

7. AMENDMENTS TO THE 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND THE 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

BACKGROUND

The 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a four-year capital improvements program for transportation projects. Under federal rules, all federally assisted projects must be included in the TIP to be eligible for funding. In addition, federal rules require that regionally significant local projects must also be included in the TIP.

The 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a long-range plan that prioritizes spending on regional transportation projects including short and long-range strategies to ensure the transportation network is safe and efficient. Updated every four years, the RTP outlines a fiscally constrained transportation investment program that is based on the unique needs and characteristics of the MPO region.

Amendments to the TIP and RTP are brought to the Transportation Policy Council for consideration monthly and amended in accordance with the H-GAC Public Participation Plan.

CURRENT SITUATION

A summary of the proposed revisions to the 2023-2026 TIP and 2045 RTP is included below for the Council's review.

- Split out the northern segment of METRO's FY 2025 IH 69 South Two-Way HOV (MPO ID 18188) and program it (MPO ID 19077) in FY 2026 of the TIP with \$184M of local funds. Delay the remaining southern section (MPO ID 18188) to FY 2029 in the 2045 RTP. (+\$184.0M; Total: \$184M)
- Program TxDOT Houston District's main lane reconstruction project on SH 225 at SL 8 (MPO ID 18960) with Statewide Connectivity (Category-4) funding in coordination with Harris County Toll Road Authority's direct connectors construction projects at the interchange (MPO IDs 16340 & 18883). (+\$70.6M; Total: \$70.6M)
- Modify the local funding of Harris County Toll Road Authority's SH 225 direct connectors construction project at SL 8 (MPO ID 16340) and delay it to FY 2025 to coordinate with other interchange construction projects. (+\$108.0M; Total: \$200.0M)
- Modify the description of Harris County Toll Road Authority's SH 225 single direct connector construction project at SL 8 (MPO ID 18883) and add local funds for the construction of four direct connectors. (+\$236.0M; Total: \$260.0M)

ACTION REQUESTED

Transportation Policy Council approval of Resolution 2024-08.



Resolution

NO. 2024-08

AUTHORIZING AMENDMENTS OF THE 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) AND THE 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA

WHEREAS, the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan was adopted by the Transportation Policy Council on May 19, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program for the Houston-Galveston Metropolitan Planning Area was adopted by the Transportation Policy Council on May 20, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revisions to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program are consistent with the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan and its finding of conformance with the State Implementation Plan for air quality; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revisions to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program are consistent with the federal fiscal constraint requirements established for the Transportation Improvement Program and are consistent with the financially constrained 2045 Regional Transportation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC) FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA THAT THE 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND THE 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BE AMENDED TO REFLECT THE REVISIONS IDENTIFIED IN THE TABLE OF **APRIL 2024 TPC AMENDMENTS**.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT FEDERAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED BY THE TPC FROM THE CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) AND SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT (STBG) PROGRAMS REPRESENT A LIMITING AMOUNT. ANY COST OVERRUNS ON PHASES OF WORK AUTHORIZED BY THE TPC OR COSTS INCURRED ON PHASES OF WORK NOT AUTHORIZED BY THE TPC SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROJECT SPONSOR. IN NO CASE, SHALL FEDERAL PARTICIPATION UNDER THE CMAQ AND STBG PROGRAMS BE INCREASED WITHOUT CONSULTATION AND THE EXPRESS APPROVAL OF THE TPC.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 26th day of April 2024, at a regularly called meeting of the Transportation Policy Council.

APPROVED:



Hon. Justin Beckendorff, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council

ATTEST:



Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

H-GAC 2023-2026 TIP and 2045 RTP

April 2024 TPC Amendments

Count	MPOID/CSJ	Sponsor/County	Project	Proj Type	Proposed Modifications					
					STIP?	Funding (M)		Scope	Schedule	
						Fed/State	Local			
1	16340 0502-01-217	HCTRA (HAR)	SH 225 (AT SL 8,) CONSTRUCT 4 DIRECT CONNECTORS: PHASE 1 (NB-WB, SB-EB, NB-EB, SB-WB)	R	Yes	✓	+ \$108.0		✓	FY 2024 to FY 2025
2	18188 NA	METRO (MUL)	IH 69 S (WESTPARK/LOW..., WEST BELLFOR...) CONVERSION OF EXISTING 1 LANE REVERSIBLE HOV LANE TO 2 LANES - ONE LANE IN EACH DIRECTION; 24-HOURS BI-DIRECTIONAL OPERATION AND ACCESS	R	No			✓	✓	FY 2025 to FY 2029
3	18883 0502-01-243	HCTRA (HAR)	SH 225 (AT SL 8,) 4 DCs at SL 8 (EB-NB, EB-SB, WB-SB, WB-NB)	R	Yes	✓	+ \$236.0	✓		
4	18960 0502-01-244	TXDOT HOUSTON DISTRICT (HAR)	SH 225 (W OF SL 8, E OF SL 8) RECONSTRUCT MAIN LANES THROUGH INTERCHANGE	R	Yes	✓	Add to TIP	✓	✓	Add to 2026
5	19077 NA	METRO (HAR)	IH 69 S (SP 527, WESTPARK/LOW...) CONVERSION OF EXISTING 1 LAND REVERSIBLE HOV LANE TO 2 LANES - ONE IN EACH DIRECTION; 24-HOURS BI-DIRECTIONAL OPERATION AND ACCESS	R	Yes	✓	Add to TIP	✓	✓	Add to 2026

2023 - 2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

April 2024 Amendment

PROPOSED VERSION

MPOID / CSJ **19077 /** **STIP Revision Date:** **FY 2026**

DISTRICT	COUNTY	CSJ	HWY	PHASE	CITY	PROJECT SPONSOR	YOE COST
Houston	Harris		IH 69	C	HOUSTON	METRO	\$184,000,000

STREET: IH 69 S FUNDING CATEGORY: 3
 LIMITS FROM: SP 527 VOC: kg/day
 LIMITS TO: WESTPARK/LOWER UPTOWN TRANSIT CENTER NOx: kg/day
 TIP DESCRIPTION : CONVERSION OF EXISTING 1 LANE REVERSIBLE HOV LANE TO 2 LANES - ONE IN EACH DIRECTION; 24-HOURS BI-DIRECTIONAL OPERATION AND ACCESS

Project History : Amendment # MAY-2024: 2024-05-24: Split 19077 out of 18188 and program it into FY 2026 of the TIP with \$184M of local funding.

Remarks:

Total Project Cost Information:		Cost of Approved Phases:	Authorized Funding by Category/Share:					Funding By Category
Item	Amount		Funding Category	Federal	State	Local	Local Contribution	
Preliminary Engineering:	\$9,016,000	\$184,000,000	3-LOCAL	\$0	\$0		\$184,000,000	\$184,000,000
Right Of Way:	\$0		Funding by share:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$184,000,000	\$184,000,000
Construction:	\$184,000,000							
Construction Engineering:	\$7,360,000							
Contingencies:	\$18,400,000							
Indirects:	\$9,347,200							
Bond Financing:	\$0							
Total Project Cost	\$228,123,200							

TDC: 0

OLD VERSION

MPOID / CSJ **19077 /** **STIP Revision Date:** **FY**

DISTRICT	COUNTY	CSJ	HWY	PHASE	CITY	PROJECT SPONSOR	YOE COST
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STREET: FUNDING CATEGORY:
 LIMITS FROM: VOC: kg/day
 LIMITS TO: NOx: kg/day
 TIP DESCRIPTION :

Project History :

Remarks:

Total Project Cost Information:		Cost of Approved Phases:	Authorized Funding by Category/Share:					Funding By Category
Item	Amount		Funding Category	Federal	State	Local	Local Contribution	
Preliminary Engineering:								
Right Of Way:			Funding by share:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction:								
Construction Engineering:								
Contingencies:								
Indirects:								
Bond Financing:								
Total Project Cost								

TDC:

Mission Statement

"Provide safe, clean, reliable, accessible and friendly public transportation services to our region."

