

James M. Bass

Chief Financial Officer
Texas Department of Transportation

James M. Bass is the Chief Financial Officer and directs the Finance Division of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). As a member of administration, he is responsible for management and control of the Finance Division, programming and scheduling of all transportation projects and letting management activities associated with project delivery.

Bass began his TxDOT career in 1985 working summers in the Fort Worth District, where he maintained records and audited field measurements, among other duties. While earning his bachelor's degree in accounting at the University of Texas at Austin, he also worked part time as an engineering aide in the Austin District's South Travis/Hays County Area Office. There he audited field measurements and processed monthly payments to highway contractors. After graduation in 1991, Bass began full time as an accounting clerk in the Finance Division's Revenue Accounting Section in 1992, and a year later was promoted to budget analyst in the Budget and Forecasting Section.

Becoming a manager in the Budget and Forecasting Branch in 1997, Bass worked on preparation of TxDOT's Legislative Appropriations Request and Operating Budget, and corresponded with the Legislative Budget Board, State Auditor's Office, and the Office of the Texas Comptroller. He also worked on TxDOT's Cash Forecasting System for the State Highway Fund, which details revenue and expenditures on a monthly basis. Bass was selected as division director effective November 1999, and his title was changed to Chief Financial Officer in 2005.

Bass and his wife, Patty, have a son and a daughter.