

9B. CARRYOVER SPEND DOWN PROJECTS UPDATE

BACKGROUND

The TPC's Project Selection Process approval in January 2023 included a commitment for the MPO staff to review projects submitted to H-GAC by sponsors (as part of the larger TPC selection process for competitive consideration of federal funding) to assess whether projects could let within a two-year period. This process (to identify carry over spend down projects) screened projects for readiness and then assessed how well "ready" projects aligned with the TPC's priorities and goals expressed through the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). As a result of the carryover spend down project identification effort, on December 15, 2023, H-GAC programmed 60 projects represented by 25 sponsors with \$335,225,653 of federal funds.

CURRENT SITUATION

The carryover spend down projects are moving through various "next step tasks". All projects except one (with total project cost of \$500K) are on schedule to let prior to August 2025. H-GAC held a workshop for sponsors of the carryover spend down projects on February 7, 2024 where TxDOT presented the Advanced Funding Agreement (AFA) process; Federal Transit Administration (FTA) presented the FTA "Transfer" process as well as the steps it takes to become an FTA Recipient; and H-GAC presented the Regional Strategic Transportation Fund (RSTF) program. H-GAC developed a "Next Steps" tracking spreadsheet for each of the 59 projects with due dates for each task and is coordinating with sponsors weekly. H-GAC is in the process of scheduling quarterly meetings with the sponsors of carryover spend down projects (if quarterly meetings are not already conducted/scheduled with those sponsors). Per request from several local government sponsors (who are not as familiar with the TxDOT consultant procurement process), H-GAC will be hosting a "Question and Answer" meeting for local government sponsors to assist these agencies in procuring their consultants in a timely manner. H-GAC will continue to monitor the carryover spend down projects closely and assist project sponsors with "schedule risk items" and any other needs that might arise.

ACTION REQUESTED

For information and discussion only.