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February 1, 2024

Mr. Craig Raborn
MPO Director
Houston-Galveston Area Council
P.O. Box 22777
Houston, TX 77227-2777

ATTN: Adam Beckom

Re: RTP/TIP Amendment for IH 69 Two-Way HOV - MPOID 18188

Dear Mr. Raborn:

This letter is to solicit your support in moving forward with the development of the IH 69 Two-Way HOV project. The Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO) is working on the preliminary design and environmental analysis for the project. The project is included in the METRONext Moving Forward Plan approved by voters in November 2019. The project is also included in the air quality conforming 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) as:

- MPOID / Facility Name:** 18188 / IH 69 South HOV
- Limits:** SP 527 to West Bellfort Avenue (14 miles)
- Description:** Conversion of existing 1 lane reversible HOV Lane to 2 lanes – one in each direction, 24-hours
- Cost:** \$ 89,947,158.00

METRO has reassessed the development of the IH 69 Two-way HOV project and it has been determined that the project will be implemented in two phases. METRO is requesting your assistance in modifying the RTP to divide the project in two phases. Phase 1 would extend from Spur 527 to the Westpark / Lower Uptown Transit Center (WLUTC) and Phase 2 would extend from WLUTC to West Bellfort Avenue. Phase 1 is divided into three segments and planning, environmental analysis, and preliminary engineering is currently underway. **Figure A** provides a map of the project and identifies the two project phases and the three segments included in Phase 1.

FIGURE A – IH 69 Two-Way HOV



The Two-Way HOV project will be located in TxDOT right-of-way. METRO is working closely with TxDOT throughout the planning, preliminary design, and environmental analysis process to ensure design and construction compatibility and that appropriate FTA and FHWA standards are met.

RTP Amendment Request

METRO is requesting that the project identified in the 2045 RTP be amended to reflect the current plan:

MPOID / Facility Name: 18188a / IH 69 South HOV - Phase 1

Limits: SP 527 to Westpark/Lower Uptown Transit Center (WLUTC) – 6.2 miles

Description: Conversion of existing 1 lane reversible HOV Lane to 2 lanes – one in each direction; 24-hours bi-directional operation and access

Cost: \$184,000,000.00

Fiscal Year: 2026

MPOID / Facility Name: 18188b / IH 69 South HOV - Phase 2

Limits: Westpark/Lower Uptown Transit Center to West Bellfort/Harris - Fort Bend County line -7.8 miles

Description: Conversion of existing 1 lane reversible HOV Lane to 2 lanes - one in each direction; 24-hours bi-directional operation and access

Cost: \$90,000,000.00

Fiscal Year: 2030

TIP Amendment Request

The IH 69 Two-Way HOV project is not currently listed in H-GAC's 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). METRO initiated the coordination with H-GAC on TIP amendment for this project in March 2022. In H-GAC's previous correspondence, it was noted that this project could be advanced through the regular TIP Amendment process. Attached are copies of the correspondence regarding the IH 69 Two-Way HOV TIP Amendment. METRO is requesting H-GAC's assistance in amending the 2023-2026 TIP to include the IH 69 Two-Way HOV Project - Phase 1.

In addition to the project description, limits, and costs noted above, the following provides greater details to support the 2023-2026 TIP amendment:

Project Let Year: 2026

Estimated Year of Completion: 2030

Funding Source: The project is proposed to be locally funded, pending federal funding at a later date.

Project Coordination: The project is located in TxDOT ROW. METRO has been coordinating with TxDOT in conjunction with the planning, preliminary engineering, and environmental analysis process to ensure the HOV project meets

standard FTA and FHWA requirements. METRO and TxDOT are in the process of preparing the Advanced Funding Agreement outlining project costs and each entities' responsibilities. The coordinated efforts and implementation of the Two-Way HOV project should result in safe, and reliable service that allows for the effective movement of people traveling in both directions along the corridor.

Figure B summarizes the schedule for Phase 1 project development and construction.

FIGURE B – IH 69 TWO-WAY HOV PROJECT SCHEDULE – PHASE 1

Tasks	2023				2024				2025				2026			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4												
Project Management																
Public Engagement																
Planning/Operational Analysis																
Conceptual Development																
Categorical Exclusion																
Final Design*																
Construction*																

**Final design and construction schedule might be impacted by TxDOT NHHIP project schedule*

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at Aubin.Phillips@ridemetro.org.

Sincerely,



Aubin Phillips, AICP
 Program Manager
 System & Capital Planning

Copied:

Thomas Jasien, Interim President and CEO
 Shri Reddy, P.E., EVP Planning, Engineering & Construction
 Clint Harbert, AICP, Vice President, System & Capital Planning
 Alan Clark, Chief Strategy Officer

Attachment:

METRO / H-GAC Coordination on IH 69 Two-Way Project TIP Status, 2022
 H-GAC Response to METRO Re: IH 69 Two-Way Project TIP Amendment

ATTACHMENTS

Mission Statement

"Provide safe, clean, reliable, accessible and friendly public transportation services to our region."

