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September 24, 2019

Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission-Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Fiscal Year 2021 Unified Planning Work Program

Phillip Tindall  
MPO Planning Coordinator  
Transportation Planning and Programming Division  
Texas Department of Transportation  
118 E. Riverside Dr.  
Austin, Texas 78704

Dear Mr. Tindall:

We have reviewed the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission-Metropolitan Planning Organization (SERPC-MPO) Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) transmitted with your letter of July 30, 2020. Based upon our review, SERPC-MPO FY 2021 UPWP is approved.

For questions or concerns regarding this approval, please contact Ms. Lynn Hayes, FTA at (817) 978-0565 or Mr. Anthony Jones, FHWA at (512) 536-5936.

Sincerely yours,



Anthony M. Jones, Transportation Planner  
Planning and Program Development  
Federal Highway Administration

CC:

Lynn Hayes, FTA, Region VI  
Peggy Thurin, Director of Trans. Planning & Programming, TxDOT-Headquarters  
Adam Jack, P.E., Director of Trans. Plan. & Dev., TxDOT-Beaumont District  
Bob Dickinson, Director, Transportation & Environmental Resources, SETRPC

# FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program

For the Jefferson-Orange-Hardin  
Regional Transportation Study (JOHRTS)  
Area



Adopted by the JOHRTS  
Transportation Planning Committee on:  
July 23, 2020

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Prepared by the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission-Metropolitan Planning Organization  
(SETRPC-MPO)



*Prepared in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.*

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## INTRODUCTION

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The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) issue Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Planning rules. These rules provide for State and local flexibility in administering the transportation planning process and allow for State and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) planning processes that comply with applicable federal laws and regulations. The FHWA, FTA, and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) require the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission-Metropolitan Planning Organization (SETRPC-MPO) to publish a Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that provides a statement of work with a budget identifying the planning priorities and activities that will be conducted for a given one-year period.

The FY 2020 UPWP was developed in accordance with the Metropolitan Transportation Planning rules, which were shaped by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA), the Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21), and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) and the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (MAP-21). Additionally, the UPWP was developed in accordance with requirements from the most recent transportation legislation, Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act).

### A. PURPOSE

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the JOHRTS area is a federally required document describing the transportation planning activities to be undertaken in the JOHRTS area for a given one-year period. The FY 2021 UPWP covers the period from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021.

Planning of various modes of transportation by separate agencies without a common goal or without coordination of effort may result in an ineffective and inadequate transportation system. All forms of transportation are interrelated and must interact properly to provide a coordinated transportation system. Therefore, planning of coordinated, multimodal transportation systems in the southeast Texas region is an important component of the comprehensive planning process for the JOHRTS area.

This annual UPWP is prepared for the specific purpose of showing the various transportation planning activities that are expected to be accomplished in the upcoming year. Each activity will be integrated into the JOHRTS comprehensive transportation planning process.

The following ten planning factors, identified in MAP-21, are required to be considered in the metropolitan transportation planning process and the UPWP includes tasks that allow for continuous evaluation of community needs in relation to these factors:

- 1) Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency;
- 2) Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
- 3) Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users;
- 4) Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and for freight;
- 5) Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns;
- 6) Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight;
- 7) Promote efficient system management and operation;
- 8) Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system;
- 9) Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate storm water impacts of surface transportation;
- 10) Enhance travel and tourism.

Also, MAP-21 outlined requirements related to performance measures. These measures were carried forward in the FAST Act. The establishment of performance targets and measures at the National, State, and local levels ensure that all levels of government are being consistent in their efforts to provide transportation services. Each Metropolitan Planning Organization must establish targets that meet the following performance measures:

Goal Area	National Goal
Safety	To achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads
Infrastructure Condition	To maintain the highway infrastructure asset system in a state of good repair
Congestion Reduction	To achieve a significant reduction in congestion on the National Highway System
System Reliability	To improve the efficiency of the surface transportation system



Freight Movement and Economic Vitality	To improve the national freight network, strengthen the ability of rural communities to access national and international trade markets, and support regional economic development
Environmental Sustainability	To enhance the performance of the transportation system while protecting and enhancing the natural environment
Reduced Project Delivery Delays	To reduce project costs, promote jobs and the economy and expedite the movement of people and goods by accelerating project completion through eliminating delays in the project development and delivery process, including reducing regulatory burdens and improving agencies' work practices

By incorporating these performance measures, the MPO can track improvements towards the accomplishment of important outcomes for the area. The JOHRTS-MPO intends to develop specific performance targets in coordination with the State, in addition to the local transit providers, Beaumont Municipal Transit and Port Arthur Transit. The performance targets will be taken into account throughout the development of all plans completed by the MPO, including the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), and the UPWP; furthermore, the targets will be considered throughout the development and selection of projects.

Citizen involvement remains an important component of the transportation planning process in the JOHRTS area. The SETRPC-MPO uses the JOHRTS Public Participation Plan (PPP) and Title VI/Environmental Justice Program to enhance the planning process for citizen participation in southeast Texas. Both programs inform and educate local citizens on transportation planning issues and encourage participation in the transportation planning process. Additionally, the programs provide opportunities for the contribution of ideas and opinions in the preparation of all transportation plans and programs in the JOHRTS area. The JOHRTS PPP and the Title VI/Environmental Justice Program ensure opportunities to increase communication and dialogue between decision-makers and the public.

## **B. DEFINITION OF AREA**

According to the 2010 Census, the JOHRTS area has an approximate population of 388,745 citizens with Jefferson County having 252,273 citizens, Orange County having 81,837 citizens, and Hardin County having 54,635 citizens. This is a slight increase in population since the 2000 Census. The JOHRTS area (shown in Appendix B) contains the Beaumont and Port Arthur urbanized areas and is characterized by agricultural, industrial, and low-density residential and commercial land uses.

The SETRPC-MPO receives Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) for the JOHRTS area and can only use these funds for transportation planning activities occurring within the area's boundary. The following cities are located within the JOHRTS area:

- |                   |               |               |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| • Beaumont        | • Bevil Oaks  | • Bridge City |
| • China           | • Groves      | • Kountze     |
| • Lumberton       | • Nederland   | • Nome        |
| • Orange          | • Pine Forest | • Pinehurst   |
| • Port Arthur     | • Port Neches | • Rose City   |
| • Rose Hill Acres | • Silsbee     | • Sour Lake   |
| • Taylor Landing  | • Vidor       | • West Orange |
- 

