

Interim Hearings – Week of June 23, 2014

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Related Categories: 83rd Session, Interim hearings

Interim Hearings – Week of June 23rd

[Today's Committee Meetings](#) on the LRL website is a calendar of interim committee hearings with links to agendas. Below are resources related to upcoming Interim Hearings.

- [June 23](#)
- [June 24](#)
- [June 25](#)
- [June 26](#)

June 23rd [Top](#)

Senate Committee on [Open Government](#)

Charge: Transparency of information available on state websites regarding state expenditures, reports, and contracts

- ["Report: Texas Among Leaders in Spending Transparency," Texas Tribune](#), April 8, 2014
- [Following the Money 2014: How the 50 States Rate in Providing Online Access to Government Spending Data](#), U.S. Public Interest Research Group Education Fund, April 2014
- [Statewide Transparency and Spending Websites and Legislation](#), National Conference of State Legislatures, April 2, 2014
- [Texas Transparency](#), Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and related [Data Center: Contracts](#)

Senate Committee on [Transportation](#)

Invited testimony updates from the Texas Department of Transportation, the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles and the Texas Department of Public Safety

Charge: Texas Department of Transportation and Metropolitan Planning Organization's progress on reducing congestion on the 100 Most Congested Roadway segments

- [100 Congested Roadways](#), Texas Department of Transportation
- ["Texas Traffic Congestion," Perryman Group](#), May 30, 2014
- [State Information & Reports for Texas](#), The Road Information Project (TRIP)

- *2012 Annual Urban Mobility Report*, Texas A&M Transportation Institute, December 2012 and related *Congestion Measurement in the Urban Mobility Report Response to Critique by Mr. Todd Litman*, Texas A&M Transportation Institute, May 2013
- *Interim Committee to the 82nd Legislature* (Charge 9), Senate Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security, February 2011

Charge: Comprehensive Development Agreements (CDA) and Design/Build project delivery methods

- *Current Comprehensive Development Agreement*, Texas Department of Transportation
- *Comprehensive Development Agreements (CDA)*, Mobility Investment Priorities
- *Mobility Investment Priorities Project 3P Texas Style: Emerging Innovations for Mobility and Traffic Operations* (Design-build), Texas A&M Transportation Institute, August 2013
- *Survey on the Use of Design-Build and Other Alternative Project Delivery Methods in Texas*, Texas Legislative Council, December 2012

Joint Committee on *Water Desalination*

Topic: Water desalination, with special focus on ocean and saltwater desalination

- *"How Oceans Can Solve Our Freshwater Crisis,"* CNN, June 9, 2014
- *"Nation's Largest Ocean Desalination Plant Goes Up Near San Diego; Future of the California Coast?"* Government Technology, GovTech.com, May 30, 2014
- *"Is This Chip the Key to Desalination?"* StateImpact Texas, National Public Radio, July 31, 2013
- *Desalination: Seawater (Overview) and Seawater Groundwater Desalination Projects*, 2012 State Water Plan, Texas Water Development Board
- *The Future of Desalination in Texas: 2012 Biennial Report on Seawater Desalination*, Texas Water Development Board, 2012
- *Regional MWater Plan*, including development of 1.0 MGD Seawater Desalination Treatment Facility, Laguna Madre Water District
- *Texas Desalination Association*
- *Texas Seawater Desalination Demonstration Project (Brownsville)*, Brownsville Public Utilities Board, Port of Brownsville, Texas Water Development Board, and NRS Engineering Water Solutions

Senate Select Committee on [Transportation Funding, Expenditures & Finance](#)

Topics: Future reliability of all current state transportation funding sources; alternatives that may increase available state funding for transportation; use of debt financing in state transportation funding, including the uses of the Texas Mobility Fund; alternative transportation funding options used nationally and internationally

