

7. AMENDMENT TO THE 2022-2023 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

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 fiscal years 2023 and 2023. The current 2022-2023 UPWP was adopted by the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) on August 27, 2021.

CURRENT SITUATION

In response to discussions with the Transportation Policy Council, regional stakeholders, additional planning needs related to the Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Project Selection Process and subregional planning activities, a new transit planning grant from the Texas Department of Transportation, a new transit-oriented development grant to METRO from FHWA, and new planning and funding opportunities from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), staff has prepared UPWP Amendment #7, which includes changes and/or additional funds for six sub-tasks of the UPWP. These changes are described in the Amendment Summary document included with this item.

ACTION REQUESTED

Recommendation for Transportation Policy Council approval of Resolution UPWP 22/23-7.

H-GAC 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program, Amendment #7 Summary (Resolution UPWP 2022/23-7)

1.1.a – Program Support and Administration

[Amendment Action: Add activity and funding]

Implement Grant Coordination and Support program for local agencies to seek federal discretionary transportation grants.

- Grant coordination and support activities may include tracking grant opportunities, grant writing for local agency applications, coordinating discretionary grant applications from the region, preparing data for applications, identifying potential projects and regional prioritization, and other activities that may increase successful grant applications from local stakeholders or the Metropolitan Planning Organization.
- Add \$300,000 of Transportation Planning Funds to Sub-task 1.1 for Fiscal Year 2023 for potential consultant services

1.2.a – Public Involvement

[Amendment Action: Add activity and funding]

Update Language Assistance Plan.

- Update the H-GAC Language Assistance Plan, including conducting public outreach to gather input and feedback from non-English speaking residents of the region.
- Add \$50,000 of Transportation Planning Funds to Sub-task 1.2 for Fiscal Year 2023 for public media expenses

2.2.a – Travel Demand Forecasting

[Amendment Action: Add activity and funding]

Implement micro-simulation modeling software.

- Procure and utilize various micro-simulation modeling software platforms to provide technical support for regional transportation sub-area and corridor planning studies. The software platforms would be utilized to perform the following functions:
 - Model individual cars, trucks, buses, and pedestrians traveling through a network of freeways, streets and multiple types of intersections.
 - Provide delays, vehicular queues, travel times and other measures of effectiveness.
 - Optimize, simulate and animate signalized and unsignalized intersections.
- Add \$25,000 of Transportation Planning Funds to Sub-task 2.2a for Fiscal Year 2023 for software procurement

3.1 – Transportation Project Programming (Sub-tasks 3.1.a/3.1.b/3.1.c)

[Amendment Action: Add activity and funding]

Develop Online Project Selection Tool and Tracking Database.

- Procure and implement a web-based online project database (commonly called an "E-TIP" or Electronic Transportation Improvement Program) that provides a public interface for viewing approved and proposed transportation projects, allows project tracking, and supports project review and selection activities.
- Add \$250,000 of Transportation Planning Funds to Sub-task 3.1 for Fiscal Year 2023 for software platform procurement and implementation

3.4.a – Safety Planning, Data, Analysis, and Reporting

[Amendment Action: Add activity]

Provide support for Safety Task Force.

- Provide staff support activities for Safety Task Force appointed by the Transportation Policy Council to examine and recommend policies, programs, or other solutions intended to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes in the region.
- No additional cost

4.3.d – Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Planning

[Amendment Action: Add PARTNER activity and funding]

Develop Transit Oriented Development (TOD) plan at METRO’s University Corridor’s Tidwell Transit Center.

- Develop a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) plan at the Tidwell Transit Center along the University Corridor that will enhance connectivity, promote walkability and sustainability, and support equity through economic development and affordable housing.
- Add \$376,000 of FTA 5309 planning funds provided through an FTA TOD grant for Fiscal Year 2023
- Add \$94,000 of local matching funds from METRO for Fiscal Year 2023

4.6.a.3 – Regional Transit Agency Coordination

[Amendment Action: Add activity and funding]

Plan and Develop Transit Information System and Best Practices Guide.

- Address information gaps identified in the Regional Public Transportation Coordination Plan by making it easier for people to learn about the transit and transportation options available to them and the information they need to use those services.
- Add \$101,732 of FTA 5304 planning funds provided through a TxDOT grant for Fiscal Year 2023

Summary of Individual Fiscal Changes – FY2023 Transportation Planning Funds

Task/Sub-task	Sub-task Name	Funding Change	New Sub-task Total
1 / 1.1.a	Program Support and Administration	+\$300,000	\$3,810,000
1 / 1.2.a	Public Involvement	+\$50,000	\$835,000
2 / 2.2.a	Travel Demand Forecasting	+\$25,000	\$3,335,000
3 / 3.1	Transportation Project Programming	+\$250,000	\$845,000
	Total	+\$625,000	N/A

Summary of Individual Fiscal Changes – FY2023 Other Funding Sources

Task/ Sub-task	Sub-task Name	Change	Source	New Sub-task Total
4 / 4.6.a.3	Regional Transit Agency Coordination	+\$101,732	TxDOT/FTA 5304	\$140,000
	Transit Oriented Development Plan	+\$376,000	FTA 5309 grant	\$2,545,000
4 / 4.3	Transit Oriented Development Plan	+\$94,000	METRO Local	(see above)
	Total	+\$571,732		N/A



Resolution

No. UPWP 2022/23-7

ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE 2022-2023 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA.

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council adopted the 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) on August 27, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Amendment #7 to the 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program makes the following changes to Tasks I-IV for Fiscal Year 2023:

1. Adds a new activity and funds to Sub-task 1.1.a to implement a Grant Coordination and Support program for local agencies to seek federal discretionary transportation grants;
2. Adds a new activity and funds to Sub-task 1.2.a to update the Language Assistance Plan;
3. Adds a new activity and funds to Sub-task 2.2.a to implement micro-simulation modeling software;
4. Adds a new activity and funds to Sub-task 3.1 to develop an online project selection tool and tracking database;
5. Adds a new activity to Sub-Task 3.4.a to provide support for the Transportation Policy Council's Safety Task Force;
6. Adds a new activity to Sub-Task 4.3.d for METRO to develop a Transit Oriented Development plan at the Tidwell Transit Center; and
7. Adds a new activity and funds to Sub-task 4.6.a.3 to plan and develop a Transit Information Study and Best Practices Guide (using FTA 5304 funds).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC) THAT REVISIONS TO THE 2022-2023 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AS SHOWN IN THE ATTACHMENT ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND INCORPORATED INTO THE 2022-2023 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 24th day of February 2023, at a regularly called meeting of the Transportation Policy Council.

APPROVED:



02/28/2023

Hon. David Robinson, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council

ATTEST:



02/28/2023

Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council