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KRONBERG'S QUORUM REPORT | **DAILY BUZZ**

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President of train company says push for high-speed rail in Texas different this time

Eckels assures critics there's no play for government involvement; environmental impact studies to start soon

The president of the company planning to privately build high-speed rail between Houston and Dallas told *Quorum Report* on Tuesday that there is nothing to the rumors out there that his firm is making a play for government involvement in the project.

Texas Central Railway President **Robert Eckels**, who of course is a former state representative and Harris County Judge, said that he's heard plenty of conspiracy theories about his company trying to get government subsidies for the rail line. "We're a private company," Eckels said, adding unequivocally that they're not interested in subsidies or grants.

"We think we're a bankable project," Eckels said. The company has rounded up investors in the United States and abroad, he said, and they believe they'll be able to retire their debt, pay for ongoing operations, and provide a return to those investors.

The mayors of Houston, Dallas and Ft Worth all joined together last week to say they support the line between the Metroplex and Southeast Texas. It's the first time that's happened and it is pretty unheard of for the mayors of all three of those cities to be on the same page about just about anything, Eckels pointed out.

[The rest of the story, subscribers only](#)

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