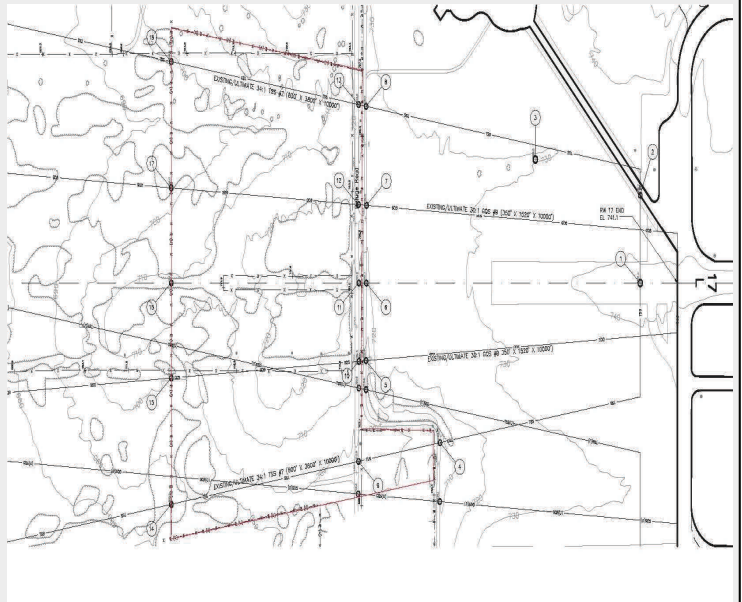
The Grayson County Commissioners Court and the cities of Sherman and Denison have continued working with the Grayson County RMA to market the Airport to aviation and non-aviation companies, looking to expand or relocate to the North Texas Area. Growth at the Airport continues to bring job growth and economic development to the Grayson County area.

The Grayson County RMA was also proud to work with the Texas Army National Guard (Airborne) to facilitate training operations at the airport in March and November. Soldiers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 143 Regiment (Airborne) practiced airfield seizure operations which included soldiers parachuting onto airport grounds, seizing key points on the air strip, and landing aircraft to unload vehicles. Airport operations were only minimally impacted during these important military exercises.

Long-time Airport Director Mike Shahan resigned and took the same position at Scholes Field in Galveston, TX. The search is continuing for the next Airport Director and should be filled in early 2016.

## RUNWAY PROTECTION ZONE

The Grayson County RMA continues to work with the Texas Department of Transportation Aviation Division to purchase the remaining 35.5 acres of the existing Runway Protection Zone (RPZ) from local landowners. This project will protect the approach end of Runway 17L from non-compatible land uses in the future. Appraisals and environmental surveys were completed in 2015 and negotiations with land owners are ongoing. Land acquisition should be completed by mid-2016.



## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Garver Engineers of Frisco, Texas was responsible for all engineering, bid specifications and construction management for this estimated \$886,000 project. Improvements included an apron expansion project, drainage improvements and game fencing which were completed in October 2015. The apron expansion project opened additional areas up for aviation development. The airside drainage improvements repaired eroded areas between the main runway and taxiways improving water runoff and enhance safety should a pilot exit off pavement. The final part of this project was installing 1.7 miles of eight foot game fencing along the southern border of the airport.



## COMMUNICATIONS IN THE AIR



We continue to fund the Airport Traffic Control Tower with airport funds and to continue our efforts to be admitted into the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Federal Contract Tower (FCT) Program. Operations continue to increase each year. FY 2015 saw a record of 80,964 operations.



U.S. Aviation, our flight school, continues to grow. They have been approved to increase student enrollment to 140 full-time students in 2015. Along with international students from five different countries, U.S. Aviation has begun providing domestic flight training as well.

## POTUS VISITS NTRA – PERRIN FIELD

On July 15, 2015, the President of the United States flew into NTRA – Perrin Field. President Barack Obama was the first sitting President to visit the Airport since 1961 when President John F. Kennedy arrived at Perrin Field Air Force Base to attend the funeral for former Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn. President Obama arrived in the late afternoon and was transported to Durant, Oklahoma, via Marine 1 for a meeting with the Choctaw tribe. Security was tight as a crowd gathered at the Airport to gain a glimpse of the President. Mayor Jared Johnson of Denison greeted the President as he descended Air Force One. After his visit to Durant, he returned to NTRA – Perrin Field and boarded Air Force One, safely departing for a short flight to Oklahoma City.



## EVENTS AT THE AIRPORT

NTRA hosted the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Texoma 100 Air Race on October 10, 2015. The race was originally scheduled for April but had to be moved because of the stormy weather at NTRA in the spring.

Air Race. This event known as “Warbirds Return to Perrin AFB” hopes to become an annual event and continue to grow in upcoming years.



NTRA was also the host airport for a war bird fly-in at the same time as the Texoma 100

NTRA has been the host of the Lone Star Aerobatic

Championships

since 1997 and the U.S. National Aerobatic Championships since 1972 and this year was no exception. Both aerobatic championships bring in some of the best aerobatic pilots in the nation, volunteers and spectators who enjoy the area during both events, adding to the economic impact of the Airport on the Grayson County area.

Eisenhower Day Celebration, performed a parachute jump at NTRA on October 9, 2015. This jump was a reenactment of a jump from D Day in honor of President Eisenhower’s birthday and all World War II veterans.

Events such as the ones listed above add benefit to the local economy and gives our area national exposure which helps attract economic development and tourism to our area.



Liberty Jump Team, in conjunction with the

## THE FUTURE OF MOBILITY IN GRAYSON COUNTY

Grayson County RMA continues to look to the future while evaluating projects that will bring economic development, job growth and increased quality of life for the residents of Grayson County through efficient mobility.

As Grayson County RMA continues to move forward, it will continue to work with local stakeholders in facilitating Grayson County to grow economically. Grayson County RMA looks forward to the challenges that will arise as it moves into 2016.



## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Grayson County RMA primarily receives funding from Grayson County. Although Grayson County RMA has funding available through the Financial Assistance Agreement with TxDOT, there were no funds received from TxDOT in 2015.

During 2015, the Grayson County RMA incurred administrative expenses, legal expenses, and expenses for legislative advocacy.

Revenue from Commissioners Court:	\$10,000.00
<u>Revenue from Other Sources:</u>	<u>\$ 000.00</u>
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>

Administrative Expenses:	\$ 5,184.10
Legal Expenses:	\$ 3,509.00
<u>Legislative Advocacy:</u>	<u>\$15,000.00</u>
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$23,693.10</b>





**GCRMA BOARD MEMBERS**

**Clyde Siebman, Chairman**  
**Bill Benton, Vice Chairman**  
**Robert Brady**  
**Randy Hensarling**  
**Bill Rasor**

**C O N T A C T  
I N F O R M A T I O N :**

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