Board of Directors

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March 31, 2022

Mr. Craig Raborn
Director of Transportation Planning
Houston-Galveston Area Council
3555 Timmons, Suite 120
Houston, TX 77027

RE: Comments on Draft 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Dear Mr. Raborn:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft 2023-2026 TIP project lists posted on H-GAC's website. After reviewing the lists of highway and transit projects, we have the following comments:

MPOID	PROJECT	COMMENT
17041	Cypress L-ramp	Project sponsor should be changed to TxDOT. The agencies are working on a funding agreement whereby TxDOT will design and construct the project.
18188	2-way HOV on I-69 S from Spur 527 to West Bellfort	Include project in draft transit list as locally funded in FY 2025. Additional comments below.

On January 21, 2022, METRO sent comments to H-GAC confirming a "Let Date" in FY 2025 for the project MPO ID 18188. Because of its implementation date in the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan, we understood this project would be included in the new TIP. METRO has discussed the project with TxDOT and is working to advance the project into the environmental phase. No changes to the project description or limits are requested at this time so moving this project into the upcoming 2023-26 TIP would not in conflict with H-GAC's most recent conformity determination. Omitting it from the TIP could, in fact, raise questions as to the consistency of the draft TIP with the RTP.

METRO feels that MPOID 18188 was inadvertently left off the transit project listing. As noted above, we request that it be added to the Draft 2023-2026 TIP, consistent with how it is shown in the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the project listings for the Draft TIP. Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at Edmund.Petry@ridemetro.org

Sincerely,



Edmund Petry, AICP
Director – System and Capital Planning
Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, TX

cc: Clint Harbert, AICP, VP-System & Capital Planning/METRO
Shri Reddy, PE, EVP-Planning, Engineering & Construction/METRO
Taylor Marcantel, AICP, Planning Program Manager II/METRO
Alan Clark, Chief Strategy Officer/METRO
Adam Beckom, AICP, Manager-Project Programming & Delivery/
Houston-Galveston Area Council
Vishu Lingala, Principal Planner/Houston-Galveston Area Council

2023-2026 TIP

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM



The 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a multimodal program of transportation infrastructure and service improvements planned for implementation in the Houston Region over the next four years.

MAY 2022

COMMENT 8:	<i>Submitted by John Mottershaw</i>
<p>I am not in favor of putting a center median on the downtown Tomball section of FM-2920. better options: Update the Feeder roads on Grand Parkway - 99 (add full feeders) Don't change the downtown Tomball FM2920 setup, push the traffic around, so we don't have just one pinch point. 2. Medians in our 115-year-old Historical Area will negatively impact our small businesses, that we support, and change the feel and culture of the Heart of our Hometown we have worked so hard to create.</p>	
Response: TXDOT	
<p>Thank you for your interest in the FM 2920 project. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is working with the City of Tomball to implement safety and mobility treatments on FM 2920 from BS 249 to Willow Street. These treatments were recommended as part of an access management study completed in 2008. We appreciate your concerns regarding the need to re-evaluate the traffic and safety data in light of land use and transportation changes in the area. TxDOT is performing a new analysis of crash data in the area and will continue to work with the City of Tomball to determine the best course of action for this important project.</p>	

COMMENT 9:	<i>Submitted by Edmund Petry</i>
<p>Comment letter can be found at https://www.h-gac.com/getmedia/153d350c-76cc-487f-93dc-8b8e267fa764/Financial-Plan.pdf</p>	
Response: H-GAC	
<p>17041: Sponsor can be changed through an amendment after TxDOT and METRO finalize the funding agreement. 18188: Project can be advanced to FY 2025 through regular TIP amendment process.</p>	

COMMENT 10:	<i>Submitted by Scott Ayers</i>
<p>TxDOT Beaumont District submitted minor revisions to the draft project information on Beaumont District sponsored projects.</p>	
Response: H-GAC	
<p>Project information included in your comments have been updated for final FY 2023-2026 TIP Highway project listing.</p>	