Eagle Ford Shale Issues

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Begin with the end in mind
Eagle Ford Shale Issues

The entire State of Texas has some significant issues concerning healthcare!
Texas ranked dead last in the federal government's latest report card on the delivery of health services, falling short in areas ranging from acute hospital care to home treatment of the chronically ill.

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Rated "weak" or "very weak" in nine of 12 health delivery categories.

Source: Houston Chronicle, 5 July 2012
Any Road Can Take a Different Direction

When a road seems to end, it just means we need to go in a different direction!

When current practice does not lead us in the direction we want to go, we must change direction!

At 50 out of 50 in delivery of healthcare, we need to look for new ways to do business!
We Just Need to Pick Up the Pieces and Move On!
Medicine is Not A Game - The Stakes Are Too High!
Eagle Ford Shale Issues

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Perhaps we can address Eagle Ford issues and improve the State of Texas Healthcare as well?
Opportunities for improvement not fully addressed center around health and safety issues!

1. Road traffic accidents are up.
2. EMS demands are higher.
3. Workman’s compensation claims are up.

Variety of Groups are addressing almost all other issues.
Eagle Ford Shale Health and Safety Task Group

Mission:
1. Foster communications between all health and safety stakeholders.
2. Establish best health and safety practices for the Eagle Ford Shale area.
3. Promote long term population health and safety.
4. Promote worker health and safety.
5. Monitor health, safety and environmental conditions.
6. Prevent adverse health consequences now and in the future.
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This drives several questions and potential solutions:

1. Discussion surrounding do we need a “Health and Safety Extension”, modeled after the AgriLife Extension, established in 1876 at Texas A&M?
2. Should we try to get workers off the roads by establishing “Work Villages” in close proximity to work site?
3. Can we optimize Primary Care in the region and provide a model for the state?
SAN ANTONIO -- An oil and gas bonanza in South Texas supported nearly 48,000 jobs last year while creating overnight boom towns cashing in on a $25 billion economic windfall from the liquid-rich Eagle Ford shale, according to a university study released Wednesday.
Shale creates nearly 48K jobs

Summary of the problems associated:

1. nearly **48,000 jobs last year**
2. must now spend million-dollar tax rolls on infrastructure, development and education before the boom goes bust,
3. which employed an estimated 7,500 workers last year. Construction provided about 6,000 jobs, and there were another 1,800 working in scores of new restaurants and bars popping up
4. Many towns are dealing with crumbling roads chewed up by the constant march of rolling 18-wheelers
Summary of the problems associated:

5. boom hasn't slowed despite deteriorating infrastructure and counties struggling to provide skilled workers or places for them to live.

6. "We keep wondering if labor or housing shortages, or road conditions, could be a limiting factor,"

7. estimate the shale formation could be supporting as many as 117,000 jobs by 2021 (plus support jobs).
Shale creates nearly 48K jobs

Summary of the solutions offered:

1. Frac Tech Services built a 100-bed "man camp" because of the shortage of hotel rooms and RV parks.
2. "The thing we're stressing to communities is sustainability,"
3. "What will they be left with when this is all over? It's not just a matter of how much oil and gas is out there."
South Texas Town

Population grows to 11,000

Needs for larger population:
1. Schools
2. Hotels
3. Medical Facilities
4. Roads
5. Local Business

Population levels to 6,000

Industry boom

10-12 years
Have re-locatable buildings in a “Work Village” with options so no one lives in a “ghost town”.

The local communities have built up to handle the permanent load expected in a controlled environment.
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2. "The thing we're stressing to communities is sustainability,“
3. "What will they be left with when this is all over? It's not just a matter of how much oil and gas is out there.”
4. The challenges are huge now and are going to get even bigger without some overarching plan and leadership to manage this great effort!
5. Perhaps that effort should include the Land grant University in the State?
Quick reminder:
Texas A&M Health Science Center has:
1. the only College of Medicine dedicated to rural health issues in the country;
2. the Only School of Rural Public Health in the country.
Historical Look at Texas A&M

Texas A&M University
1876 Land Grant

Education → Extension → Research
Same Idea for Health

Texas A&M Health Science Center

School of Rural Public Health

Rural and Community Health Institute

College of Medicine (dedicated to Rural Medicine)
Eagle Ford Shale Issues

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So we would seem to be the ideal healthcare group to address the concerns around health and safety in South Texas.
Complaints without Solutions = Whining
Whining
Eagle Ford Shale Issues

Take a step back with me!
Think strategically with me!
Eagle Ford Shale Issues

Instead of unplanned and haphazard rapid growth, what we want is a long term look at how to build healthy communities, and make this plan be a win-win-win for all concerned! WIN for the communities! WIN for the drilling companies! WIN for the investors that allow this to happen! I think we can achieve this with some creative planning!
Eagle Ford Shale Issues

My specific recommendations:

1. Then let those involved at the land grant University and the community sit down together and go over the art of the possible.
2. Then present a comprehensive plan to our Texas A&M Health Science Center President, the Dean of the School of Rural Public Health, and the Chancellor of the A&M System for their input and guidance.
Eagle Ford Shale Issues

1. First brief on this subject on 6 March has received highest level of attention from our SRPH, HSC, and System leadership.