- [NCSL Transportation Funding and Finance Legislation Database](#), National Conference of State Legislatures, Updated May 6, 2014
- [Sustainable State Transportation Funding and Spending](#) (Webinar), National Conference of State Legislatures, April 24, 2014
- *Improving the Efficiency and Equity of Highway Funding and Management: The Role of VMT Charges*, [Research Summary](#) and [Full Report](#), Mercatus Center, George Mason University, February 2014
- [Tracking State Transportation Funding Plans](#), Transportation For America, 2013-2014
- [Interim Report to the 83rd Texas Legislature](#) (Joint charge with House Appropriations: transportation funding, including Federal Highway Trust Fund, State Highway Fund, and Mobility Fund), House Committee on Transportation, December 2012
- [Interim Report to the 82nd Legislature](#) (Joint charge with Senate Finance: transportation funding concepts), Senate Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security, February 2011
- [Interim Report to the 82nd Texas Legislature](#), House Select Committee on Transportation Funding, January 2011

[Sunset Advisory Commission](#)

Staff presentation and public testimony: [University Interscholastic League](#)

Staff presentation and agency response:

- [Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services](#)
- [Department of Family and Protective Services](#)
- [Department of State Health Services](#)
- [Department of Aging and Disability Services](#)

June 25th [Top](#)

House Committee on [Natural Resources](#)

Charge: Groundwater availability, management, and development, brackish groundwater, and groundwater district permitting

- "Brackish Water Abounds, but Using It Isn't Simple," *Texas Tribune*, January 8, 2014
- "Water for Texas: Brackish Resources Aquifer Characterization System," Texas Water Development Board, December 2013
- *Summary of Groundwater Conditions in Texas: Recent (2010-2011) and Historical Water Level Changes in the TWDB Online Recorder Network*, Texas Water Development Board, February 2013
- *Priority Groundwater Management Areas and Groundwater Conservation Districts: Report to the 83rd Texas Legislature*, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, January 2013
- *Groundwater Availability Models*, Texas Water Development Board

Charge: Protection of privately owned lands in state's water supply and environmental flows

- "Texas Water: Basics of Surface Water Law," Texas Agriculture Law Blog, September 30, 2013
- *Land and Water: Resources Conservation and Recreation Plan*, Texas Parks and Wildlife, May 2013.
- "What Are 'Environmental Flows' And How Does Texas Protect Them?" StateImpact Texas, National Public Radio, January 16, 2013
- *Water Catchment Scale Planning and Conservation*, Hill Country Alliance
- *Texas Watershed Steward program*, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
- *Texas Water Bank & Trust*, Texas Water Development Board

Charge: Aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) projects

- "Water Experts Optimistic about Ogallala's Ability to Recharge," *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal*, June 7, 2014
- "Is it Time for Texas to Welcome ASR?" Texas Water Resources Institute, Summer 2014
- *Aquifers of Texas*, Texas Water Development Board, July 2011
- *An Assessment of Aquifer Storage and Recovery in Texas*, Texas Water Development Board, February 2011

Sunset Advisory Commission

Public testimony - Public input form for agencies under review:

- Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
- Department of Family and Protective Services

- [Department of State Health Services](#)
- [Department of Aging and Disability Services](#)

June 26th [Top](#)

House Committee on [Natural Resources](#)

Charge: Implementation of [HB 4](#) and [SJR 1](#), 83rd Legislature, R. S., and progress of Texas Water Development Board to provide a stable, long-term funding source for the State Water Plan

- [Investment Policy Statement Phase II State Water Implementation Fund for Texas](#), Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Company, March 2014
- [SWIFT Implementation Timeline](#), Texas Water Development Board, 2014
- ["Worth It: Weighing the Costs of Implementing the State Water Plan and the Consequences of Doing Nothing,"](#) Texas Water Resources Institute, Winter 2013
- ["Texas Water Development Board and the State Water Implementation Fund of Texas \(SWIFT\)"](#) (Presentation), Texas Water Development Board

Charge: Legislative oversight and monitoring of agencies and programs