

**AWARD TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT CREDITS (TDC) TO
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

Description

This minute order authorizes the award of TDC to the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC), in the amount of 160,000 to be used as the non-federal match for federal funds awarded to the HGAC to develop a summary report concerning the feasibility of an I-69 Corridor Relief Route, to revise the HGAC 2035 Metropolitan Plan and to update its Air Quality Conformity Determination.

Background

The Travel Demand Modeling Support for Corridor Planning project is in the FY 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) adopted by the Transportation Policy Council on August, 24, 2007. TxDOT executed a Local Project Advance Funding Agreement for a total of \$800,000 (\$640,000 federal, \$160,000 non-federal) with HGAC in October 2009.

Criteria

Title 43, Texas Administrative Code, §5.73(a) 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 have been reviewed to confirm eligibility. The project will meet the goals of the department by measuring the benefits from reduced travel times and travel delay; based on feasible route alternatives to reduce congestion, reduce vehicular crashes, and improve air quality in the region. HGAC will also revise its 2035 Metropolitan Plan and update its Air Quality Conformity Determination.

Problem/Condition

This minute order is necessary to award TDC which will enable the MPO to proceed with the project.

Other Comments

None

Alternate Solutions/Actions

None

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

HARRIS County

MINUTE ORDER

Page 1 of 1

HOUSTON District

The Texas Transportation Commission (commission) desires to award 160,000 in Transportation Development Credits (TDC) to a Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC), to be used as a non-federal match for federally funded projects.

The commission recognizes that state and federal laws permit the substitution of TDC as the required non-federal match for projects for entities eligible for funding under Title 23, USC or Chapter 53 of Title 49, USC.

Title 43, Texas Administrative Code, §5.73(a) establishes a process by which TDC may be awarded at the discretion of the commission. In accordance with §5.71(3), HGAC is an entity eligible for award of TDC and in accordance with §5.71(4), the project is eligible for award of TDC.

HGAC, which serves Harris County and the seven adjacent counties, has requested the award of 160,000 in TDC as the non-federal match to develop a summary report concerning the feasibility of an I-69 Relief Route to reduce congestion for the Houston-Galveston area, to revise the HGAC 2035 Regional Transportation Plan, and to update its Air Quality Conformity Determination.

The commission finds that the project will meet the goals of the department by measuring the benefits from reduced travel times and travel delay; based on feasible route alternatives to reduce congestion, reduce vehicular crashes, and improve air quality in the region. HGAC will also revise its 2035 Metropolitan Plan and update its Air Quality Conformity Determination.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that the executive director or the director's designee is directed to award TDC to HGAC, in an amount not to exceed 160,000, and to enter into the necessary contracts in accordance with the priorities established in the minute order.

Submitted and reviewed by:

Recommended by:

Director, Finance Division

Executive Director

Minute Number Date Passed