

6. UNITED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM GRANT WRITING SUPPORT TASK

BACKGROUND

The 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes the regional transportation plans and programs, and the transportation-related air quality planning activities that will be undertaken during the fiscal years 2022 and 2023. The current UPWP was adopted by the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) on August 27, 2021.

CURRENT SITUATION

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act establishes, expands, or continues a substantial number of new and existing discretionary grant programs. Local governments and Metropolitan Planning Organizations are eligible recipients for many of these discretionary grants, so these represent significant opportunities to attract new transportation funds to the region. However, the level of effort to prepare these grant applications frequently exceeds the resources available to most small governments.

Staff has proposed a UPWP grant-writing support program for discussion. The potential program would focus on providing grant-writing support to local agencies interested in seeking these discretionary grants, and to the H-GAC Transportation department for pursuing region-wide grant opportunities. Due to timing, the TPC discussed this item at its November meeting, and based on that discussion, staff will prepare an action item for future consideration. The purpose of this item is to gather TAC input on this topic.

ACTION REQUESTED

For information and discussion only