NOTES TO TPC MEMBERS:

The attached Resolution was received for:

- **Item 9** – Approval of Resolution Supporting Retention of SH 99 (the Grand Parkway) Segments B, C, I1 and D in the Proposed TxDOT 2020 Unified Transportation Program
A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RETENTION CURRENTLY IDENTIFIED FOR SEGMENTS B, C, D AND I1 OF SH 99 (GRAND PARKWAY) IN THE PROPOSED 2020 UNIFIED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Chambers County Commissioners Court regards the safety, security, and quality of life as the highest priorities for its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Chambers County Commissioners Court recognizes the important work performed by the Texas Department of Transportation to advance critical transportation improvements within the eight-county metropolitan region and the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, State Highway 99 (the Grand Parkway) provides critical connectivity to emergency evacuation routes on its existing segments and is vital for future emergency evacuation plans in Liberty, Chambers, Galveston, Brazoria and Fort Bend Counties; and

WHEREAS, existing segments of State Highway 99 have been instrumental to economic growth along their corridors, within the metropolitan region and the state and will provide both critical relief to existing congestion and support continuing economic growth along planned routes for segments B, C, D and I1; and

WHEREAS, State Highway 99 Segments B, C, D and I1 will provide for critical access for goods moving from and to the manufacturing and ports of the Houston-Galveston region and an alternative for trucks currently traversing many of the State's most congested roadway segments on Interstate I-10, I-610, I-69 and I-45; and

WHEREAS, State Highway 99 was first identified as a long-range priority transportation investment in 1961 and specifically identified in the Houston-Galveston area's first Metropolitan Transportation Plan in 1989 and in all subsequent metropolitan long-range plans; and

WHEREAS, State Highway 99 was identified as a tolled facility in the 2025 Regional Transportation Plan approved in June 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the counties of Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, and Montgomery entered into a Market Valuation Waiver Agreement in 2009 that defined the scope of the Grand Parkway (SH99), which itself had been approved in 2008; and

WHEREAS, completion of the remaining segments of the Grand Parkway is important and necessary for the region as evacuation route, for the daily mobility its citizens, as essential means to reduce traffic congestion and the safe and efficient movement of goods; and

WHEREAS, planned construction or improvement of Segments B, C, D and I1 of the Grand Parkway have been proposed for removal in the Draft 2020 Unified Transportation Program which will halt work by the Texas Department of Transportation of the development or implementation of these vital transportation improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHAMBERS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT THAT THE TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION RETAIN ALL PLANNED CONSTRUCTION CURRENTLY IN THE 2019 UNIFIED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FOR SEGMENTS B, C, D, AND I1 IN THE 2020 UNIFIED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM.

ADOPTED BY THE CHAMBERS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT ON THE 23RD DAY OF JULY, 2019.

[Signatures]

[Seal]
July 24, 2019

Texas Department of Transportation
Attn: Peter Smith
Unified Transportation Program (UTP)
P.O. Box 149217
Austin, TX  78714-9217

Dear Mr. Smith:

For nearly 30 years, the Bay Area Houston Transportation Partnership (BayTran), has advocated for mobility and air quality improvements in Harris, Galveston and Brazoria Counties. On behalf of BayTran’s Board of Directors, I am writing to express our opposition to the proposal to remove Grand Parkway Segments B, C and D from the 2020 Unified Transportation Program.

Grand Parkway Segments B and C are in the heart of BayTran’s growing region. The corridor is vital to providing congestion relief and connectivity for the area’s residents of today and the near future, as well as supporting ongoing economic development.

Having been identified as a potential component of the I-69 relief route, Segments B and C are critical to serving the region’s ports and moving freight safely through the area.

Most importantly, Grand Parkway’s Segments B and C, would serve as a preferred route for the most at risk coastal communities to access primary evacuation corridors.

This corridor directly addresses TxDOT’s mission of delivering “a safe, reliable, and integrated transportation system that enables the movement of people and goods”, and BayTran respectfully urges the Texas Transportation Commission to preserve funding for this legacy project, without delay, by keeping it in the 2020 Unified Transportation Program.

Sincerely,

Theresa Rodriguez
President, Bay Area Houston Transportation Partnership

cc:  J. Bruce Bugg, Jr. Chairman, Texas Transportation Commission
Laura Ryan, Texas Transportation Commission
Jeff Austin, III, Texas Transportation Commission
Alvin New, Texas Transportation Commission
Quincy Allen, District Engineer, TxDOT Houston District
Alan Clark, Director of Transportation Planning, Houston-Galveston Area Council