### **C. ORGANIZATION**

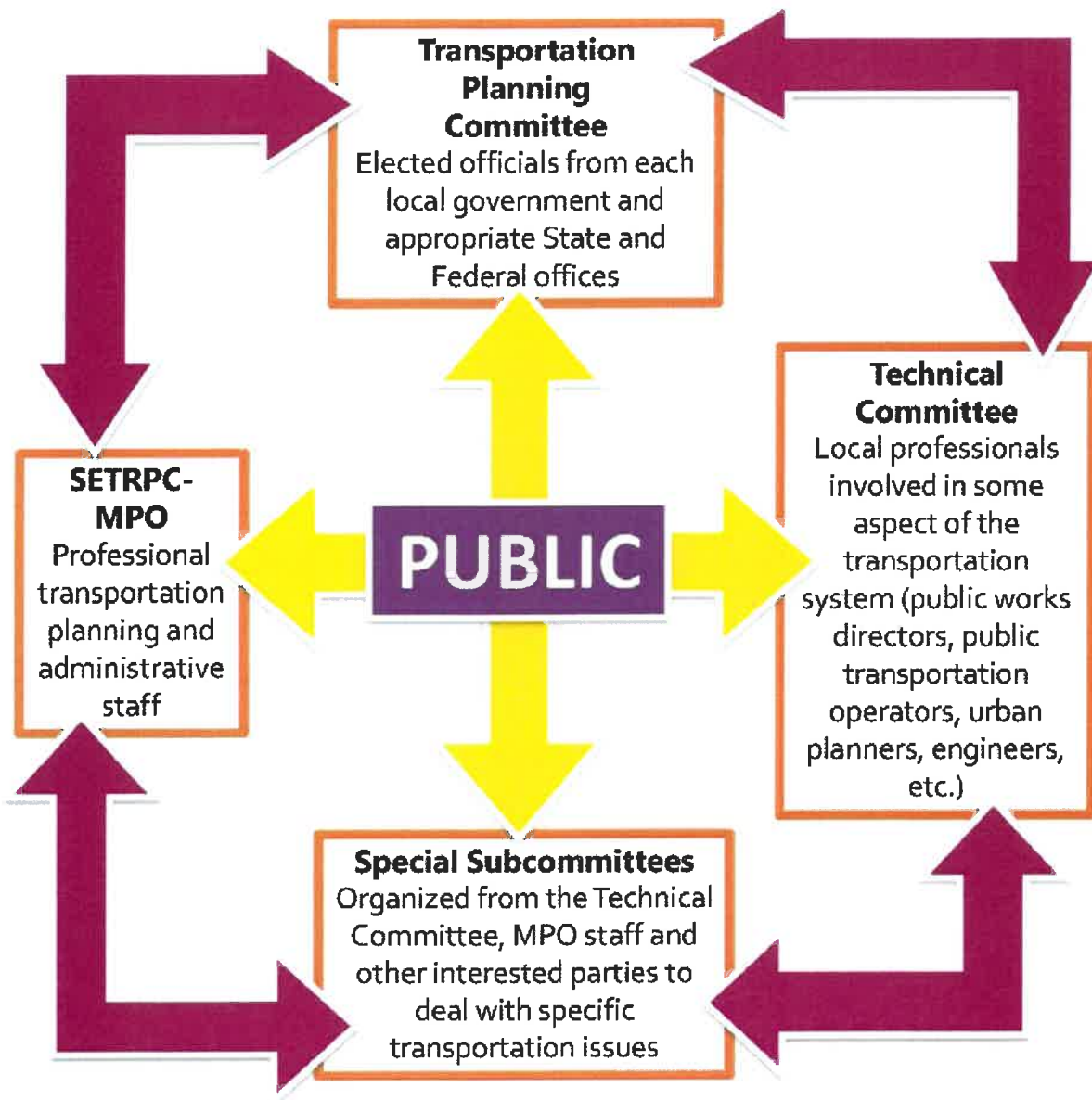
The SETRPC, a voluntary association of local governments, was organized in June 1970 and designated as the MPO for southeast Texas in May 1974. In cooperation with TxDOT and local governments, the SETRPC-MPO is responsible for developing and maintaining the UPWP, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP); ensuring that all local planning efforts are compatible with comprehensive plans in the region; and providing staff support for the JOHRTS Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) and the JOHRTS Technical Committee.

The SETRPC-MPO transportation planning committee is responsible for ensuring that local concerns are incorporated into all transportation planning decisions and all regional transportation plans and programs are the result of a continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative process, as required by Section 134 of Title 23, United States Code.

The JOHRTS TPC, in coordination with the MPO staff, manages the SETRPC-MPO and directs all MPO transportation planning activities. The TPC ensures that MPO transportation plans and programs are consistent with the goals and objectives of all comprehensive plans in the JOHRTS area. Participating agencies at all levels are encouraged to cooperate and coordinate their work efforts with the JOHRTS TPC. Appendix A includes a listing of the JOHRTS TPC members.

The JOHRTS Technical Committee is an advisory committee to the JOHRTS TPC. The JOHRTS Technical Committee works with SETRPC-MPO staff in preparing planning documents, formulating policies, supervising consultants and providing technical support for transportation studies. The SETRPC-MPO subcommittees are composed of representatives of the cities, counties, and other interested parties within the JOHRTS area and meet on an ad hoc basis. (Appendix A)





#### D. PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT

The SETRPC-MPO includes private sector participation in several major tasks of the UPWP. These services are primarily used throughout the JOHRTS MTP process and are utilized for other planning activities as necessary. The SETRPC-MPO utilizes the SETRPC's Procurement Policy to guide the procurement process.

## **E. PLANNING ISSUES AND EMPHASIS**

The FY 2021 UPWP's ongoing goal consists of addressing the transportation planning provisions of MAP-21. While the implementation of the FAST Act continues to develop at the Federal and State level, the SETRPC-MPO will continue to incorporate the various components of the FAST Act that have been required to date and will continue to add components of MAP-21 into the metropolitan transportation planning process in the JOHRTS area, updating plans and programs as necessary to comply with new policies and regulations.

In southeast Texas, the petrochemical facilities, power plants, automobiles, and vegetation produce volatile organic compound (VOC) and nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions that contribute to the formation of ozone, a harmful gas that degrades the quality of the air and damages the atmosphere. The 1990 Federal Clean Air Act amendments authorized the EPA to designate areas failing to meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone as nonattainment for the standard. Although the SETRPC-MPO promotes the development of transportation projects and programs that reduce VOC and NOx emissions, which decreases the formation of ozone, it has previously been classified as nonattainment according to the standards set forth by the EPA.

The Beaumont-Port Arthur ozone maintenance area (Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange Counties) was redesignated from nonattainment to attainment-maintenance for the 1998 eight-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS), effective November 19, 2010. The area was initially designated attainment/unclassifiable for the subsequent 2008 and 2015 eight-hour ozone NAAQS and remains in attainment for both standards. When the 1997 eight-hour ozone NAAQS was revoked by the EPA, transportation conformity requirements for that standard were also revoked (effective April 6, 2015). Due to its designation as attainment/unclassifiable for the 2008 and 2016 eight-hour ozone NAAQS, the Beaumont-Port Arthur area has not been subject to transportation conformity requirements since 2015.

