



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION **FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION**
819 TAYLOR STREET, ROOM 8A36 **300 E. 8TH STREET, ROOM 826**
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-9003 **AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-3255**

January 25, 2011

Refer to: HPP-TX

Houston-Galveston Metropolitan Planning Area's
Amended 2035 Regional Transportation Plan Update
Conformity Determination

Mr. Amadeo Saenz Jr., P.E.
Executive Director
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Mr. Saenz:

We have reviewed the documentation supporting the transportation conformity determination for the Houston-Galveston Area Council's (H-GAC) 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update, adopted by H-GAC's Transportation Policy Council on October 29, 2010. Based upon our review and consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), we hereby find that the 2035 RTP Update meets all the requirements for making a joint conformity determination under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. In their letters of December 13, 2010, December 20, 2010 and December 23, 2010, TCEQ, TxDOT and EPA, respectively, indicate that they have no unresolved issues concerning this conformity determination. The conformity determination and procedures used to make this determination are in accordance with the provisions of the transportation conformity rule (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93), dated August 15, 1997, as amended.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) acts as executive agent for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on Plan and TIP air quality conformity determinations. Accordingly, this letter will serve as the joint FHWA/FTA conformity determination. Please provide copies of this joint FHWA/FTA conformity determination to H-GAC, the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO), Island Transit and TCEQ.



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Additionally, we find the 2035 RTP Update to satisfactorily comply with the requirements of 23 CFR 450.322 regarding the review and update of metropolitan transportation plans in air quality non-attainment and maintenance areas at least every four years. Accordingly, this action restarts the four-year update cycle for the Houston-Galveston area's RTP and corresponding conformity determination. Should you have any questions concerning this action, please contact Mr. Jose Campos at (512) 536-5932.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janice Weingart Brown', written in a cursive style.

for Janice Weingart Brown
Division Administrator

cc: Peggy Crist, FTA-Region 6
Laura Wallace, FTA-Region 6
Jeff Riley, US EPA-Region 6