

DRAFT 2011-2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Background

Programming authority for the draft 2011-2014 TIP is substantially lower for federal-aid roadway improvements than the current 2008-2011 TIP. This is due to revised financial forecasts developed by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the uncertainty surrounding the authorization of a new federal transportation bill. (The previous transportation bill, SAFETEA-LU, set to expire in 2009, has been extended through the end of calendar year 2010 at FY 2009 funding levels.)

In order to address the reduction in federal and state funding, the Technical Advisory Committee's TIP Subcommittee reviewed Surface Transportation Metro Mobility (STP-MM) and Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Program (CMAQ) projects for readiness for contract lettings. Priority was given to "ready" projects programmed in the 2008-2011 TIP. The 2008-2011 TIP included a list of contingency projects. Those projects were considered if there were no currently programmed projects ready for letting and dollars were available in any fiscal year.

Projects in other highway program funding categories reflect TxDOT's draft Unified Transportation Program (UTP) through FY 2014. Transit formula funds are programmed in the draft 2011-2014 TIP at estimated FY 2010 levels.

Current Situation

TxDOT has requested MPOs across the state to submit 2011-2014 TIPs by June 30, 2010 in order for a new statewide TIP (STIP) to be approved later this summer. The STIP will be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration for approval in September 2010. The approval of the 2011-2014 STIP will indicate that the state and MPOs have met the federal fiscal constraint requirements thereby lifting restrictions on TIP and STIP revisions.

A 30-day public comment period is required prior to TPC approval of the new TIP. At its April 2010 meeting, the TPC did not approve the release of the draft TIP for public comment. Staff will be seeking that approval at the TPC's May meeting.

The draft 2011-2014 TIP is posted on the H-GAC Transportation website at: <http://www.h-gac.com/taq/commitees/TAC/2010/04-apr/default.aspx>

**FY 2011-2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE**

- **April** – Draft 2011-14 TIP
- **May/June** – Public comment period
- **June 25** – TPC approval of 2011-14 TIP
- **June 30** – Submittal of TIP to TxDOT
- **Sept/Oct** – Texas Transportation Commission approval of Statewide TIP

Action Requested

For information only.