

10. QUARTERLY TIP STATUS REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) directs the planning activities that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) partakes in over a 2-year period. As such, H-GAC conducts quarterly tracking and reporting of the development status on projects using information from available databases and sponsor data requests. H-GAC also provides planning assistance to local governments in the development of candidate and selected Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects with the objective of accelerating project delivery and reducing unanticipated changes in project scope and cost.

Additionally, over the last several years there have been large carryover balances for transportation projects that did not meet their originally programmed schedules. These carryover balances are largely comprised of funds from two categories: Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) and the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program. Funding from these programs is allocated from the federal government and used to select projects in the region through the project selection process. In efforts to reduce the carryover balance, staff reviews previously funded projects to aid project sponsors as well as assess the project schedules for programmatic considerations that are brought to the TAC and TPC for action.

CURRENT SITUATION

H-GAC staff met with project sponsors in the 4th quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 (July 2022 to September 2022) and 1st quarter of FY 2023 (September 2022 to December 2022) to review projects programmed in FY 2023 and FY 2024 of the TIP. The comparison between the projects that were programmed in FY 2022 and those projects that let in FY 2022 (in those 3 funding categories listed above) are as follows:

CMAQ – 21% of projects let and 62% of programmed funds expended
STBG – 33% of projects let and 26% of programmed funds expended
TASA – 67% of projects let and 66% of programmed funds expended

Approximately 30 projects (not including Federal Transit Administration [FTA] formula-funded projects) let in 2022. As of Mid-2022, approximately 115 projects (not including FTA funded projects) were programmed in FY 2023, of which approximately 80 projects (not including FTA funded projects or 100% Texas Department of Transportation [TxDOT] Sponsored Projects) were locally sponsored. Of these 80 locally sponsored projects programmed in FY 2023, 2 projects let in the 1st Quarter of FY 2023 (September – December 2022).

In the 4th quarter of 2022 and the 1st quarter of 2023, H-GAC met with 22 local government sponsors regarding approximately 65 projects (not including FTA funded projects or 100% TxDOT funded projects) programmed in the TIP for FYs 2023 and 2024. The programmed cost of those 65 projects was as follows:

- ~ \$446M Federal Funds
- ~\$856M Local Funds
- ~\$1.3B Total Funds

In the 4th quarter of 2022 H-GAC circulated a project status worksheet to each project sponsor to answer 25 high level questions regarding the project development status for each project. During the 1st quarter of 2023 local sponsor meetings, H-GAC used baseline information gathered from the 4th quarter 2022 meetings to request more detailed project development status information and to identify any outstanding action items from the 4th quarter of FY 2022 as well as develop of a list of additional action items for 1st quarter of FY 2023. H-GAC distributed meeting minutes to local sponsors for review/comments/approval.

Of the 65 projects (FY 2023 and 2024) discussed with local sponsors during the 4th quarter of FY 2022 and 1st quarter of FY 2023, 46 projects required changes. These changes included FY changes, cost estimate updates, project cancellations, sponsor changes, etc. Of the 46 project changes, 42 required amendments through Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and Transportation Policy Council (TPC).

Of those FY 2023 projects discussed (58), 10 projects moved from FY 2023 to FY 2024 and 12 projects moved from FY 2023 to 2025 or beyond. A total of 22 (~37.9%) projects moved out of FY 2023 based on conversations during the last 2 rounds of quarterly meetings. Below provides the funding information and percentages of those 22 projects that moved out of FY 2023 in comparison to the 58 projects:

Locally Sponsored 2023 TIP Projects (58) – Federal: \$ 369,981,127; Local: \$831,365,692, Total: \$1,201,346,819.

Projects that moved from FY 2023 (22) – Federal: \$127,347,162 (34.4% of total above) and Local: \$521,088,503 (62.7% of total above). The total dollar value of projects that moved out of FY 2023 was \$649,317,827, approximately 54.0% of the total dollar value of all projects H-GAC discussed with local sponsors during the last 2 rounds of quarterly meetings.

The goals for the remaining of FY 2023 include the following:

- After 1st quarter of 2023, have all 2023 and 2024 projects in correct/most reasonable FYs in the TIP
- More closely assess the FY 2025-2026 project list
- If let date needs to move into next FY, identify the correct FY at least 8 months prior to the last month of the FY (August) the project is programmed
- Develop potential solutions to assist sponsors with “schedule risk items”
- Advance projects where possible

ACTION REQUESTED

For information and discussion only.