2. It is worthwhile reviewing before we go on.

3. The direction from our A&M leadership was to continue to develop solution sets to bring to their consideration and then to elected public officials.
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2. Then present a comprehensive plan to our Texas A&M Health Science Center President, the Dean of the School of Rural Public Health, and the Chancellor of the A&M System for their input and guidance.
3. Then approach your elected public officials to make sure we are all on the same sheet of music.
4. Then approach the oil companies with a comprehensive regional plan to see if they would like to save money and be community builders?
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Be Specific!
Eagle Ford Shale Issues

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Support Infrastructure for Health and Safety Extension for South Texas
Eagle Ford Shale economic boom has many positives to consider.

However, the current challenges to deal with are:

1. Influx of people resulted in overwhelming housing market.
2. Overnight accommodations range from $100 - $180 if available at all in the local area.
3. So workers have to drive long distances to sleep, work, eat, and have recreation.
4. This is eating up the roads.
5. This challenges the local police, fire, schools, legal system, and county road maintenance.
Eagle Ford Shale Issues

Any solution set must:

1. Recognize the free market system.
2. Be a win-win-win for all parties.
3. Address the issues outlined.
4. Improve the health and safety concerns in the affected area of South Texas.
Rising Issues and Concerns

The issues causing concern in the rapidly growing Eagle Ford Shale area in South Texas are:

1. Increased accident rates
2. Increased incidence of DUI
3. Increased arrest rates
4. Access to medical care
5. Increased workman’s compensation cases.
6. Road maintenance for county and state
7. Potential for ghost towns
First Steps

Information from the South Texas counties will need to be gathered to ask:

Is there a problem in your area?

If the answer is yes – the Health and Safety Extension will need to be prepared to show how to fix it.

Examples of some solutions to have an open door to healthcare are:

1. Rotating clinics
2. Kiosks
3. Telemedicine sites to reach a medical professional by telephone or computer with medical care within a very short period of time.
A Health and Safety Extension Service would create:

1. Mission statement
2. Strategic Plan
3. Administration
4. Programs to increase access and customer satisfaction
5. Resources to reach the entire community
6. Services to improve access and overall health

This organization could come into local communities and work with:

1. Economic development activities
2. Current medical system
3. Local leadership

Goal: to insure the health, safety and welfare of the growing population of the area and insure access to all.

It is important to remember that such an Extension would not be directive, but advisory!

Just like our AgriLife Extension Program!
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Potential solution sets- “Work Village” in close proximity to work site:

1. Portable buildings.
2. Factory built component buildings that are easily re-locatable.
3. Both of these can be re-located multiple times in a short period of time.
4. This entire solution set could be moved in its entirety and be back to baseline at “X” number of years when the oil industry hits steady state workforce and the “Work Village” grounds restored to baseline.
Finding a Balance in Eagle Ford Shale Discussions

A balance between what we want, what is affordable, what is business survivable, what is efficient, meeting standards, what meets long term community needs, and timeliness for short term facilities must be found!
Eagle Ford Shale Issues

Potential solution sets:

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High “R” Value Buildings
Portable Buildings
In Joplin, Mo.

New ED and ICU are going up quickly!
St. John’s Portable Buildings Hospital
21 October 2011
Drawings for Recreation Center

44 ft x 104 ft = 4576 sq ft.
Drawings for Apartment Complex

46 ft x 182 ft = 8372 sq ft. = 10 apartments of 720 sq ft.

5Mar12
Portable Buildings In Joplin, Mo.

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South Texas Lodge at Morales Ranch- this is an example of factory built motel/hotel that just opened in Carrizo Springs.
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Component Construction Example in Carrizo Springs

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7 May12 Pictures
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Levels of Care

All care given in the area work together well.

1. Primary care is where most activity occurs.

2. Secondary care is where you can see a specialist, but not a sub-specialist.

3. Tertiary care is where you can see a sub-specialist.
Secondary Care Hospitals Located in Eagle Ford Shale Counties
Current Healthcare

Currently secondary and tertiary healthcare is being provided by:

• Laredo
• Victoria
• McAllen
• San Antonio
• Corpus Christi
• Houston

With that excellent secondary and tertiary medical care being provided, having primary care local and available more quickly could be a better solution.
All care given in the area work together well. Focus is Primary Care for this brief!
Integration of Informatics into Patient Care

Numerous innovative programs and services could be made available to care for a patient. This would truly be “patient centric” healthcare!
Two Systems That Would Work Together

Medicine has not embraced the depth of technology available to it yet. We are facing an enormous problem for the future with a shortage of physicians and an overwhelming mandate to deliver care.
Texas is now rated as #50 of our 50 states in healthcare delivery! Perhaps we can improve on that by embracing technology and integrating it into our daily practice?
Levels of Care

All care given in the area must work together well.
Eagle Ford Shale Issues

Every group wins!

1. Community
   a. Return of huge influx of people into their communities to native state when drilling is done.
   b. They lose none of:
      i. the tax revenues
      ii. Permit fees
      iii. Associated increase in revenue.
2. Oil company
a. Lower rates on the per diem costs
b. Lower road traffic accident rates
c. More rested workers
d. Healthier workers
e. Less road traffic
f. Lower workman’s compensation cases
g. Excellent living conditions.
3. Investor

a. Has his capital returned quickly and being able to use the “Work Village” for 20 years of capital return!
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Questions?

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