

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FEDERAL HIGHWAY 819 TAYLOR STREET, ROOM 8A36 FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-9003 AUSTIN, TEX

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION 300 E. 8TH STREET, ROOM 826 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-3255

July 21, 2010

Refer to: HPP-TX

Houston-Galveston Metropolitan Planning Area's Amended 2035 Regional Transportation Plan and FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program Conformity Determination

Mr. Amadeo Saenz Jr., P.E. Executive Director Texas Department of Transportation 125 E. 11th Street Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Saenz:

We have reviewed the documentation supporting the transportation conformity determination for the Houston-Galveston Area Council's (H-GAC) amended 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), adopted by H-GAC's Transportation Policy Council on January 22, 2010. Based upon our review and consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), we hereby find that amended 2035 RTP and the FY 2008-2011 TIP meet all the requirements for making a joint conformity determination under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. In their letters of March 22, 2010, March 30, 2010 and April 1, 2010, TCEQ, TxDOT and EPA, respectively, indicate that they have no unresolved issues concerning this conformity determination. The conformity determination and procedures used to make this determination are in accordance with the provisions of the transportation conformity rule (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93), dated August 15, 1997, as amended.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) acts as executive agent for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on Plan and TIP air quality conformity determinations. Accordingly, this letter will serve as the joint FHWA/FTA conformity determination. Please provide copies of this joint FHWA/FTA conformity determination to H-GAC, the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO), Island Transit and TCEQ.



Please note that this action does not restart the four-year update cycle for the Houston-Galveston area's RTP and corresponding conformity determination. Should you have any questions concerning this action, please contact Mr. Jose Campos at (512) 536-5932.

Sincerely,

Janice We(ngart Brown

Division Administrator

cc: Peggy Crist, FTA-Region 6 Laura Wallace, FTA-Region 6 Jeff Riley, US EPA-Region 6