

Baptist Road Rural Transportation Authority, Dec. 9

BRRTA bows out

By Jim Kendrick

On Dec. 9, the directors and county staff for the Baptist Road Rural Transportation Authority board (BRRTA) completed their final administrative, final, and management actions. The board then unanimously approved the final resolution, which stated that BRRTA had completed all the design, finance, and construction requirements for all its improvement projects, fully repaid all the bonds used to finance the construction, achieved all of its purposes, and formally dissolved BRRTA. Paragraph 9 of BRRTA's creating contract requires a vote of concurring approval of both El Paso County and the Town of Monu-

ment to terminate the creating contract and dissolve BRRTA.

The county staff and BOCC will now administer all BRRTA's assets that have now been officially transferred to El Paso County and supervise the spending of BRRTA's remaining \$1.3 million on completing prioritized capital improvement projects within the county's Baptist Road right-of-way.

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After this last BRRTA meeting adjourned, the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners formally concurred on the BRRTA dissolution on Dec. 20 by unani-

mously approving a resolution to terminate the county's contract creating BRRTA and to dissolve the authority. The Monument Board of Trustees is scheduled to perform the same actions at the regular Jan. 3, 2017 meeting to complete this dissolution.

For more information see: www.ocn.me/v16n12.htm#brtta www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xcu4MAoDfMQ www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZ6BX\_L4DEc

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Above: This pre-2009 view of Baptist Road looks east from I-25 toward Jackson Creek Parkway and Family of Christ Lutheran Church and shows how the road looked before BRRTA widened the road and made a variety of other improvements. Photos courtesy of El Paso County.



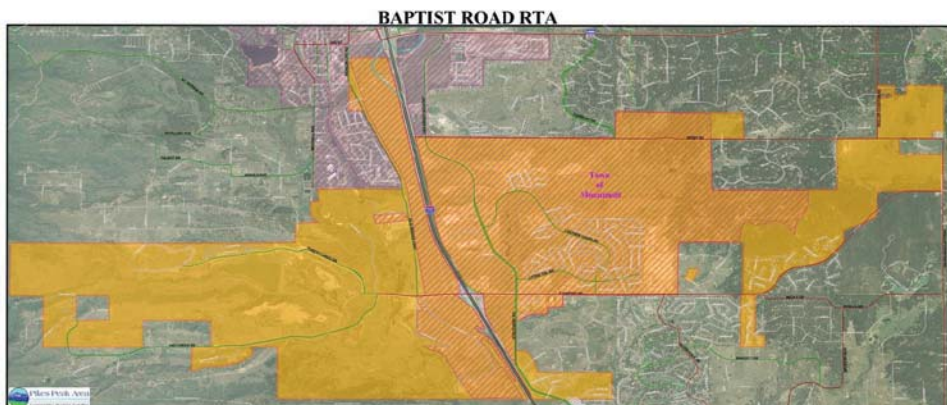
Above: This recent view of Baptist Road was taken from near the same spot as the photo on the left and shows how the road looks now. Tari Drive is in the trees near the top of the distant hill. Photo by Lisa Hatfield.



Above: This recent view of Baptist Road looking west past Desiree and Kingswood Drives shows how one of BRRTA's projects starting in 2009 expanded the road from two to four lanes from Tari Drive to Jackson Creek Parkway. Photo courtesy of El Paso County.



Project highlights of the I-25/Baptist Road Exchange expansion in 2008-09 included widening Baptist Road close to the interchange to four lanes and adding turn lanes, widening the road over I-25 to eight lanes, adding new traffic signals and modifying the ramps, and installing new water and sewer lines. Above: The old I-25 bridge on the left and the new one on the right. Below: Removal of the old bridge. Photos courtesy of El Paso County.



Between 1997 and 2016, BRRTA completed multiple projects to improve the Baptist Road corridor. The most recently completed were the new bridge from Old Denver Road west over the railroad tracks and the roundabout at Old Denver Road. In 2006, voters approved a 1 percent sales tax collected by businesses and administered by BRRTA to fund the improvement of the interchange at I-25 and West Baptist Road. The sales tax started in 2006 and ended in the summer of 2016 done. Above: Yellow shows the BRRTA boundaries. The crosshatched area shows the portion within the Town of Monument. Map courtesy of El Paso County.

