

8. DRAFT 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

BACKGROUND

The 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.

H-GAC's TIP is included, along with all other MPO TIPs and Rural TIPs developed by TxDOT, in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The STIP, reviewed and approved by Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, forms the basis for federal project actions including environmental approvals, permits and fund obligations. A new STIP is compiled every two years resulting in at least two years of projects carried over from the previous STIP each cycle.

CURRENT SITUATION

The public comment period on draft Fiscal Year 2025-2028 TIP projects list was open from March 25, 2024 to May 24, 2024. During the public comment period, staff received a total of 601 public comments on the draft FY 2025-2028 TIP project list. Comments on specific projects were forwarded to the project sponsors to provide responses that will be posted online.

Through the TIP development process, the Texas Department of Transportation Houston District requested programming for new projects and cost increases for projects currently programmed in the TIP and 10 Year Plan, explained in detail in Attachment 8-1 following this page. In addition to the TxDOT Houston District, three additional local government sponsors requested \$103 million Category 7 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds for cost increases on projects programmed in the current TIP.

Based on the FY 2024 UTP funding allocations and current programming of funds in the current TIP and in the 10 Year Plan, H-GAC has approximately \$3.3 billion available for programming between FY 2025 – 2033 in Metropolitan and Urban Area Corridor Projects (Cat. 2), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (Cat. 5), Surface Transportation Block Grant (Cat. 7), and Transportation Alternatives-Set Aside (Cat. 9) funds. Out of the \$3.3 billion, about \$1.5 billion is available for the ongoing Project Selection Process (PSP) after programming the Regional Goods Movement Projects (\$150 million) approved by the Transportation Policy Council in December 2023. The remaining \$1.65 billion (about 50%) is reserved for unknown cost increases and future PSP cycles.

At the June 2024 TPC meeting, staff will present the breakdown of programming by mode (Highway, Transit and Bicycle/Pedestrian), and total programming by federal, state, and local share. The draft 2025-2028 TIP project listing is available here: <https://www.h-gac.com/transportation-improvement-program/2025-2028>

ACTION REQUESTED

Approval of Resolutions 2024-14 and 2024-15

ATTACHMENT 8-1: TxDOT FUNDING REQUEST

Through the TIP development process, the Texas Department of Transportation Houston District requested programming of over \$1.3 billion in Metropolitan and Urban Area Corridor Projects (Cat. 2), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funds (Cat. 5), and \$5 million in Carbon Reduction Program (Cat. 10 CRP) funds to be added to projects. Below is a table showing the funding request by category and fiscal year.

Total TxDOT Funding Request		
Fiscal Year	Metro. Corridor (Cat. 2)	Cat. 5 (CMAQ)
2025	\$86,597,806	\$50,186,309
2026	\$53,000,000	\$30,000,000
2027	\$658,239,927	\$17,300,565
2028	\$394,820,645	\$0
Total	\$1,192,658,378	\$97,486,873

Out of the new \$1.3 billion, \$875 million was requested to program on new projects that were not previously funded and were submitted for consideration in the ongoing Project Selection Process (PSP). \$415 million was requested for cost increases on projects that are currently programmed in the TIP and 10 Year Plan. All TxDOT Houston District projects are listed in the Regional Transportation Plan and are approved by the Texas Transportation Commission in the FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program.

In order to honor TxDOT Houston District’s request, H-GAC staff propose the following:

- Allocate remaining Cat. 2 (\$703 million from the ongoing PSP) and Cat. 5 (\$97 million) funds.
- Reduce \$497 million Cat. 3 from funds reserved for cost increases on programmed projects.
- Prioritize other local government and TxDOT Beaumont District projects in the current PSP over the remaining TxDOT Houston District projects that were submitted for consideration in the ongoing PSP.
- Reduce \$71 million in Cat. 5 and \$200 million in Cat. 7 from funds reserved for cost increases on programmed projects.

This will ensure \$1 billion will be available for prioritizing projects currently being scored in the ongoing PSP and have about \$910 million reserved for future PSP cycles and cost overruns on programmed projects. Also, the TTC is expected to approve new UTP in August, with the H-GAC region expected to receive \$0.5 billion in Categories 2, 5, 7, and 9 as FY 2034 allocation.

If TxDOT funding requests are approved, the FY 2025-2028 TIP will program \$20.9 billion in federal, state and local funds for Highway, Transit, Bicycle/Pedestrian and Freight Projects. The FY 2025-2028 TIP will also include a list of grouped projects in Appendix J.



Resolution

NO. 2024-14

APPROVING THE 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) was enacted on November 15, 2021 and authorizes the Federal surface transportation programs for highways, safety, and transit; and

WHEREAS, the IIJA and Code of Federal Regulations establish requirements for the metropolitan transportation planning process, including the development of Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs); and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) as the Policy Board for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), has adopted policies and procedures for the selection and prioritization of projects consistent with federal planning requirements; and

WHEREAS, the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program was developed in cooperation with the state and local governments, and local transit providers; and

WHEREAS, opportunity for public comment has been provided per the policies established by the Public Participation Plan amended by the Transportation Policy Council in January 2021; and

WHEREAS, the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program includes statewide project groupings developed in accordance with the Metropolitan Planning regulations and in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program includes a financial summary that demonstrates its compliance with federal regulations regarding financial constraint; and

WHEREAS, the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan Update, the long-range transportation plan for the Houston-Galveston Metropolitan Planning Area, was adopted in April 2023 by the Transportation Policy Council; and

WHEREAS, the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program was developed from, and is consistent with the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan Update, as amended, and its air quality conformity determination received Federal Highway Administration concurrence in November 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA, THAT THE 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM IS HEREBY APPROVED, AND THE MPO DIRECTOR IS

DIRECTED TO SUBMIT THE TIP TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2025-2028 STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 28th day of June 2024, at a regularly called meeting of the Transportation Policy Council.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Hon. Justin Beckendorff, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council

Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council



Resolution

NO. 2024-15

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION SELF-CERTIFICATION

In accordance with 23 CFR Part 450.336 and 450.220 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), the Texas Department of Transportation and the Transportation Policy Council of the Houston-Galveston Area Council, Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Houston and the The Woodlands-Conroe Transportation Management Areas, hereby certify that the transportation planning process is addressing the major issues in the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

1. 23 U.S.C. 134, 49 U.S.C. 5303, and 23 CFR 450 Subpart C;
2. In nonattainment and maintenance areas, Sections 174 and 176(c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7504, 7506(c) and (d)) and 40 CFR Part 93;
3. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d-1) and 49 CFR Part 21;
4. 49 U.S.C. 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
5. Section 1101(b) of the FAST Act (Pub. L. 114-357) and 49 CFR Part 26 regarding the involvement of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in US DOT-funded projects;
6. 23 CFR Part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
7. The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and (49 CFR Parts 27, 37, and 38);
8. The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
9. Section 324 of Title 23 U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and
10. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR Part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

Eliza Paul, P.E. District Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Houston District

Date

Martin Gonzales, P.E. District Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
Beaumont District

Date

Hon. Justin Beckendorff, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council

Date

Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

Date