



Resolution

NO. 2019-19

A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING A FUNDING PARTNERSHIP WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SEGMENT 2 OF THE NORTH HOUSTON HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND THE MITIGATION OF ADVERSE COMMUNITY IMPACTS

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has proposed a funding partnership with the Transportation Policy Council for implementation of Segment 2 of the North Houston Highway Improvement Program (NHHIP); and

WHEREAS, during the public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and in subsequent meetings with concerned citizens, local governments and other stakeholders TxDOT has received comment concerning the potential adverse impact of Segment 2, including:

- residences, businesses, parks and other institutions which will be acquired to accommodate additional right of way needed by the project;
- increased noise and air pollution for remaining residents, businesses and institutions near the project;
- increased flood risk; and
- the need to accommodate high capacity transit in the corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council supports expeditious resolution of these concerns but recognizes that inclusion of this project in TxDOT's Unified Transportation Program may be essential to provide the additional funding necessary to fully identify and incorporate desired mitigation measures; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council supports development of community-based plans to identify priorities for the mitigation of adverse impacts on them and supports the dedication of funding for implementation of these mitigation measures.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA THAT IT COMMITS TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

1. \$100M in Category 2 funds for the implementation of Segment 2 of the North Houston Highway Improvement Program; and
2. \$1.5M for community planning activities which will complement TxDOT's on-going efforts to identify additional measures to mitigate potentially adverse impacts of the NHHIP on communities adjacent to Segment 2. This planning effort may include:

- a. New or improved pedestrian and bicycle paths and trails providing connectivity to community destinations and transit services;
 - b. Enhanced landscaping, lighting, signage, transit stops and other transportation related amenities that support neighborhood cohesion and livability;
 - c. Identifying transportation related investments that strengthen the historical and cultural identity of affected neighborhoods;
 - d. Creation of a “low emissions zone” including neighborhoods adjacent to Segment 2 which would establish priorities for reducing vehicle emissions within the low emissions zone such as:
 - i. Low or no emissions school buses,
 - ii. Reduced truck idling,
 - iii. Public access to electric vehicle recharging facilities, Replacement of high emission, heavy duty trucks operating within the zone with low or no emissions vehicles, and
 - iv. Enhanced air quality monitoring; and
3. \$50M of eligible federal transportation funds for the implementation of recommendations from the community planning activities described above.
 4. Require regular updates by TxDOT and H-GAC staff on the development of mitigation measures based on refinement of the project scope and design including any proposed updates to the environmental impact statement.

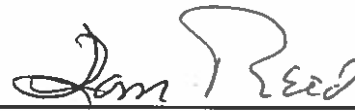
PASSED AND APPROVED this 26th day of July 2019, by the Transportation Policy Council.

APPROVED:



Hon. Kenneth Clark, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council

ATTEST:



Hon. Tom Reid, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council