

**ALLOCATION AND USE OF APPROXIMATELY \$2 BILLION IN STATE AND  
FEDERAL FUNDING THAT IS POTENTIALLY AVAILABLE TO ADVANCE  
VARIOUS TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Due to congressional action to extend federal transportation funding levels and efficient management of state highway resources, TxDOT is working with our MPO partners and districts to allocate approximately \$2 billion in additional funding to advance construction on some of the state's high priority projects. Through a process of public input and collaboration with MPOs, TxDOT has proposed a primarily formula-based approach to allocate these funds with commission direction and approval. Staff will discuss the proposed method for allocating and using these funds with goals of addressing the state's congestion, safety, maintenance and connectivity needs.

**ISSUES:**

- Anticipated sources of funding
  - \$750 million of additional federal funding
  - \$600 million from refinancing and restructuring debt capacity within Texas Mobility Fund
  - \$650 million from costs savings from projects underway using Proposition 12 and Proposition 14 bonds
- Proposed allocation of funds
  - \$800 million for Metro Congestion Relief Projects
  - \$850 million for Statewide MPO and Safety/Connectivity Priorities
  - \$150 million for District Priority Projects
  - \$200 million for Statewide Safety and Strategic Partnerships
- Public involvement has been completed on proposed allocation strategies and potential project priorities

**REFERENCES:**

- 43 TAC Chapter 16

**DESIRED RESULTS:**

Receive comments from the commission regarding the proposed allocation and use.

**FURTHER ACTIONS**

Consider proposed updates to the 2012 Unified Transportation Program appearing later in the agenda.

**OTHER:**

None.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# Discussion of the Allocation and Use of \$2 Billion to Advance Transportation Projects

April 26, 2012



# Introduction

- Due to congressional action to extend federal transportation funding levels and efficient management of state highway resources, TxDOT is working with our MPO partners and districts to allocate approximately \$2 billion in additional funding to advance construction on some of the state's high priority projects.
- Through a process of public input and collaboration with MPOs, we have proposed a primarily formula-based approach to allocate these funds with commission direction and approval.
- Goals are to address needs in the areas of congestion, safety, maintenance and connectivity.

# Sources of Funds

The additional \$2 billion in federal and state program capacity is derived from the following sources:

- \$750 million from a higher level of federal funding than was originally anticipated from Congress. These funds must be obligated this fiscal year (by September 30, 2012) on project activities that meet federal eligibility criteria.
- \$600 million from refinancing and restructuring debt capacity within the Texas Mobility Fund
- \$650 million from savings in lower than anticipated costs of projects underway that are primarily funded using Proposition 12 and Proposition 14 bonds

# Proposed Allocation of Funds

The proposed allocation of the \$2 billion is broken into four basic funding categories:

1. Metro Congestion Relief Projects
2. Statewide MPO and Safety/Connectivity Priorities
3. District Priority Projects
4. Statewide Safety and Strategic Partnerships

The majority of these funds are allocated by formula to MPOs and districts.

The remainder of funds are allocated for statewide safety, connectivity and strategic projects

Majority of funds are being initially allocated to Category 12 to afford flexibility to TxDOT and MPOs

# Public Input and MPO Coordination

- Proposed UTP Revision to Allocate \$2 billion Statewide
  - Direct discussions with MPOs
  - Statewide Public Meeting (March 22, 2012)
  - Public Comment Period (March 23-April 23, 2012)
  - Public Hearing (April 19, 2012)
  - Proposed Commission Action for UTP Revision (April 26, 2012)
- Continued Federal, State and Local Coordination
  - Local MPOs and Districts coordinate projects with Commission approval and amend local TIPs (May-June 2012)
  - TxDOT Updates to UTP and STIP (June-August 2012)
  - FHWA Approval and Obligation of Funds (August-September, 2012)
- On-going Public Involvement Opportunities

# Potential Project Opportunities

Potential project opportunities that have been identified to date based upon discussion between the state and MPOs include the following:

- US 290 and SH 288 in Houston
- I-35E and I-35W in Dallas/Fort Worth
- SP 1966 in El Paso
- Marsha Sharp Freeway in Lubbock
- US 83 (La Joya Relief Route) in the Rio Grande Valley
- Statewide Opportunities related to I-69
- SH 31 in Corsicana
- US 79 near Palestine
- Other key safety projects