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**AIA DALLAS ENCOURAGES INCORPORATION OF BALANCED VISION
PLAN INTO TRINITY TOLLROAD DESIGN**

DALLAS, TEXAS – June 6, 2014 – AIA Dallas is unable to endorse the Trinity Tollroad Alternative 3C Proposal without a better understanding of how the major elements of the Balanced Vision Plan will be incorporated into the design of the parkway.

“AIA Dallas is encouraged by the focus on connectivity that is emerging throughout Dallas and the on-going growth occurring in so many different communities as a direct result of thoughtful design,” stated AIA Dallas Executive Director Jan Blackmon. “We believe that infrastructure planning in Dallas should continue to focus not just on sound engineering, but also on how the overall design of each project fits into a larger plan for the city and the neighborhoods within it.”

AIA Dallas has been engaged in the Trinity River Corridor planning process since the late 1990’s. As architects and design professionals, AIA Dallas is focused on how a thoughtfully-designed infrastructure can enhance the environment within communities and help revitalize and connect parts of Dallas. The Balanced Vision Plan, developed by an eminent team of urban designers and transportation consultants with input from numerous governmental, civic, and professional organizations, was adopted by the Dallas City Council in 2003. The plan features a comprehensive and balanced approach to the five major elements of this project – Flood Protection, Recreation, Transportation, Environmental Restoration, and Economic Development.

“AIA Dallas considers a wide variety of components including the environmental impact and connectivity on the surrounding areas when evaluating a project. We believe that in order for Dallas to continue to embrace increased density and urban growth, as well as encourage the revitalization of areas like West Dallas, we must include all of these elements when planning a major project such as the Trinity Parkway,” said Blackmon. “At this time, we cannot endorse the Trinity Parkway Alternative 3C proposal until we understand how it will incorporate these essential elements.”

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About AIA Dallas:

AIA Dallas, the seventh largest chapter of The American Institute of Architects, empowers architects to excel and impact their practice, profession and community. AIA Dallas has a membership base of more than 2,000 members and 300 architectural firms. More information about AIA Dallas can be found at www.aiadallas.org.