

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FERRIS SELECTED FOR 2013 TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM**

**AUSTIN, Texas.** The Texas Transportation Commission and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) announced the selection of the Yellowjacket Multi-Use Trail for Transportation Enhancement Program funding.

The purpose of the proposed multi-use Yellowjacket Trail is to connect Ferris Independent School District (FISD) secondary schools with the greater community and, in the process, provide safe pedestrian and bike passage. "The proposed trail will parallel FM 660 which, regrettably, has also served as a pedestrian walkway" said Mayor Bill Pardue. "It is quite fortunate that a student (pedestrian) accident has not occurred to date, especially as traffic and enrollment has increased." The trail will extend from Ferris Junior High School to Interstate 45 on the south side of the roadway.

The Yellowjacket Trail will give staff and student populations an option to bike to and from school, heretofore an unrealistic and dangerous choice. Both the City of Ferris and the FISD encourage a safe and healthier lifestyle for all of our students, staff, and citizenry.

The project's estimated cost is \$510,000, of which \$408,000 will be provided in federal funds. The remaining matching funds will be borne by the City of Ferris, and construction is projected to occur in the 2014-2015 fiscal year.