



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION
819 TAYLOR STREET, ROOM 8A36
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-9003

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
300 E. 8TH STREET, ROOM 826
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

October 20, 2014

Refer to: HPP-TX

Joint Approval of August 2014 Quarterly Revisions to the FY 2013-2016 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

LtGen Joe Weber, USMC (Ret)
Executive Director
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

Attention: Marc Williams

Dear General Weber:

We have reviewed the August 2014 quarterly revisions to the FY 2013-2016 STIP transmitted with your September 16, 2014, approval, received September 24, 2014.

Following a public meeting for the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), several members of the public provided (emailed) written comments. The TXDOT response was a simple form letter with thanks in lieu of a full response to the public comments. While a form letter may be satisfactory in response to supportive public comments, it is not an adequate response to comments with unsupportive connotations.

It is important that TXDOT not only acknowledges, but also responds to public comments received (23 CFR 450.210). Based on the comments received, TXDOT staff should work in collaboration with the District, Finance and Public Transportation sections and the MPO, if applicable, in providing a complete response to the comments received from the public.

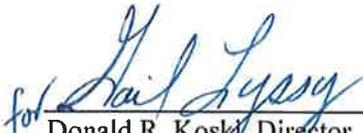
Furthermore, if the comment is not applicable to the TXDOT mission or activities, it should be shared with the correct office and staff. The response regarding a comment that is not applicable to TXDOT should include the person or office, along with contact information, so that the public may follow up on their comment.

A full response to public comments received is required by close of business on November 20, 2014. This may be accomplished with individual responses or one letter addressing all of the comments. Per agreement between FHWA and FTA please provide both agencies with a copy of the revised response(s) to all of the public involvement.

Prior to the STIP approval of Transportation Alternative Program projects, complete project documentation (project purpose, need, scope, cost breakdown etc...) is required for FHWA to complete a TAP eligibility determination.

Based upon our review of the STIP, the revisions are approved subject to receipt of satisfactory response to the public comments, and the enclosed FHWA/FTA comments. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Genevieve Bales of the FHWA Texas Division at (512) 536-5941 or Ms. Lynn Hayes of the FTA Region VI office at (817) 978-0565 for additional information.

Sincerely yours,



Donald R. Koski, Director
Planning and Programming Development
Federal Transit Administration



Michael T. Leary, Director
Planning and Program Development
Federal Highway Administration

Enclosure

- cc: Lynn Hayes, FTA, Region VI
Alison McMillan, TxDOT Design Division
James Koch, TxDOT TPP
Lori Morel, TxDOT TPP
Kelly Kirkland, TxDOT PTN
FHWA: HA-TX, HB-TX, HAM-TX, HPP-TX

2014 August Revisions to the 2013-2016 STIP

	MPO / District	CSJ Number	STIP comment
1	Statewide	Statewide Financials	In FY 2014, the funding revenue by category and funding revenue by source do not match, please explain.
2	Statewide	0912-00-528	Not Approved. Please provide additional information on relationship to surface transportation and Title 23 eligibility.
3	H-GAC/Houston	0912-72-313	Not Approved. TAP eligibility determination requires additional information
4	H-GAC/Houston	0912-56-052	Not Approved. TAP eligibility determination requires additional information
5	EPMPPO/El Paso	0924-06-469	Not Approved. Please see 2014 January OOC Revisions to the 2013-2015 STIP.
6	Hidalgo/Pharr	0921-02-254	Not Approved. At this time funding eligibility is not clear. Original earmark information is required to ensure the project limits and scope are eligible. Approval is pending eligibility determination.
7	Hidalgo/Pharr	3627-01-001	Not Approved. At this time funding eligibility is not clear. Original earmark information is required to ensure the project limits and scope are eligible. Approval is pending eligibility determination.
8	Hidalgo/Pharr	3629-01-001	Not Approved. Please provide additional information on Federal funding source. Approval is pending eligibility determination.
9	Hidalgo/Pharr	0039-17-180	Not Approved. Please provide additional information on Federal funding source. Approval is pending eligibility determination.
10	Hidalgo/Pharr	0921-02-194	Not Approved. At this time funding eligibility is not clear. Original earmark information is required to ensure the project limits and scope are eligible. Approval is pending eligibility determination.
11	Hidalgo/Pharr	0921-02-168	Not Approved. At this time funding eligibility is not clear. Original earmark information is required to ensure the project limits and scope are eligible. Approval is pending eligibility determination.
12	Hidalgo/Pharr	General	CAT-9 should also now include TAP funding.
13	Rural/Tyler	0198-02-027	Not Approved. Please provide additional information on Federal funding source. Approval is pending eligibility determination.