



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION      FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
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FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-9003      AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

July 24, 2014

Refer to: HPP-TX

Joint Approval of May 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. 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

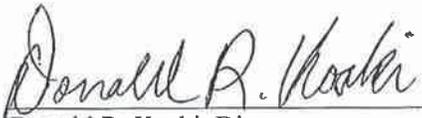
Attention: Marc Williams

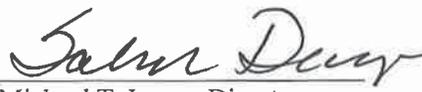
Dear General Weber:

We have reviewed the May 2014 quarterly revisions to the FY 2013-2016 STIP transmitted with your June 9, 2014, approval. Based upon our review, these revisions to the STIP are hereby approved subject to the enclosed 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

*for*   
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 May Revisions to the 2013-2016 STIP

	<b>MPO / District</b>	<b>CSJ Number</b>	<b>STIP comment</b>
1	General	None	MPOs and Districts are reminded that the total project cost noted in the revised STIP pages must reflect the cost of the entire project, rather than just the phase of work (e.g., preliminary engineering, right-of-way or construction) included in the TIP/STIP.
2	EPMPPO/ El Paso	General	Not Approved. At this time no further action is being taken on the El Paso 2014 May Revisions to the 2013-2016 STIP until questions on MTP and TIP consistency are resolved.
3	H-GAC/Houston	0027-12-105 0027-12-106	Not Approved. The information provided for H-GAC's Amendment 54, indicates that revisions included in this amendment modify funding for previously let projects. However, the proposed changes to these projects indicate modification of the project limits (CSJ 0027-12-105) and inclusion of the project in the TIP (CSJ 0027-12-106). It is noted that the revised STIP pages provided with the May 2014 Quarterly STIP revisions do not reflect these projects. Approval of these revisions is withheld pending clarification of the proposed changes.
4	H-GAC/Houston	0912-00-488	Approved. It is noted that this revision combines three Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) funded projects previously approved as part of the 2013-2016 STIP. However, please revise the STIP information for the combined project to reflect the anticipated emission reductions for the combined project and the project limits for the proposed improvements along SH 6, FM 1092 and FM 2234, consistent with the previous project descriptions.

## 2014 May Revisions to the 2013-2016 STIP

	<b>MPO / District</b>	<b>CSJ Number</b>	<b>STIP comment</b>
5	H-GAC/Houston	1062-05-009	Not approved. The May 2014 Quarterly STIP revisions for H-GAC include Amendments 49 and 57. Both of these amendments address this project and revise the project's facility and limits (Amendment 49), and letting date (Amendment 57). The revised project facility and limits do not appear consistent with the project information provided in H-GAC's conforming 2035 RTP Update. Also, the project is noted as "N/A" for transportation conformity purposes in H-GAC's 2035 RTP Update, but appears to be adding capacity. Approval of this revision is withheld pending clarification of the project's consistency with H-GAC's conforming 2035 RTP Update.
6	H-GAC/Houston	2105-01-048	Not approved. Assuming a 2014 project letting and a 2-year construction time-frame for this project, it is anticipated that the project would be completed in 2016 and reflected in the 2017 transportation conformity analysis year. However, H-GAC's 2035 RTP Update indicates a 2018 transportation conformity analysis year. Additionally, the revised STIP page indicates this project being in FY 2014, however H-GAC's TIP amendment documentation notes it as a FY 2015 project. Approval of this revision is withheld pending clarification of the project's consistency with H-GAC's conforming 2035 RTP Update and H-GAC's Amendment 53.
7	H-GAC/Houston	3187-01-011	Not approved. This revision splits out construction of the frontage roads (2014) from construction of the 4-lane tollway (2015). The combined project was previously approved into the 2013-2016 STIP with the understanding that construction of the entire project would be completed after 2017 and before the end of 2018. Please confirm that the revised project implementation schedule/approach remains consistent with this understanding. Additionally, the scope of work noted in H-GAC's 2035 RTP Update includes construction of interchanges along the proposed SH 99 facility. Interchange construction does not appear to be reflected in the revised project description. Please clarify the project's scope. Approval of this revision is withheld pending clarification of the project's consistency with H-GAC's conforming 2035 RTP Update.

## 2014 May Revisions to the 2013-2016 STIP

	<b>MPO / District</b>	<b>CSJ Number</b>	<b>STIP comment</b>
8	H-GAC/Houston	3187-02-011	Not approved. This revision splits out construction of the frontage roads (2014) from construction of the 4-lane tollway (2015). The combined project was previously approved into the 2013-2016 STIP with the understanding that construction of the entire project would be completed after 2017 and before the end of 2018. Please confirm that the revised project implementation schedule/approach remains consistent with this understanding. Additionally, the scope of work noted in H-GAC's 2035 RTP Update includes construction of interchanges along the proposed SH 99 facility. Interchange construction does not appear to be reflected in the revised project description. Please clarify the project's scope. Approval of this revision is withheld pending clarification of the project's consistency with H-GAC's conforming 2035 RTP Update.
9	NCTCOG / Dallas	0000-18-003	Not approved. The CMAQ project description is too vague and non-descriptive in terms of scope of work for individual projects. We request additional information regarding the individual scope of work and emissions benefits for each of the individual projects. Additionally, we recommend that the blended proposed CMAQ project activities as shown be separated out individually as part of the STIP/TIP documentation (NOTE: This project is shown in both FY 15 and FY 16 (pp 13 and 16)).