2021 UNIFIED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (UTP) AND REGIONAL 10-YEAR PLAN UPDATE

Public Meeting
May 2020
• Texas House Bill (HB) 20 requires that Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) develop 10-Year Plans using performance-based planning and project selection methods

• Includes projects funded with Category 2 (MPO selected), Category 4 (TxDOT District selected), and Category 12 (Texas Transportation Commission selected)

• Regional 10-Year Plan was approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) in December 2016

• Series of updates were made in August 2017, August 2018, and September 2019 in conjunction with the development of TxDOT’s UTP
ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN SINCE LAST UPDATE

• Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) staff has been developing the 2021 UTP.

• NCTCOG staff has coordinated with the TxDOT Districts regarding project updates (e.g., costs/funding, environmental clearance and let dates) and potential new projects.

• Projects were scored by NCTCOG staff.

• To satisfy a January 31, 2020 deadline set forth by TxDOT, NCTCOG staff drafted a project listing that included project scores, project revisions, and potential new projects.

• The list was refined in February and March 2020 as a result of funding targets being received after the January 31st deadline.
UPDATE TO THE 2020 UTP

• In addition to developing the 2021 UTP, an update to the 2020 UTP was approved April 30, 2020 by the TTC.

• This update is being made to fund the IH 35 project in Austin.

• In order to fully fund that project, the TTC has opted to program Category 12 funds that otherwise could have been used for projects in other regions of the State, including Dallas-Fort Worth.

• This action, combined with lower than anticipated revenues, has led to a sharp decline in the amount of funding coming to the region via the UTP.

• Existing projects are generally not impacted, but projects with cost overruns may not be able to be addressed and new projects were largely not able to be added.
• The same project scoring process used for the 2019 10-Year Plan Update was used this year.

• Additional projects were submitted by TxDOT for inclusion in the Corridor Preservation Program. This program consists of projects that may be added to the 10-Year Plan in the future and need a preliminary commitment in order to commence pre-construction activities like right-of-way acquisition.

• Some projects that were previously part of this program are being proposed for construction funding through this latest update.
PRINCIPLES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGIONAL 10-YEAR PLAN

- Project should be included in Mobility 2045
- Focus on system versus new, stand-alone projects
- Fully fund existing projects before funding new projects
- Ensure equity of county allocations
- Reintroduce toll lanes/toll managed lanes on selected corridors
- Re-fund affected projects, when possible
- Ensure all RTC projects are approved in 2021 UTP (including “placeholders”)
- Projects must be scored and should have a score sufficient to qualify for funding
NEXT STEPS

• Finalize project selection/update efforts in coordination with TxDOT staff
• Await decisions by the TTC on Category 12 funding
• Bring listings to the Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC) and RTC for approval
• Bring back any project changes to the STTC and RTC once the TTC weighs in and approves the UTP
## TIMELINE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEETING/TASK</th>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Initial draft list due to TxDOT</td>
<td>January 31, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funding Targets Received</td>
<td>February 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>TxDOT Public Meeting for 2020 UTP</td>
<td>April 2020</td>
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<td><strong>NCTCOG Public Meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>May 2020</strong></td>
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<td>STTC Action</td>
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<td>RTC Action</td>
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<td>TxDOT Public Meetings for 2021 UTP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anticipated TTC Approval of 2021 UTP</td>
<td>August 27, 2020</td>
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CONTACT/QUESTIONS?

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