

**AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY
FOR THE 2008-2011 TIP AND 2035 RTP**

Background

In June 2008, the Transportation Policy Council approved the air quality conformity determination for the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Since that time, a few projects included in the conforming plan have changed in scope and/or timing. In some cases, the projects were originally modeled incorrectly in the travel demand analysis for the RTP. Some changes were significant enough to warrant a new conformity determination for the RTP.

The modified projects are the following:

- IH 45N HOV lanes from FM 1960 to LP (loop) 336 S – change milestone year; advance from 2025 to 2019.
- BF (Business Farm to Market Road) 1960 from FM 1960 west of Humble to FM 1960 east of Humble – rescope from added capacity to access management treatments.
- Allendale Extension: Oaks Rd. and Judy St. – remove project from RTP; local sponsor has withdrawn the project.
- Little York between Airline and Hardy Toll Road - change from 6 lanes (in 2025 and 2035) to 4 lanes (in 2019, 2025 and 2035).
- Dulles Ave from SH 6 to US 90A – project incorrectly modeled as widening from 4 to 6 lanes; project will reconstruct 4 through lanes and add 2 auxiliary lanes.
 - FM 2234 from FM 521 to SH 288 – modeled as widening to 6 lanes; project is to widen from 2 to 4 lanes.
- SH 105 Cleveland Bypass – modeled as widening to 6 lanes; project is to widen to 4 lanes in 2025.
- SH 105 in Montgomery County – modeled as 6 lanes; project should be 4 lanes; revise limits as Walden Road to Old River Road (0.870 miles) as 6 lanes.
- SH 146 modeling has been modified according to project description:
 - From Red Bluff to NASA 1: Widen to 8-lane with GS at major intersections and 4-lane frontage roads.
 - From NASA 1 to Harris/Galveston County line: Widen to 6-lane arterial with 4-lane express lanes.
 - From Harris/Galveston County line to FM 518: Widen to 6-lane arterial with 4-lane express lanes.
- SH 87 Galveston Ferry Landing to Bolivar Ferry Landing Toll Bridge - remove from RTP.
- SH 242 @ IH 45 Direct Connectors - project delayed due to funding shortfall remove from 2009 network.
- FM 646 from IH 45 to FM 517 Widen from 2 to 4 lanes - remove from 2009 network
- FM 1314 S of Gene Campbell Blvd to 2.6 MI NW of LP 494 Widen to 4 lanes - remove from 2009 network.
- FM 1314 1.0 MI S of SH 242 to S of Gene Campbell Blvd Widen to 4 lanes - remove from 2009 network.
- FM 1484 FM 3083 to FM 2432 Widen to 4 lanes - remove from 2009 network.

Current Situation

A new conformity determination that includes the project changes listed above is shown in the following table:

Analysis year	Budget		Conformity Finding			
	NOx (tpd)	VOC (tpd)	NOx (tpd)	VOC (tpd)	VMT	% VMT change from last conformity
2008	186.13	86.77				
2009	186.13	86.77	154.32	78.74	146,175,430.8	-0.8%
2019	186.13	86.77	50.09	46.14	189,233,602.2	1.3%
2025	186.13	86.77	39.70	42.65	215,802,168.7	1.9%
2035	186.13	86.77	43.05	51.03	260,103,499.1	1.6%

The thirty day comment period is from July 22 until August 22, 2009. The public meeting will be held at H-GAC offices on August 13, 2009. The new conformed TIP and RTP are scheduled for consideration and approval by the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) in August and by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in September

Action Requested

TAC recommendation for TPC approval of this conformity, pending no adverse comments.