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A Quiet Crisis in Transportation Finance: Options for Texas

This paper discusses the alternatives available to finance transportation in Texas. It notes that, until relatively recently, transportation was effectively funded nationwide by a combination of motor vehicle fuel taxes, local government funds, state government fund and the federal government. However, due to increased fuel efficiency of motor vehicles, energy concerns and the rising prices of gasoline, motor fuel taxes are not as effective a means of financing transportation as they once were. Some possible transportation financing future directions for the State of Texas include increased reliance on borrowing, electronic toll collection, and local sales taxes.

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Corporate Authors:

RAND Corporation
1776 Main Street, P.O. Box 2138
Santa Monica, CA United States 90407-2138

Authors:

Wachs, Martin

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500 Fifth Street, NW | Washington, DC 20001 | T: [202.334.2000](tel:202.334.2000) (<tel://2023342000>)

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