

Lindsay Vanderbilt  
Communications Manager  
Phone: (903)984-8641 x218  
Cell: (903)931-1830  
Lindsay.Vanderbilt@etcog.org

Fax: (903)983-1440  
3800 Stone Road  
Kilgore, TX 75662  
www.etcog.org

EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNMENTS



# PRESS RELEASE

## Higher Speed Rail Progress Announcement to be Made Tomorrow at Amtrak Official's Promotion Reception

**Marshall, TX, August 26, 2010:** The East Texas Corridor Council's (ETCC) governmental affairs chair, Harrison County Judge Richard Anderson, will share an announcement regarding progress towards bringing higher speed rail to East Texas at a reception in the Amtrak Rail Passenger Station in Marshall on Friday, August 27, at 2:00 PM. The reception is honoring Amtrak's Joy Spencer Smith for her promotion to Superintendent of Passenger Services at Chicago.

*"Mrs. Smith has been the dynamic champion of southwestern rail passenger progress for more than fifteen years, especially for East Texas stations," said ETCC chair, Tim Vaughn. "Sharing the news of the single most important achievement toward higher speed rail for East Texas since the inauguration of Amtrak service in 1974 during her reception is so appropriate because she has been key to this progress."*

The AMTRAK Rail Passenger Station is located at the Texas Pacific Railway Depot and Museum in Marshall Texas at 800 North Washington Avenue. The public is invited by the Marshall, Texas T& P Depot, Inc. Board of Directors to join the reception.

For more information, contact ETCOG's Executive Director, David Cleveland, at 903.984.8641 x221, or ETCC's Executive Director, Griff Hubbard, at 903.757.5734.

### **About ETCC**

The East Texas Corridor Council is a regional organization seeking capacity investments to secure higher speed rail along the I-20 and US 59 corridors from Dallas/Fort Worth to Arkansas and Louisiana border connections. ETCOG is the administrative and fiscal agent for the ETCC.

### **About ETCOG**

The East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) is a voluntary association of counties, cities, school districts and special districts within the fourteen-county East Texas region. ETCOG assists local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit and coordinating for sound regional development. Established in 1970, ETCOG, either directly, or through its contractors, provides programs and services for East Texas seniors, employers, and job seekers. ETCOG and its contractors also build the 9-1-1 emergency call delivery system, provide peace officer training and homeland security planning services; and deliver rural transportation services, business finance programs, and environmental grant funding for the region.