

**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 and Judy St. – remove project from RTP; local sponsor has withdrawn the project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 - 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

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- 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 concluded on August 22, 2009. The public meeting was held at H-GAC offices on August 13, 2009. No comments were received.

Action Requested

Staff request approval of this conformity determination for the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan and the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program.