

2010-2011 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Background

The 2010-2011 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes the metropolitan transportation planning activities to be conducted during the 2010-2011 Fiscal Years (October 2010 - September 2011) for the Houston-Galveston Transportation Management Area (TMA).

In May, staff presented some of the planning highlights for the new UPWP: a regional transit coordination framework; an update of the regional aviation plan; enhanced sub regional planning and new sustainable development studies; hi-tech data collection; priority off-street bikeways; enhanced forecasting scenarios; new air quality measuring methods including greenhouse gases; and stimulus funds for freight planning and focused passenger rail corridor analyses.

The draft 2010- 2011 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) was posted on H-GAC's website for the TAC on May 8, 2009, beginning the 30 plus day comment period, which ended on June 10, 2009. A May 22, 2009 draft of the UPWP was posted on the TPC webpage for the May 29, TPC meeting. A public meeting was held on June 2, 2009 at the offices of the Houston-Galveston Area Council from 5:30pm to 7:15pm. In excess of twenty (20) persons attended the public meeting. Verbal comments and questions at the meeting were addressed and summarized in Appendix I.

Current Situation

All comments, questions, and corrections to the May 8th & May 22nd draft documents have been addressed, answered, and summarized in Appendix I of the 2010-2011 UPWP and posted on the H-GAC website under "What's New", and on the TAC agenda page. The net result of all comments and corrections was a net \$280K reduction in transportation planning funds, a \$5 Million reduction in TxDOT project planning funds, and an increase of \$1.24 Million in FTA 5307 'planning' funds for Harris County. Final, bound, and printed versions of the 2010-2011 UPWP will be available shortly after the TPC adopts the final draft.

Requested Action

Recommend approval of the draft 2010-2011 Unified Planning Work Program to the Transportation Policy Council.