

**CONCURRENCE ON TRANSFER OF DIRECT RECIPIENT STATUS OF FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FUNDING TO GULF COAST TRANSIT DISTRICT**

**Background**

The Gulf Coast Transit District (GCTD) was created on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 by the Commissioner's Courts in Brazoria and Galveston Counties, respectively. It is a joint Urban/Rural Transit District operating under Chapter 458 of the Texas Transportation Code. The GCTD Board of Directors is composed of 15 voting members from the small Urbanized Areas (UZA)s of Lake Jackson and Texas City, and rural parts of Galveston and Brazoria Counties.

The small urbanized and rural areas of these counties have been served by the Gulf Coast Center under its public transportation operation, branded as Connect Transit. The GCTD will assume all of the public transit functions from the Gulf Coast Center.

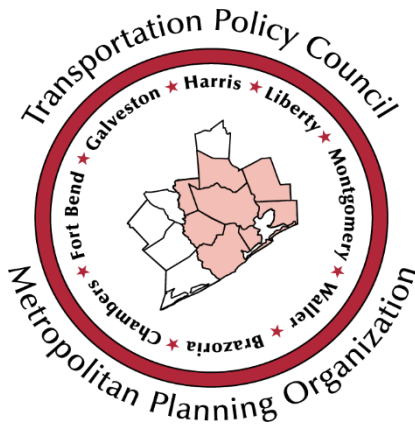
Chapter 458 of the Texas Transportation Code provides for the creation of urban and rural transit districts which allows transit services to receive federal and state funding. Consequently, Galveston and Brazoria Counties have formed an Urban/Rural transit district (GCTD) as described under Chapter 458 to become eligible to receive federal and state funding. GCTD seeks to be the designated recipient of Federal Urbanized Area formula funding.

**Current Situation**

The Direct Recipient designation will enable the GCTD to receive and spend federal Urbanized Area Formula Program assistance as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 5307 and 5339 for the Texas City and Lake Jackson urbanized areas in support of public transportation operating, planning, and capital activities.

**Action Requested**

TPC approval of Resolution No. 2020-37 that will concur in the transfer of designated recipient status from the Gulf Coast Center to the Gulf Coast Transit District for Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Grant funds and Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Grant funds for the Texas City/La Marque and Lake Jackson/Angleton UZAs.



# Resolution

NO. 2020-37

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE TRANSFER OF DIRECT RECIPIENT STATUS FOR FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5307 URBANIZED AREA FORMULA GRANT FUNDS AND SECTION 5339 BUS AND BUS FACILITIES FORMULA GRANT FUNDS FROM THE GULF COAST CENTER (GCC) TO THE GULF COAST TRANSIT DISTRICT (GCTD).**

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Agreement creating and establishing the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Houston-Galveston Transportation Management Area requires that the MPO provide a structure to evaluate the adequacy of the transportation planning and programming process; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) has been established and charged with the responsibility and duty of fulfilling the aforementioned functions; and

WHEREAS, funding is made available to designated recipients that are public bodies with the legal authority to receive and dispense federal transit funds. Governors, responsible local officials and publicly-owned operators of transit services shall designate a recipient to apply for, receive, and dispense funds for urbanized areas pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 5307 and 49 U.S.C. 5339.

WHEREAS, for Census-designated Urbanized Areas (UZAs) with 200,000 in population and over, funds are apportioned and flow directly to a designated recipient selected locally to apply for and receive Federal funds;

WHEREAS, the current designated recipient of Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Grant funds and Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Grant funds for the Texas City/La Marque and Lake Jackson/Angleton UZAs is the Gulf Coast Center (GCC);

WHEREAS, the Gulf Coast Transit District (GCTD) was formally constituted by the Commissioners' Courts of Galveston and Brazoria Counties on May 4, 2020 and May 12, 2020, respectively, and these areas are currently served by Gulf Coast Center under its public transportation division, Connect Transit;

**TPC Agenda Item 11**  
**Mailout 10/16/20**

WHEREAS, Chapter 458 of the Texas Transportation Code provides for the creation of urban transit districts which provide federal and state supported transit services, and a transit provider can receive state or federal public transportation funds through the Texas Department of Transportation only if the transit provider becomes an urban transit district as provided in Chapter 458;

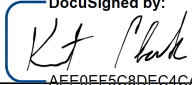
WHEREAS, the aforementioned GCTD, created by Galveston and Brazoria Counties, is an urban transit district, as described under Chapter 458 to receive State Transit Funds;

WHEREAS, direct recipient designation will enable the GCTD to receive and spend federal Urbanized Area Formula Program assistance as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 5307 and 49 U.S.C. 5339 for the Texas City and Lake Jackson urbanized areas in support of public transportation operating, planning, and capital activities.

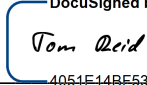
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL OF THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA CONCURS IN THE TRANSFER OF DESIGNATED RECIPIENT STATUS FOR SECTION 5307 URBANIZED AREA FORMULA GRANT FUNDS AND SECTION 5339 BUS AND BUS FACILITIES GRANT FUNDS FOR THE TEXAS CITY/LA MARQUE AND LAKE JACKSON/ANGLETON UZAS FROM THE GULF COAST CENTER TO THE GULF COAST TRANSIT DISTRICT.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 23RD DAY OF OCTOBER 2020, AT A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL.

APPROVED:

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Hon. Kenneth Clark, Chairman  
Transportation Policy Council

ATTEST:

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Hon. Tom Reid, Secretary  
Transportation Policy Council