



# **Texas Department of Transportation**

VEHICLE TITLES AND REGISTRATION DIVISION • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78779-0001 • (512) 465-7611

March 10, 2000

## **Registration and Title Bulletin # 19-00**

**To:** All County Tax Assessor-Collectors

**Subject:** Vehicle Registration Renewals via the Internet

### **PURPOSE**

To make you aware of a project the department is undertaking to give counties the ability to accept vehicle registration renewals via the Internet.

### **DETAILS**

For the past several months, several Texas counties have expressed an interest in developing a system that would give their customers the option of renewing vehicle registration via the Internet. We are also aware that several vendors are now contacting county officials statewide to make their pitch for on-line service.

In an effort to keep the electronic registration renewal process consistent, the department launched a project to assist tax assessor-collectors in the standardized development of an on-line method for handling these transactions. The state's role will be to facilitate and fund the process between interested counties and a third party vendor, which is yet to be determined.

Counties will have the option of offering on-line registration renewal. There will not be an interface to the Registration and Title System; instead, the transactions would be handled in the county similar to a mail-in renewal. There will be a standardized e-mail from the vendor to the county, showing authorized payment, customer, vehicle, and insurance data. We realize this is a very simplistic explanation, but we will have more details at a later date.

### **PILOT COUNTIES**

We have identified several pilot counties as we develop this on-line renewal system (Phase I), based on their Internet status and discussions with the Tax Assessor-Collector Association. They include Harris, Dallas, Lubbock, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller Counties (Lubbock, Dallas, and Harris Counties were already in the course of developing an on-line process; the remaining locations are adjacent to Harris County). We have met with representatives from these counties twice by conference call, and more discussion is planned.

### **TIME LINE**

Our goal is to have the pilot counties implemented during July 2000. We then will closely evaluate the results of Phase I, and determine the best approach for incorporating additional features and counties.

**VTR CONTACT PERSON(S)**

If you have any questions about the Internet registration renewal project, please contact your Regional Manager or Ms. Brenda Ackarman-Sioson, Project Manager, at 512/302-2077; you may also contact me or Mr. Darrel Hunt, Deputy Director, at 512/465-7570.

Sincerely,



Jerry L. Dike, Director  
Vehicle Titles and  
Registration Division

cc: TxDOT Commission  
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