On February 16, 2018, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued an opinion in the case *South Coast Air Quality Management District v. EPA*, 882 F.3d 1138 (South Coast II). The case was a challenge to EPA's 2008 eight-hour ozone NAAQS State Implementation Plan (SIP) requirements rule (80 FR 12264), which revoked the 1997 eight-hour ozone NAAQS as part of implementing the more stringent 2008 eight-hour ozone NAAQS. The court's decision vacated parts of the EPA's 2008 eight-hour ozone NAAQS SIP requirements rule, including waiving requirements for transportation conformity for maintenance areas under the revoked 1997 eight-hour ozone NAAQS. In response to the South Coast II decision, the EPA published Transportation Conformity Guidance for the South Coast II Court Decision on November 29, 2018. The guidance document was published to assist affected areas as they reestablished compliance with transportation conformity requirements under the revoked 1997 eight-hour ozone, NAAQS. Based on the November 2018 guidance, affected areas may

demonstrate conformity if the following requirements are met:

- Use of latest planning assumptions;
- Interagency consultation;
- Fiscal constraint for the MTP and TIP; and
- Timely implementation of Transportation Control Measures (TCM), if applicable.

Based on these re regulations and court ruling, the JOHRTS area is classified as in conformity for all air quality standards.

The SETRPC-MPO staff also maintains and updates the TIP and financial summary that contains regional transportation projects to be constructed during a given four year period. The TIP is the short-range implementation program of the MTP. The JOHRTS area's current TIP is the JOHRTS FY 2021-2024 TIP. Staff in conjunction, with consultant services, prepared the JOHRTS FY 2021-2024 TIP.

The SETRPC-MPO will continue to address issues relating to environmental justice in the provision of transportation services for the JOHRTS area. MPO staff will work in close cooperation with local agencies to identify minorities, low-income persons, the disabled, and other potentially disadvantaged persons in the region, and ensure that those persons are given the opportunity to participate in the transportation planning process. Efforts will also be undertaken to guarantee that these persons receive their fair share of transportation improvement dollars for their communities.

The SETRPC-MPO, in conjunction with area jurisdictions, will continue to collect and maintain socioeconomic data for transportation planning purposes. These tasks may include analyzing factors and features that affect highway, transit, and other public transportation facilities and operations, including population changes and economic development.

The provision of public transit services within the JOHRTS area remains a priority with the SETRPC-MPO. Efforts to improve operational efficiency, expand local transit service, promote financial responsibility, and improve the mobility of the transit dependent will continue.

It is important to note that all these tasks require substantial effort and dedication from local agencies throughout the JOHRTS area and often include the utilization of consulting services for specific planning activities, plans, or programs.

The SETRPC-MPO staff will address Planning and Emphasis Areas (PEAs) as defined by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The objectives of the PEAs are: 1) MAP-21 implementation, more specifically a transition to performance based planning and programming; 2) Regional Models of Cooperation, planning and cooperation across transit agency, MPO and state boundaries; and 3) Ladders of Opportunity, identifying and addressing connectivity gaps in accessing

essential services.

The following tasks within this document are intended to address, in part, these planning emphasis areas:

- a. FAST Act Implementation: Transition to Performance Based Planning and Programming
  - i. Subtask 2.2: Geographic Information Systems
  - ii. Subtask 3.3: Performance Measures
  - iii. Subtask 3.4: Short Range Air Quality Planning
  - iv. Subtask 4.2: JOHRTS MTP Maintenance and Development
- b. Regional Models of Cooperation
  - i. Subtask 3.2: Planning Assistance for Transit Planning
  - ii. Subtask 3.4: Short Range Air Quality Planning
  - iii. Subtask 4.2: JOHRTS MTP Maintenance and Development
- c. Ladders of Opportunity: Access to essential services – as part of the transportation planning process, identify transportation connectivity gaps in access to essential services
  - i. Subtask 1.2: Public Information and Education
  - ii. Subtask 1.4: Title VI - Civil Rights Evaluation
  - iii. Subtask 3.2: Planning Assistance for Transit Planning
  - iv. Subtask 3.3: Performance Measures
  - v. Subtask 4.2: JOHRTS MTP Maintenance and Development
  - vi. Subtask 5.1: Regional Transit Connectivity

## **TASK 1.0 – ADMINISTRATION/MANAGEMENT**

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### **A. OBJECTIVES**

- To provide administrative support for developing a continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process for the JOHRTS region
- To provide public information and education programs that increase participation in transportation planning activities
- To promote public participation in the air quality planning and improvement process and disseminate air quality information
- To ensure that all aspects relating to Title VI, including environmental justice directives and limited English proficiency guidance, are addressed in the transportation planning process
- To enhance staff knowledge of transportation related issues and support professional development.

### **B. EXPECTED PRODUCTS**

This task will support the administrative services necessary to operate the MPO, including general administration/management, developing annual reports, training and travel expenses for MPO staff members, and purchasing office supplies and computer resources. Task 1.0 will also provide for: public involvement in transportation plans and programs, educated and knowledgeable TPC and Technical Committee members, and compliance with the transportation planning process, the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA), and Title VI legislation. When necessary, consultants will be utilized to carry out task activities.

### **C. PREVIOUS WORK**

During FY 2020, the SETRPC-MPO staff provided administrative support to the JOHRTS transportation planning process. The MPO provided technical and administrative assistance to the JOHRTS TPC and Technical Committee. Staff members kept minutes of meetings, prepared technical presentations, and provided informational materials to the committees. Staff scheduled, prepared for, and conducted meetings of the JOHRTS TPC, which were held in November 2019, March 2020 and May 2020. Staff scheduled, prepared for, and conducted each of these meetings.

The SETRPC-MPO hosted a public meeting in April 2020 and held a 30-day public comment period, as defined by the JOHRTS PPP, for the JOHRTS Revised MTP-2040 and the JOHRTS FY 2019-2022 TIP. Staff prepared legal notices and placed those

notices in area newspapers to advertise the public comment period and public meeting for the TIP. Additionally, staff posted information about the meetings on the SETRPC's website ([www.setrpc.org](http://www.setrpc.org)) and the Transportation & Environmental Resources Division's website ([www.setrpc.org/ter](http://www.setrpc.org/ter)). The TIP document was made available on the Transportation & Environmental Resources Division's website, along with instructions on how to submit a comment electronically. The public meeting was held at the SETRPC office through live streaming with no public attendance due to social distancing criteria regarding to the Corona Virus epidemic. For the same reason the three public meetings normally held in locations within Jefferson, Orange, and Hardin Counties were canceled.

Staff developed the FY 2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the FY 2019 Annual Transportation Project Listing, and the FY 2019 Annual Performance and Expenditure Report.

The SETRPC-MPO staff continued to develop professional expertise necessary to carry out the transportation planning process of the JOHRTS area. Staff regularly attended the meetings of the Texas Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (TEMPO), as well as the annual Texas Transportation Forum and the semi-annual TxDOT sponsored Transportation Conference. Staff also attended various other workshops and seminars, including workshops and webinars regarding performance based planning, MAP-21 and the FAST Act.

Staff continued the review of available information related to MAP-21 and the FAST Act, including the status of performance measures and their timelines at the Federal and State levels. Staff also ensured that required performance measures were adopted as required. In addition, staff conducted daily and weekly surveys of online resources that pertain to transportation planning and JOHRTS area issues, such as the Federal Register, the Texas Register, agency websites, and news sources.

