

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RICHARD A. ODEN, CHAIRMAN & CEO  
OZ NESBITT, SR., COMMISSIONER POST I  
JANICE VAN NESS, COMMISSIONER POST II



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
AND MEDIA RELATIONS  
770-278-7050

**ROCKDALE COUNTY  
PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release:  
Saturday, July 24, 2010

Contact: Erica Fatima  
770.278.7056

**Rockdale County Certified By GDOT to Administer Federal-Aid Projects**

Rockdale County — In an astounding and historical decision, Rockdale County was certified on July 12, by the Georgia Department of Transportation to administer federal-aid projects for a period of three years. Confirmation of the decision was made Friday, July 23 in a meeting held with Rockdale's Chairman and CEO, Richard A. Oden, and General Services and Engineering (GS&E) Deputy Director, Miguel Valentin. Rockdale County is one of the first counties selected in the state to this prestigious status.

Through the Local Public Agency Program (LPA), governed by the Georgia Department of Transportation, local agencies applying for certification must meet rigorous program standards as outlined in the Local Administered Project Manual.

"This is a great accomplishment for Rockdale County," Rockdale County Chairman and CEO, Richard A. Oden stated. "To be entrusted with administering federal-aid transportation projects shows the outstanding level of commitment and expertise our department of GS&E has, and it further solidifies our strength as a county to deliver projects that are vital to our success and economic development."

The certification means that Rockdale County can move projects forward at an expedited pace, as opposed to the standard oversight timeframes provided by GDOT project managers. The certification also requires that Rockdale County adheres to the same level of federally mandated accountability measures and thoroughness as GDOT.

"We were thrilled to learn that Rockdale County was chosen in the first round of applications to have full program certification privileges," General Services and Engineering Deputy Director, Miguel Valentin said. "The certification is quite timely; with the approval of SPLOST we will be able to leverage some of the funding and move projects forward quickly. Like our brand motto states, we are 'perfectly positioned' to take full advantage of federal and state funding."

During the certification period Rockdale County has agreed to stringent federal guidelines, and as stated in the acceptance letter will; ensure that all applicable Federal and State regulations are followed on the project and have the responsibility, authority, and resources to manage it effectively; be familiar with project progress, involved in decisions that require change orders, and visit the project on a frequency that is commensurate with the magnitude and complexity of the project.

"We look forward to a lasting partnership with GDOT, as Rockdale County continues to cultivate a climate that spurs long-term sustainable growth," Chairman and CEO, Richard A. Oden said.

ROCKDALE COUNTY IS A PERFECTLY POSITIONED COMMUNITY WITH A ROCK-SOLID APPROACH DEDICATED TO EXCELLENCE IN CUSTOMER SERVICE, QUALITY OF LIFE, AND GLOBAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

###