

8. APPROVAL OF THE 2023-2026 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 Draft 2023-2026 TIP contains projects which have been funded in the TIP timeframe by the TPC or through local sponsor action. This includes estimated amounts for future year federal transit funding as approved by designated recipients in consultation with other local transit providers.

Staff has also worked with sponsors to update locally-funded project information to ensure that projects that need to be listed in the TIP are updated and reflect latest available information. Based on feedback received from stakeholders and the public, staff has drafted a more concise and accessible document. The Draft 2023-2026 TIP is available for review on H-GAC's TIP website: [2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program | Houston-Galveston Area Council \(H-GAC\)](#)

The public comment period for the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program began on March 4, 2022 and closed on April 4, 2022. H-GAC held two online public meetings on the draft 2023-2026 TIP on March 22, 2022. A total of 33 public comments were received. All public comments can be viewed at the above website.

2023 - 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Schedule:

January 2022	2023-2026 TIP Development (Information)
February 2022	Draft Project Listings for Public Comment – Technical Advisory Committee /Transportation Policy Council (Information)
	Public Comment Period Begins (March 4, 2022)
March 2022	Public Meeting (March 22, 2022)
April 2022	Public Comment Period Ends April 4, 2022
	Final Draft Listings – Technical Advisory Committee /Transportation Policy Council (Information)
May 2022	Final Draft Listings – Technical Advisory Committee /Transportation Policy Council (Action/Adoption)
June 2023	TIP Document Submitted to TxDOT for inclusion in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
August 2022	Anticipate Texas Transportation Commission Action
October/November 2022	Anticipate Federal Approval

Action Requested

Recommendation for TPC approval of Resolution 2022-20.



Resolution

NO. 2022-20

APPROVING THE 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA:

WHEREAS, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) was enacted on December 4, 2015 and authorizes the Federal surface transportation programs for highways, safety, and transit; and

WHEREAS, the FAST Act 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 2023-2026 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 2023-2026 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 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program includes a financial summary that demonstrates its compliance with federal regulations regarding financial constraint; and

WHEREAS, the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan, the long-range transportation plan for the Houston-Galveston Transportation Management Area, was adopted in May 2019 by the Transportation Policy Council; and

WHEREAS, the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program was developed from, and is consistent with the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan, as amended, and its air quality conformity determination received Federal Highway Administration concurrence in August 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA, THAT THE 2023-2026 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 2021-2024 STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 20th day of May 2022, at a regularly called meeting of the Transportation Policy Council.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Hon. David Robinson, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council

Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council