## **D. SUBTASKS**

### **SUBTASK 1.1      Transportation Program Support & Administration**

This subtask includes general coordination, communication, and management tasks essential to the development and maintenance of the transportation planning process. Overall direction of planning activities includes preparing and circulating schedules, minutes, reports, managing computer resources, office space, office furniture, and other equipment. Also, this subtask involves grant administration tasks such as purchasing, auditing, and contract development.



## **Products**

- Administration and management of the transportation planning process
- Preparation of administrative documentation, correspondence, and special reports
- Updated Unified Planning Work Program, Annual Performance and Expenditure Report and Annual Listing of Projects
- Current minutes and records for the JOHRTS TPC and other policy meetings
- Food/beverage items for TPC/Technical Committee meetings with prior approval from TxDOT
- Arrangements for off-site meeting spaces for public meetings, workshops, and other transportation planning related activities
- Requests for Proposals (RFPs) and contract administration management
- Updated private sector list of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) and Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB)
- Computer resources, office equipment, and other items needed for regional planning (equipment purchases greater than \$5,000 only with prior approval by the FHWA)
- Information for staff on Federal and State regulations
- Utilization of external legal services in compliance with Federal and State laws, rules, and regulations, to review and develop new and revised planning grants, contracts, sub-contracts with consultants, requests for proposals, and other materials pertaining to other ongoing transportation planning activities (legal services will be utilized only with prior approval by the FHWA).
- Development of the 2022 Unified Planning Work Program
- Development of the 2021 Annual Performance and Expenditure Report
- Development of the 2020 Annual Transportation Project Listing.

## **SUBTASK 1.2**

### **Public Information and Education**

The SETRPC-MPO recognizes the importance and need for providing a proactive public participation process and continues to develop public information and education programs for air quality and transportation planning. MPO staff manages the PPP and other public documents, provides transportation information using various media sources and visualization techniques, and conducts

public meetings, open forums, and comment periods to receive citizen input towards multimodal transportation planning.

The SETRPC-MPO staff will continue to prepare and post on-line information including such items as; traffic counts, crash data, census data, indicators of progress, etc.

### **Products**

- Adherence to the JOHRTS Public Participation Plan
- Updated Public Participation Plan and the Title VI/Environmental Program documents
- Public information materials that enhance the public's understanding and perception of the MPO
- Public participation surveys and comment cards, both as hard copies and available online
- Media releases, newsletters, presentations, and other materials prepared for public and private sectors
- Appropriate MPO documents, meeting notices, highway and transit information available on website
- Maintained and updated mailing lists that identify target audiences for transportation planning issues
- Website data base for traffic counts, project viewer, census data and pertinent maps
- Live streaming of TPC meetings as required by SB 1237
- Postings of all past TPC meeting videos
- Maintenance of MPO website to ensure all data and information posted is accurate and timely.

## **SUBTASK 1.3**

### **Staff Training and Travel**

This subtask provides continued professional development of policy committee members and MPO staff through active participation in various air quality and transportation planning meetings and training sessions including MPO staff business travel expenses.

### **Products**

- Training for MPO staff through conference, workshop, and seminar participation
- Training and resources for TPC and Technical Committee members
- TPF reimbursement of staff travel expenses approved by the MPO leadership and TxDOT Transportation Planning and

Programming Division

- All out-of-state travel requires prior TxDOT approval.

**SUBTASK 1.4**

Title VI – Civil Rights Evaluation

Ensure minority and low-income populations have the opportunity to participate in the transportation planning process; continue to implement procedures that will analyze minority and low-income areas, which have historically been underserved communities. This subtask also involves monitoring the effectiveness of the plan, with the continual development and implementation of Title VI procedures, including environmental justice directives and limited English proficiency guidance, to ensure that all Title VI aspects are addressed in the transportation planning process and the MPO planning committee is notified of any changes in Title VI topics and guidance. Public meetings will be held in conformity to the Public Participation Plan. Private sector services may be utilized during this subtask.

Google Translate has been added to the MPO website to allow for those with limited English skills to have all public documents translated to the language of their choice

The Public Participation Plan, Title VI/Environmental Justice Program, and the Limited English Proficiency Plan were developed and submitted to the TPC for approval. All three documents were approved by the TPC on December 7, 2017.

**Products**

- Transportation policies and programs that support Title VI, including environmental justice directives and limited English proficiency guidance
- Programs to ensure that minority, low-income, and/or limited English proficiency persons have the opportunity to review and comment on transportation projects and programs
- Examination of various tools for analyzing the data collected towards the Title VI/Environmental Justice directive.

## E. FUNDING SUMMARY

### Task 1 - FY 2021

Subtask	Responsible Agency	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) <sup>1</sup>	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
1.1	SETRPC	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$200,000
1.2	SETRPC	\$70,000	\$0	\$0	\$70,000
1.3	SETRPC	\$40,000	\$0	\$0	\$40,000
1.4	SETRPC	\$45,000	\$0	\$0	\$45,000
TOTAL		\$355,000	\$0	\$0	\$355,000

TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 programs. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

(1) TPF – This includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 funds.

## TASK 2.0 – DATA DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

### A. OBJECTIVES

- To develop and maintain various demographic and zonal data inputs necessary for the JOHRTS travel demand model analysis.
- To conduct network updates for each analysis year during JOHRTS MTP development and updates
- To collect Census and other transportation-related data for transportation planning purposes.
- To maintain various datasets and tools using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and the JOHRTS MTP/TIP project database
- To develop and maintain demographic data that can be analyzed in GIS to ensure that Title VI requirements, including environmental justice directives and limited English proficiency guidance, are being met.

### B. EXPECTED PRODUCTS

This task provides for general data collection and the comprehensive review of a travel survey, reports, and respective analyses necessary to maintain an updated inventory of socioeconomic, demographic, link attribute, and zonal data inputs for the JOHRTS travel demand model. Task 2.0 also supports the compilation and maintenance of Census

demographic and other transportation data that may be used with GIS and other MPO databases. Completion of this task may require the SETRPC-MPO to utilize consultant services to collect socioeconomic and demographic data for MTP updates and travel demand model development. MPO staff may also coordinate with consultant services to continue collecting and analyzing data necessary to comply with Title VI provisions, including environmental justice directives and limited English proficiency guidance.

Data collection and analysis for various technical presentations is a continuous process because of the various scenarios and parameters requested by local agencies and public officials regarding the 2020 Census results and comparisons with the 2010 Census data.

## **C. PREVIOUS WORK**

The SETRPC-MPO staff prepared Census dataset materials, posting them to the website and distributing them to local jurisdictions upon request. Staff utilized various GIS datasets, including Census data products, aerial imagery, and local GIS files, to provide GIS mapping services to member agencies, developing datasets as necessary for mapping application. The MPO staff, in conjunction with consultant services, continued and completed work on the JOHRTS MTP-2045 adopted in July 2019.

