CMAQ Emission Reduction Performance Measures

Background

Due to requirements enacted in the 2015 FAST Act, MPOs that receive Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) funds must work with state DOTs to develop performance measurement targets for CMAQ funded projects to increase accountability and transparency as well as improve decision-making for these funds. One of the targets required under this rule is air quality and the emissions reduction performance of CMAQ-funded projects. DOTs and MPOs are required to establish two- and four-year emission reduction targets for CMAQ funded projects in each non-attainment region within a state. For the Houston-region, this includes targets for NOx and VOC emissions for the 2019-2022 period and an assessment of how CMAQ projects contribute towards achieving those targets. Additionally, the FAST Act requires that transportation agencies submit a Mid Performance Period Progress Report and CMAQ Performance Plan midway through the Performance Period.

Current Status

H-GAC staff worked with staff at TxDOT and other MPOs in Texas nonattainment regions in 2018 to develop procedures for the development of emission reduction estimates for the 2019-2022 performance period. This resulted in the development of estimates of NOx and VOC emission reductions for that time period as well as a Baseline Performance Period Report and CMAQ Performance Plan covering this time period was developed by H-GAC staff and approved by the Transportation Policy Council in in September of 2018. Staff is working to develop the Mid Performance Period Progress Report using these existing procedures. This progress report will indicate actual progress towards the two-year emission reduction target as well as the opportunity to adjust the four-year target, both of which were established in the 2018 baseline report.

At present, this analysis is still in draft form, but results so far indicate that changes in project timing and funding sources have resulted in a net decrease in emissions reductions related to CMAQ projects within our region compared to the performance measure targets that were established in 2018. It is anticipated that as a result of these adjustments, that we will adjust the four-year target to be in line with our updated CMAQ emission reduction estimates.

2018 CMAQ Performance Measure Targets (in kg/day)

	NOx	VOC
Two-Year Target	1,419.43	169.30
Four-Year Target	1,883.30	200.81

2020 Estimated CMAQ Performance Measure Target Revisions (in kg/day)

	NOx	VOC
Two-Year Actual	156.05	42.19
Four-Year Revised	879.64	179.37

<u>Action Requested</u> For information only