



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION      FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
819 TAYLOR STREET, ROOM 8A36      300 E. 8TH STREET, ROOM 826  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-9003      AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

December 22, 2009

Refer to: HPP-TX

Joint Approval of November 2009 Quarterly Revisions for the  
FY 08-11 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

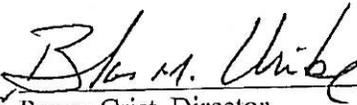
Mr. James Randall, P. E.  
Director, Transportation Planning and Programming Division  
Texas Department of Transportation  
125 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

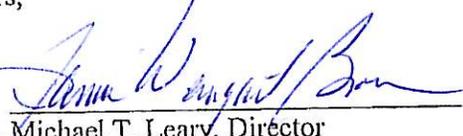
Dear Mr. Randall:

We have reviewed the November 2009 Quarterly Revisions to the FY 2008-2011 STIP transmitted by Mr. Amadeo Saenz's letter of November 21, 2009. Based upon our review, the November 2009 Quarterly Revisions to the STIP are hereby approved subject to the enclosed comments.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this approval, please contact either Mr. Kirk Fauver of the FHWA Texas Division at (512) 536-5952 or Ms. Lynn Hayes of FTA Region 6 office at (817) 978-0565 for additional information.

Sincerely yours,

*for*   
Peggy Crist, Director  
Planning and Program Development  
Federal Transit Administration

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

Enclosure



cc:

FHWA-HA-TX, HB-TX, HAM-TX  
Peggy Crist, FTA, Region VI  
Wayne Wells, TxDOT Design  
Angela Gill, TxDOT Design  
Lori Morel, TxDOT TPP(S)  
Kelly Kirkland, TxDOT PTN

# ENCLOSURE

## NOVEMBER 2009 QUARTERLY STIP REVISION COMMENTS

### Beaumont MPO/District:

1. CSJ 0200-10-067 (MPO ID 02028-F15) does not involve Recovery Act funds and shows widening of a highway to four lanes with a continuous left turning lane funded under UTP Category #11 (District Discretionary) funds for the amount of \$9.7 M. Approval of this revision is withheld due to ongoing concerns regarding the fiscal constraint of the FY 2008-2011 STIP as noted in our letter of October 9, 2009.
2. CSJ 0200-10-067 (MPO ID 02028-F15) the amount of District Discretionary (Category #11) funds does not match between the November 2009 Quarterly Revisions and the Highway Financial Summary Table in terms of YOE (\$9,701,952 vs. \$10,493,692 in Financial Summary Table). This revision is approved contingent upon clarification of the discrepancy in the noted funding amounts.

### El Paso MPO/District:

1. CSJ 2552-04-029: The funding summary information for this project indicates \$63, 200,000 in Federal participation. However, the “remarks” information provided indicates \$74,000,000 coming from Proposition 14 funds (non-federal). Based upon this information Federal participation is estimated at \$5,000,000. Approval of this revision is withheld pending clarification of the funding summary information.

### Dallas-Ft Worth District/MPO:

1. CSJ 0048-08-024: This project does not appear consistent with Mobility 2030 – 2009 Amendment (i.e., not included in Exhibit 24-2). Approval of this revision is withheld pending resolution of this discrepancy.

### Houston District/MPO:

1. Amendment 134, CSJ 0271-06-110 and CSJ 3510-05-903:43: These revisions split the original CSJ 3510-05-903 for the construction of six direct connectors into one project constructing two-direct connectors and one project constructing 4-direct connectors. The revised CSJ 3510-05-903 reflects “toll” in the project description. However, “tolling” is not reflected in the original CSJ 3510-05-903 or the revised CSJ 02771-06-110. Approval of these revisions is withheld pending the clarification of the proposed description of work for these projects (toll or non-toll).

2. Amendment 180B, CSJ 0675-08-103: This revision proposes to modify the project limits and scope of work for this project. The proposed funding for this project is noted as “Category 2 – METRO,” including \$44,000,000 in federal funding (non-Recovery Act or Congressional Earmark). Approval of this revision is withheld due to ongoing concerns regarding the fiscal constraint of the FY 2008-2011 STIP as noted in our letter of October 9, 2009.
3. Amendment 184, CSJ 2105-01-038: This revision proposes to widen a portion of FM 2234 from 2-lanes to 4-lanes divided. However, the 2035 RTP indicates widening from 2-lanes to 4-lanes (no indication of divided or undivided). This revision is approved contingent upon verification of consistency between the proposed revision and the 2035 RTP (i.e., divided vs. undivided).

#### **Odessa/MOTOR District/MPO:**

1. Project ID CI 105(d) (CSJ 0380-18-006) appears most recently in the March 6 OOC STIP revisions with “Funding Category: Econ. Stimulus.” The November 2009 revision shows “Funding Category: Strategic Priority.” Is the MPO converting this project from Recovery Act funds to Category 12 funding (i.e., other federal non-Recovery Act funds)? If so, we cannot approve this revision due to ongoing concerns regarding the fiscal constraint of the FY 2008-2011 STIP as noted in our letter of October 9, 2009. Approval of this revision is withheld pending additional clarification concerning the proposed funding change.

#### **Pharr District/Brownsville MPO:**

1. CSJ 0921-06-230: It is noted that the MTP reference for this project indicates “pending.” We understand that the necessary revision (i.e., update of the Brownsville MTP) adding this project to the Brownsville MPO MTP has been completed. As such this revision is approved. The MTP reference in the STIP should be updated at the next opportunity.
2. It is noted that resolution “2009-10A” dated October 29, 2009, adopting the revisions to the Brownsville MPO TIP was not signed by TxDOT’s District Engineer, Mario Jorge. Please provide a signed copy of this resolution at the earliest convenience.

#### **San Angelo District/MPO:**

1. Project CSJ 2469-01-007: The “type of work” box shows \$2,400,000 in federal funds and \$600,000 in state funds, but information in the “Total Funding” box to the far right indicates the entire amount as “Recovery Act” funding. This revision is approved contingent upon the clarification of the correct federal (Recovery Act) funding amount.

**Waco MPO:**

1. In accordance with 23 CFR 450.322 (c), MPOs designated attainment of the air quality standards are required to update their Metropolitan Transportation Plans (MTP) once every 5-years. It is our understanding that the Waco MPO last updated their MTP on December 6, 2004. Accordingly an update of the MTP was to be completed by December 6, 2009. Based upon discussions with the Waco MPO it is our understanding that an update of the Waco MTP was not completed by December 6, 2009, but is scheduled for adoption on January 26, 2010. Consequently, we are not able to approve any revisions to the STIP (highway or transit) for the Waco MPO until the MTP is updated.