## **D. SUBTASKS**

### **SUBTASK 2.1      JOHRTS Travel Demand Model**

This subtask includes collection, analysis, and maintenance of all transportation data inputs necessary for conducting travel demand modeling during the development of the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and new travel demand model. MPO staff maintains an ongoing inventory of socioeconomic, demographic, and special generator data, and manages network updates to ensure project attributes are coded accurately on model networks. Private sector services may be utilized during this subtask.

#### **Products**

- Development and maintenance of base and horizon year networks for the travel demand model
- Collection and maintenance of Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ) and special generator data
- Updated socioeconomic and demographic data for travel demand model analysis
- Computer software purchases and staff training specific to travel demand modeling
- Reports on the Texas Modeling Dashboard pertaining to all work components and progress on the development of

the JOHRTS MTP-2045.

## **SUBTASK 2.2**      Geographic Information Systems

This subtask involves continued development and maintenance of GIS data and products for transportation planning in the JOHRTS area. The SETRPC-MPO will continue to work with member agencies to update the GIS database and provide maps and tables upon request to these agencies. Staff will continue to coordinate GIS training opportunities and participate in agency GIS efforts. Private sector services may be utilized during this subtask.

### **Products**

- A comprehensive GIS database necessary to support general transportation planning purposes and provide mapping information on the SETRPC website
- Coordination with public and private agencies to acquire GIS data for analysis and provide GIS services to these agencies
- Computer software and equipment purchases (i.e., ArcGIS) and staff training specific to GIS operations (equipment purchases greater than \$5,000 only with prior approval by the FHWA).

## **SUBTASK 2.3**      Transportation Data Collection

The SETRPC-MPO staff will continue the collection, analysis and maintenance of Census and other transportation-related data that affects the JOHRTS region. This subtask involves collection and analysis of socioeconomic and demographic data necessary to comply with Title VI, including environmental justice directives and limited English proficiency guidance. Private sector services may be utilized during this subtask.

### **Products**

- An accurate database containing all relevant traffic, transit, accident, roadway, intersection, bicycle, and pedestrian data
- Data regarding minority, low-income, and limited English proficiency persons for compliance with Title VI, including environmental justice directives and limited English proficiency guidance
- Updated travel behavior and trip patterns for the JOHRTS area
- TxDOT Data Collection – To conduct travel surveys and/or traffic saturation counts in the JOHRTS-MPO region for use in the travel demand models and transportation analysis for pavement and geometric design



- The MPO in conjunction with the TxDOT Beaumont District periodically reviews and amends the Highway Functional Classification system and the National Highway System

#### **SUBTASK 2.4**      JOHRTS MTP/TIP Project Database

The SETRPC-MPO staff implemented the new database developed in previous fiscal years for the MTP/TIP project listings and project status reporting. The MPO staff will update the database with new project listings for revisions and updates to the MTP and TIP. Private sector services may be utilized during this subtask.

##### **Products**

- A comprehensive, flexible, and functional MTP and TIP project database has been completed and implemented
- Updates to the database with the new project listings based on updates to the MTP and TIP.

#### **E. FUNDING SUMMARY**

##### **Task 2 – FY 2021**

Subtask	Responsible Agency	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) <sup>1</sup>	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Statewide Planning And Research Funds	Total
2.1	SETRPC	\$25,000	\$0	\$0		\$25,000
2.2	SETRPC	\$37,000	\$0	\$0		\$37,000
2.3	SETRPC	\$30,000	\$0	\$0		\$30,000
2.4	SETRPC	\$30,000	\$0	\$0		\$30,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$122,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$122,000</b>

TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 programs. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

(1) TPF – This includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 funds.

## **TASK 3.0 – SHORT RANGE PLANNING**

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### **A. OBJECTIVES**

- To develop and maintain the JOHRTS TIP according to Federal and State regulations
- To coordinate with TxDOT and other regional agencies on the support of the Transportation Alternatives Program
- To promote public transportation as a safe and affordable travel alternative with environmental benefits
- To promote short-range transportation programs designed to improve air quality in the JOHRTS area
- To provide assistance to State and regional committees involved in transportation and air quality issues.

### **B. EXPECTED PRODUCTS**

The purpose of this task is to accomplish planning activities that require immediate implementation or occur within a relatively short time frame. Task 3.0 will provide for continued TIP development for submittal into the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). This task also explores and identifies various opportunities with park-and-ride lots, including carpools, vanpools, and express bus service options. Other expected items are meeting the ADA transit requirements and participating in programs and committees that involve air quality planning and monitoring. When necessary, consultant services may be utilized by the SETRPC-MPO to carry out task activities.

### **C. PREVIOUS WORK**

The SETRPC-MPO adopted the JOHRTS FY 2021-2024 TIP on May 21, 2020. Staff coordinated with the TxDOT-Beaumont District, Port Arthur Transit, Beaumont Municipal Transit, and South East Texas Transit to receive input for the project listing for the JOHRTS FY 2021-2024 TIP. Staff conducted a public meeting in April 2020, during the 30-day comment period to gather input on revisions to the TIP. Staff subsequently submitted the TIP to TxDOT-TTP, through the eSTIP program, for inclusion in the FY2021-2024 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

The MPO due to the result of South Coast Air Quality Management District vs. EPA law suit began to work with TxDOT and FHWA to determine the potential impact on planning and programming of added capacity projects in the region. It was determined that no regional emissions analysis would not be required, however the MPO would have to go through a Transportation Conformity Process in which it would have to demonstrate the following:

- a. Use of latest planning assumptions;

- b. Interagency consultation;
- c. Fiscal constraint for the MTP and TIP; and
- d. Timely implementation of transportation control measures (TCM), if applicable.

Based on these regulations and court ruling, the JOHRTS area is classified as in conformity for all air quality standards.

The SETRPC began working on Transportation Conformity for the JOHRTS FY 2019-2022 TIP in March 2019. Staff conducted a series of public meetings in April 2019, during the 30-day comment period, March 11 to April 9, 2019 to gather input on Transportation Conformity to the TIP.

JOHRTS staff also began Transportation Conformity for the proposed JOHRTS MTP-2045 and the revised JOHRTS FY 2019-2022 TIP by conducting a series of public meetings in June 2019, during a thirty two day comment period,

The SETRPC-MPO also continued to provide support for the Transportation Alternatives Program. Staff continued to promote strategies and awareness for air quality improvement.

Staff continued to advocate the benefits of the public transportation systems in the area and provide assistance in identifying transit service improvements.

Staff, with consultant services, prepared performance measures for safety, bridges, pavement and PM3.

## **D. SUBTASKS**

### **SUBTASK 3.1      Transportation Improvement Program**

With this subtask, SETRPC-MPO staff will identify and program various transportation projects that may be accomplished within a given four year period. The MPO staff will continue development and maintenance of a TIP that complies with the current MTP.

#### **Products**

- The TIP and quarterly updates that provide an accurate project listing and financial plan
- All TIP projects were submitted to TxDOT for review/approval and inclusion in the eSTIP.

