

DRAFT 2035 RTP UPDATE – PROGRAM OF PROJECTS

Background

The 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) was adopted by the Transportation Policy Council in October 2007. Future revenues for transportation expenditures were forecast to be \$156.7 B. Recently the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) released its 2010-2020 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) and the statewide, long range plan. Its projection for federal and state highway revenues is significantly lower than that anticipated in the 2035 RTP.

H-GAC is developing a 2035 RTP Update (FY 2011-2035) that incorporates TxDOT's new financial expectations. The draft revenue forecast indicates a total of \$81.7 billion in federal, state and local revenues. To achieve fiscal constraint, therefore, it is estimated that \$75 billion of transportation expenditures listed in the current RTP must be reduced or delayed beyond the RTP timeframe.

Current Situation

TxDOT does not expect to have any funding for added capacity roadway projects after 2020. Therefore, with the exception of STP and CMAQ funded projects, TxDOT's draft 2020 Unified Transportation Program identifies all added capacity roadway projects on the state roadway system for which the TxDOT will have funding. All other added capacity roadway projects on the state system have been preliminarily identified as "unfunded".

County toll authorities have been asked to identify which county toll projects should be retained in the plan and the time frame for their development and construction.

Unless requested to be removed by the project sponsor, all local projects with identified project sponsors are proposed to be retained in the RTP. The 2035 RTP also contains "unsponsored" projects on local roadways based upon expected future travel growth. Retention of these projects in the updated plan will depend on some concurrence with local governments or transportation agencies to retain them.

Three project lists have been included for your review:

- The "Summary of Toll Projects" group represents the disposition of toll projects in the Draft 2011-2014 TIP and the Draft 2035 RTP Update and have been placed on the website in the event the file is too large.
- The "Remove" group contains unsponsored projects that are in the plan based on previous deficiency analyses. No agency (TxDOT, City or County) has yet assumed sponsorship of these projects.
- The "To Be Decided" (TBD) group contains TxDOT-sponsored projects (not including FY 2010 lettings or cancelled projects) that are "unfunded" as they are not identified in the 2020 UTP.

Action Requested

No action requested.