

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

GALVESTON County

MINUTE ORDER

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HOUSTON District

The Texas Transportation Commission (commission) desires to award \$400,000 in Transportation Development Credits (TDC) to the City of Galveston to be used for studies, including alternatives analysis, and environmental and preliminary engineering work on the proposed Galveston to Houston commuter rail line. The city has received a grant under the Federal Transit Administration's New Starts Program. The city would use the TDC to satisfy the non-federal match requirement of the federal grant.

The commission recognizes that state and federal law permit the substitution of TDC as the required non-federal match for capital projects. Title 43, Texas Administrative Code (TAC), §5.73 establishes a process by which TDC may be awarded at the discretion of the commission. The commission finds that the project and the proposed award of TDC has been reviewed to confirm eligibility, benefit to public transportation, and the furtherance of the goals of the Texas Department of Transportation (department) in 43 TAC §5.72(e).

The commission finds that the project will meet the goals of the department through the studying of alternative modes of transportation that could provide reduced emissions, congestion relief, enhanced safety, and system connectivity with local transit and potential high-speed and intercity passenger rail.

Transportation Code, Chapter 201 authorizes the department to coordinate activities regarding the planning, coordination, operation, and maintenance of a statewide passenger rail system.

Transportation Code, Chapter 455 assigns a broad spectrum of public transportation roles and missions to the department.

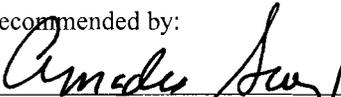
Transportation Code, Chapter 456 authorizes the commission to administer funds appropriated for public transportation.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that the executive director or the director's designee is directed to distribute TDC to the City of Galveston as outlined above and to enter into any necessary agreements.

Submitted and reviewed by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Rail Division

Recommended by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Director

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Minute Number      Date Passed