## **SUBTASK 3.2**

### **Planning Assistance For Transit Planning**

The efforts within this subtask provide short-range transit planning support for Beaumont Municipal Transit (BMT), Port Arthur Transit (PAT), and South East Texas Transit (SETT). The planning services expended in this task are designed to increase ridership and promote transit as an alternative means of transportation that provides air quality benefits for the JOHRTS area. The MPO staff will assist BMT, PAT and SETT in implementing recommendations/options intended to enhance service and increase ridership. Private sector services may be utilized during this subtask.

#### **Products**

- Assistance to BMT, PAT, and SETT with evaluating transit ridership and service using GIS, demographic, and other types of analyses identified
- Outreach activities for regional transit services
- Assistance to SETT with GIS support for examining their demand-response service characteristics
- Planning support for projects identified in the 2017 South East Texas Regional Public Transportation Coordination Plan that expand service and improve the effectiveness of the regional transit system
- Participation in efforts to develop the 2021 South East Texas Regional Public Transportation Coordination Plan.
- Review of various transit options to enhance transit, ridership, and mobility in the area through feasibility studies, pilot project planning, and/or gap analysis to determine solutions and implementation strategies
- Review of Transit Asset Management Plan (TAMP) that were developed by Beaumont Municipal Transit, South East Texas Transit and Port Arthur Transit.

## **SUBTASK 3.3**

### **Performance Measures**

Staff will continue to coordinate with TxDOT, Beaumont Municipal Transit and Port Arthur Transit to develop and refine appropriate performance measures, as required by the FAST Act and House Bill 20.

## **Products**

- Performance measures to be updated in all JOHRTS MPO documents and plans. Staff will provide reports as necessary on all performance measures to TxDOT.
- Staff will update and maintain the JOHRTS 10-Year Plan as required by HB20.

### **SUBTASK 3.4**

#### **Short Range Air Quality Planning**

This subtask will provide for staff awareness of State and Federal air quality plans and policies affecting the region, so that continued compliance with air quality regulations can be maintained. Additional efforts will include continued support to and coordination with the Southeast Texas Ozone Awareness Program, which is designed to educate and inform the public about air quality issues, including those related to transportation. MPO staff will continue to provide assistance to the SETRPC Air Quality Advisory Committee (AQAC) and the Texas Technical Working Group for Mobile Source Emissions (TWG) Committee.

## **Products**

- Awareness of and response to State and Federal air quality plans and regulations affecting the region
- Continued support to and coordination with Southeast Texas Ozone Awareness Program
- Continued support for the SETRPC AQAC and TWG committees.

## FUNDING SUMMARY

### Task 3 - FY 2021

Subtask	Responsible Agency	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) <sup>1</sup>	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
3.1	SETRPC	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$50,000
3.2	SETRPC	\$26,000	\$0	\$0	\$26,000
3.3	SETRPC	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$50,000
3.4	SETRPC	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$30,000
TOTAL		\$156,000	\$0	\$0	\$156,000

TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 programs. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

(1) TPF – This includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 funds.

## TASK 4.0 – METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

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### A. OBJECTIVES

- To develop and maintain a MTP Project Selection Process (PSP) that is based on FAST Act planning factors
- To maintain a project list sufficient in design and scope that identifies proposed projects for inclusion in the MTP
- To maintain a comprehensive MTP that is financially constrained and conforms to Federal and State regulations
- To maintain and update the JOHRTS travel demand model.

### B. EXPECTED PRODUCTS

This task involves the primary activities associated with developing and maintaining the JOHRTS MTP. JOHRTS MTP activities include conducting the PSP to identify transportation projects by selection criteria and developing a project listing for the JOHRTS area. Task 4.0 also includes the development of base and horizon year networks and corresponding network project listings. When necessary, consultant services may be utilized by the SETRPC-MPO to carry out task activities.



## **C. PREVIOUS WORK**

The SETRPC-MPO amended the JOHRTS MTP-2045, once in FY 2020. The amendment was adopted by the TPC on May 28, 2020. The amendment was made in line with the new three year TIP. Staff coordinated with the TxDOT-Beaumont District, Port Arthur Transit, Beaumont Municipal Transit, and South East Texas Transit to receive input for the project listing for the revision of the JOHRTS MTP-2045 amendment. Staff conducted a public meeting in April 2020 during the 30-day comment period in order to gather input on revisions to the MTP.

## **D. SUBTASKS**

### **SUBTASK 4.1      Project Selection Process**

This subtask involves the review and update of the JOHRTS PSP as necessary to incorporate appropriate FAST ACT planning factors, TxDOT funding categories, and ensure optimization of available funds for transportation projects in the JOHRTS area. Project listings will be produced for project placement into the MTP long-range planning components. Private sector services may be utilized during this subtask.

#### **Products**

- A PSP that ranks and scores transportation projects based on the MAP-21 and FAST Act planning factors
- Prioritized project listings using the appropriate funding categories for project placement in the MTP networks.

### **SUBTASK 4.2      JOHRTS MTP Maintenance and Development**

This subtask includes ongoing development, maintenance, and publication of the JOHRTS MTP document and financial plan according to Federal and State regulations. MPO staff develops the MTP as a part of the continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process. Private sector services may be utilized during this subtask.

#### **Products**

- The JOHRTS MTP-2045, Amendment #1 containing highway,

transit, freight mobility, and other multimodal elements, including an accurate project listing and financial plan, which will be updated as necessary to incorporate revisions

- Development and incorporation of FAST Act and House Bill 20 related performance measures into the MTP as necessary
- Maintaining the JOHRTS MTP-2045.

#### **SUBTASK 4.3      Regional Transportation Modeling**

This subtask includes coordination with TxDOT and TTI on the development of the new JOHRTS travel demand model. MPO staff will provide assistance with TxDOT's travel surveys, saturation counts, and model calibration and validation. If required by the travel demand modeling process, alternative analyses may be developed for refining the model networks. Additional traffic model years will be developed to meet conformity requirements. Private sector services may be utilized during this subtask.

##### **Products**

- A maintained, calibrated, and validated travel demand model that accurately compares to observed transportation data
- Project-level alternative analyses that support network updates and model analyses (if required)
- A data base of performance based planning process documents.

## D. FUNDING SUMMARY

### Task 4 - FY 2021

Subtask	Responsible Agency	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) <sup>1</sup>	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
4.1	SETRPC	\$33,000	\$0	\$0	\$33,000
4.2	SETRPC	\$70,000	\$0	\$0	\$70,000
4.3	SETRPC	\$35,000	\$0	\$0	\$35,000
TOTAL		\$138,000	\$0	\$0	\$138,000

TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 programs. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

(1) TPF – This includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 funds

## TASK 5.0 – SPECIAL STUDIES

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### A. OBJECTIVES

- To determine the validity of an inter-regional express bus service
- To complete MPO planning studies for enhancing intermodal transportation and providing environmental benefits to the JOHRTS region.

### B. EXPECTED PRODUCTS

- Test and evaluate proposed projects in the 2017 South East Texas Regional Public Transportation Coordination Plan
- A comprehensive Travel and Tourism page on the MPO website
- Updating of the Hike and bike plan prepared but not approved in 2018.

