

## **Development of the 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program**

### **Background**

The 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), approved in 2007, includes many projects that were “carried over” from previous TIP years that were not let to contract as scheduled. The project delays occurred for a variety of reasons but the most prevalent problem for projects programmed in the TIP is insufficient funding. This is particularly true for the region’s roadway mobility projects. Since 2005, project lettings have been on a downward trend but the worst year for project lettings was 2008 when Texas Department of Transportation’s (TxDOT) announced a severe funding shortfall. In FY 2008, the Houston District let to contract \$257 million worth of projects, a mere 30% of those scheduled for contract letting.

As a result of the funding shortfall, many of the projects programmed for letting in FY 2008 and FY 2009 will be delayed to later years of the TIP. The 2010-2013 TIP development process will be greatly impacted by these delays in terms of available programming authority for new TIP projects funded through the Federal Highway Administration.

### **Current Situation**

Since the beginning of the year, H-GAC staff has worked with TxDOT and other local governments to determine the development status of projects in the TIP. The objective is to facilitate programming decisions for the years 2010-2013. It is anticipated that TxDOT will release letting targets for each of the funding categories in June or July. Once the targets are known, the TIP Subcommittee should be able to finalize the project recommendations.

### **Action Requested**

For information only.