### C. PREVIOUS WORK

Staff procured consultant services to assist with the update of the regional hike and bike plan for the JOHRTS region but due to the outbreak of the Corona Virus the work had to be delayed until public meetings could once more take place.

Staff, again, applied for grant funding through the TxDOT Public Transportation

Division to obtain funding for a feasibility study for the Beaumont/Port Arthur express bus, a critical missing component of the regional transit system as identified by the 2017 South East Texas Regional Transportation Coordination Plan.

Staff has begun work on its resiliency and vulnerability study by hosting two workshops in May 2018.

Staff completed work on its comprehensive listing of tourism destinations in the MPO region. The list will be placed on the tourism page of the MPO website.

#### **D. SUBTASKS**

##### **SUBTASK 5.1      Regional Transit Connectivity Study**

Staff, in conjunction with consultant services, will conduct a study to test and evaluate the feasibility of providing an inter-regional express bus service between the major cities in the JOHRTS region. The study will address the following three issues: 1) number of riders to use the service, 2) identification of the major destinations, and 3) identification of the locations that would best promote patron transfers. This project shall only be addressed upon the receipt of matching funds.

##### **SUBTASK 5.2      Regional Vulnerability Assessment Study**

Staff will continue research to determine which critical transportation resources within the MPO region will be vulnerable to catastrophic events. The second phase of the project will be to assess resiliency strategies to replace or bring back on-line these resources as quickly as possible. This will be a multiyear project.

##### **SUBTASK 5.3      Regional Hike and Bike Plan**

Staff, in conjunction with consultant services, will update the “draft” South East Texas Hike and Bike Plan during FY 2021.

## E. FUNDING SUMMARY

### Task 5 - FY 2021

Subtask	Responsible Agency	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) <sup>1</sup>	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
5.1	SETRPC	\$70,000	\$0	\$0	\$70,000
5.2	SETRPC	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$20,000
5.3	SETRPC	\$75,000	\$0	\$0	\$75,000
TOTAL		\$165,000	\$0	\$0	\$165,000

TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 programs. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

(1) TPF – This includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 funds.

## BUDGET SUMMARY

**TABLE 1 – JOHRTS – FY 2021**

UPWP Task	FTA Task	Description	TPF <sup>1</sup> Funds	FTA Sect. 5307	Local Funds	Total Funds
1.0	44.21.00	Administration - Management	\$355,000	\$0	\$0	\$355,000
2.0	44.22.00 44.23.01	Data Development and Maintenance	\$122,000	\$0	\$0	\$122,000
3.0	44.24.00 44.25.00	Short Range Planning	\$156,000	\$0	\$0	\$156,000
4.0	44.23.02	Metropolitan Transportation Plan	\$138,000	\$0	\$0	\$138,000
5.0	44.27.00	Special Studies	\$185,000	\$0	\$0	\$165,000
Total			\$956,000	\$0	\$0	\$936,000

### <sup>1</sup> TRANSPORTATION PLANNING FUNDS

TPF	\$ 936,000
Estimated Unexpended Carryover	<u>\$ 295,033</u>
TOTAL TPF	\$1,231,033

**<sup>2</sup> Estimate based on prior years authorizations and TPF includes FHWA (PL-112) and FTA 5303**

By minute order, the Texas Transportation Commission authorizes the use of transportation development credits as TxDOT's non-Federal share for FHWA(PL-112) and FTA 5303 funds. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.



# APPENDIX A

## PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

**JEFFERSON-ORANGE-HARDIN REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**VOTING MEMBERSHIP**

Honorable Becky Ames  
*City of Beaumont*

Honorable David Rutledge  
*City of Bridge City*

Honorable Brad Bailey  
*City of Groves*

Chris Duque  
*City of Nederland*

Jim Wolf  
*City of Orange*

Honorable Thurman Bartie  
*City of Port Arthur*

Honorable Glenn Johnson  
*City of Port Neches*

Honorable Don Surratt  
*City of Lumberton*

Honorable Kelly Carder  
*City of Vidor*

Jon Sherwin  
*City of West Orange*

Honorable Gary Strahan  
*City of Silsbee*

Commissioner L.W. Cooper, Jr.  
*Hardin County*

Commissioner Johnny Trahan  
*Orange County*

Don Smith, P.E. – Secretary  
*TxDOT- District Engineer*

Commissioner Eddie Arnold  
*Jefferson County*

**NON-VOTING EX-OFFICIO MEMBERSHIP**

Honorable Rebecca M. Ford  
*City of Bevil Oaks*

Honorable Pete Runnels  
*City of Pinehurst*

Honorable David Lang  
*City of Rose Hill Acres*

Honorable Kerry Abney  
*City of Nome*

Honorable John Durkay  
*City of Taylor Landing*

Honorable William Sanders  
*City of China*

Honorable Wesley Brown  
*City of Pine Forest*

Honorable Bonnie Stephenson  
*City of Rose City*

Honorable Fred Williams  
*City of Kountze*

Honorable Bruce Robinson  
*City of Sour Lake*

Honorable Randy Weber  
*U.S. Representative, Dist. 14*

Honorable Brandon Creighton  
*State Senator, Dist. 4*

Honorable Joseph "Joe" Deshotel  
*State Representative, Dist. 22*

Honorable Dade Phelan  
*State Representative, Dist. 21*

Melanie Rousseau  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Phillip Tindall  
TxDOT – Transportation Planning & Programming

Shanna Burke  
*SETRPC – Executive Director*

Honorable Brian Babin  
*U.S. Representative, Dist. 36*

Honorable Robert Nichols  
*State Senator, Dist. 3*

Honorable James White  
*State Representative, Dist. 19*

Vacant  
*Governor's Office*

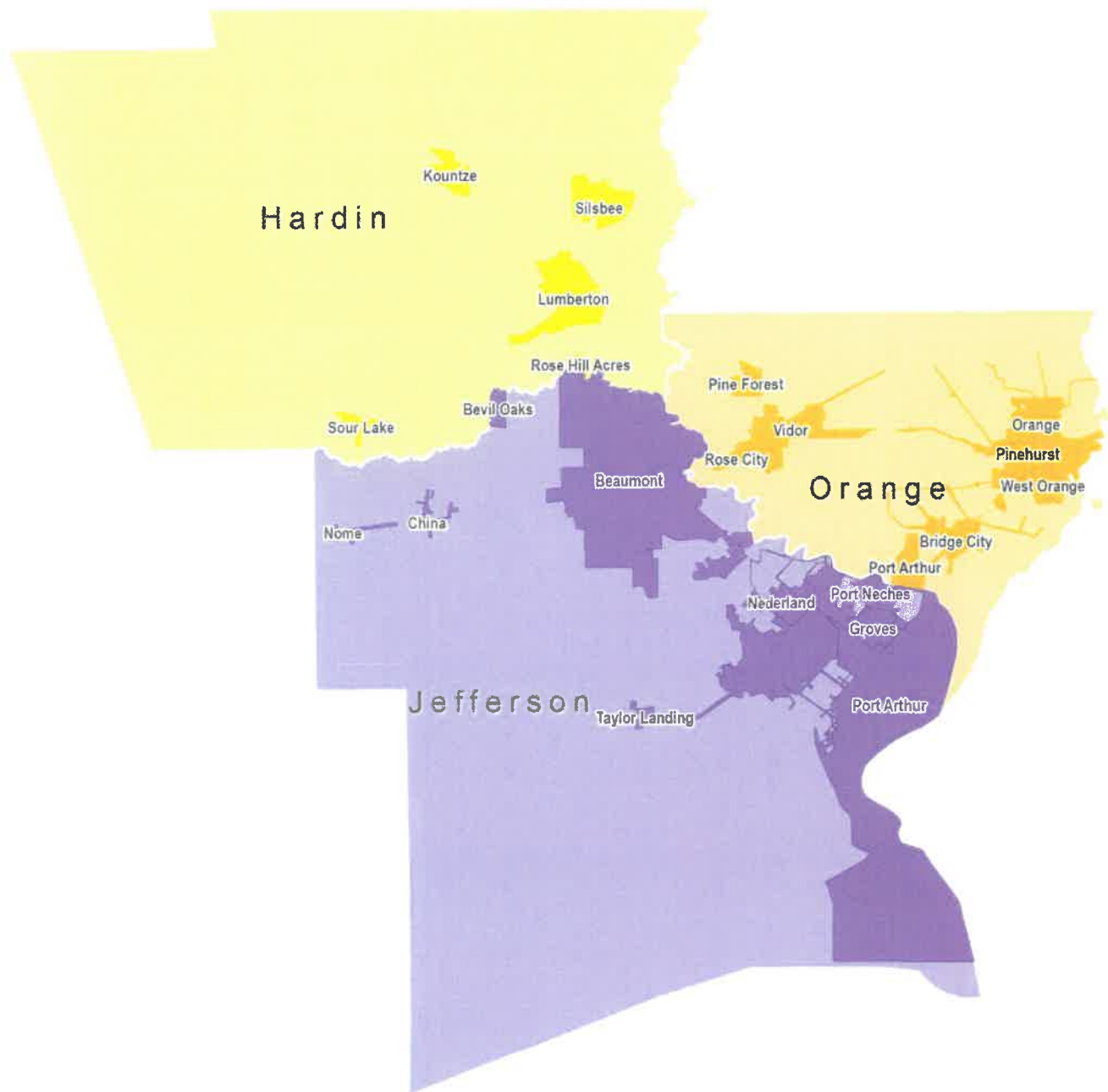
Anthony Jones  
*Federal Highway Administration*

Vacant  
*U.S. Coast Guard*

## **APPENDIX B**

### **METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA BOUNDARY MAP**

**(GOVERNOR OR GOVERNOR'S DESIGNEE APPROVED)**



## APPENDIX C

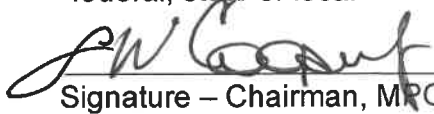
### DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION



**DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION  
(Negotiated Contracts)**

- (1) The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission-Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study (JOHRTS) Area as **CONTRACTOR** certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:
- (a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal department or agency;
  - (b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public\* transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
  - (c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity\* with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and
  - (d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions\* terminated for cause or default.
- (2) Where the **CONTRACTOR** is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such **CONTRACTOR** shall attach an explanation to this certification.

\*federal, state or local

  
Signature – Chairman, MPO Policy Committee

Commissioner, Hardin County  
Title

July 23, 2020  
Date

## APPENDIX D


### LOBBYING CERTIFICATION

## CERTIFICATION FOR CONTRACTS, GRANTS, LOANS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

The undersigned certifies to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

- (1) No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub-grants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclosure accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

  
Signature – Chairman, MPO Policy Committee

Commissioner, Hardin County  
Title

Hardin County Precinct 1 Commissioner  
Agency

July 23, 2020  
Date

# **APPENDIX E**

## **CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE AND MPO SELF-CERTIFICATION**

## Certification of Compliance

I, L.W. Cooper, Chairman - Commissioner  
(Name and Position, Typed or Printed) Hardin County

a duly authorized officer/representative of the:

South East Texas Regional Planning Commission – Metropolitan  
Planning Organization (SETRPC-MPO) For the Jefferson-  
Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study Area

do hereby certify that the contract and procurement procedures that are in effect and used by the forenamed MPO are in compliance with 2 CFR 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements For Federal Awards" as it may be revised or superseded.

July 23, 2020

Date

L.W. Cooper

Signature - Chairman, MPO Policy Committee

Attest:

Bob Del

Name

SETRPC-MPO DIRECTOR

Title

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
MPO SELF-CERTIFICATION**

In accordance with 23 CFR Part 450.336 and 450.220 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act); the Texas Department of Transportation, and the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Beaumont-Port Arthur urbanized area(s) hereby certify that the transportation planning process is addressing the major issues in the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

1. [23 U.S.C. 134](#), [49 U.S.C. 5303](#), and this subpart;
2. In nonattainment and maintenance areas, sections 174 and 176(c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended ( [42 U.S.C. 7504](#), [7506\(c\)](#) and (d)) and [40 CFR part 93](#)
3. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended ( [42 U.S.C. 2000d-1](#)) and [49 CFR part 21](#);
4. [49 U.S.C. 5332](#), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
5. Section 1101(b) of the FAST Act ( [Pub. L. 114-357](#)) and [49 CFR part 26](#) regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in DOT funded projects;
6. [23 CFR part 230](#), regarding the implementation of an [equal employment opportunity program](#) on Federal and Federal-aid [highway](#) construction contracts;
7. The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ( [42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.](#)) and [49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38](#) ;
8. The Older Americans Act, as amended ( [42 U.S.C. 6101](#)), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
9. Section 324 of title 23 U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and
10. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ( [29 U.S.C. 794](#)) and [49 CFR part 27](#) regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

Donald L. Smith

Beaumont District  
Texas Department of Transportation

DocuSigned by:



E7683C28BC7143D

District Engineer

6/8/2020

Date



Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Policy Board Chairperson



Chairperson

5-28-2020

Date



## APPENDIX F

### ETHICAL STANDARDS AFFIDAVIT

## CERTIFICATION OF INTERNAL ETHICS AND COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

I, L.W. Cooper - Commissioner - Hardin County,  
(Name and Position, Typed or Printed)

a duly authorized officer/representative of SOUTH EAST TEXAS  
Regional Planning Commission,  
(MPO)

do hereby certify that the forenamed MPO has adopted and does enforce an internal ethics and compliance program that is designed to detect and prevent violations of law, including regulations and ethical standards applicable to this entity or its officers or employees and that the internal ethics and compliance program satisfies the requirements of by 43 TAC § 31.39 "Required Internal Ethics and Compliance Program" and 43 TAC § 10.51 "Internal Ethics and Compliance Program" as may be revised or superseded.

July 23, 2020  
Date

L.W. Cooper  
Signature - Chairman, MPO Policy Committee

Attest:

Beth JD  
Name

SETRPC - MPO Director  
Title