

The background consists of several overlapping geometric shapes. A large green shape occupies the left and bottom-left portions. A blue shape is in the top-right and bottom-right. A red shape is in the top-right corner. The shapes are separated by thin black lines.

Appendix F

Public Participation Process Documents

We Value Your Input

Transportation Conformity Report
JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP
JOHRTS MTP-2045
Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study

TUESDAY

July 25 @ 3:00 PM

South East Texas Regional
Planning Commission
2210 Eastex Freeway
Beaumont, Texas
(In-person & Virtual*)

MONDAY

July 31 @ 3:00 PM

City of Lumberton – City Hall
836 N. Main Street
(In-person Only)

TUESDAY

August 1 @ 3:00 PM

City of Orange – Community Room
303 N. 8th Street
(In-person Only)

WEDNESDAY

August 2 @ 3:00 PM

Jasper County Courthouse
Annex Building
271 E. Lamar Street in Jasper
(In-person Only)

THURSDAY

August 3 @ 3:00 PM

City of Port Arthur – Public Library
4615 9th Avenue
(In-person Only)

The SETRPC-MPO is hosting five public meetings to provide an overview of, and an opportunity to comment on, the **JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**, which contains projects and programs scheduled for implementation within the next four years, the **JOHRTS MTP-2045**, which includes transportation projects through year 2045 and the **“DRAFT” Transportation Conformity Report**.

Please attend any meeting to provide your input or submit written comments by 5:00 PM on August 14, 2023, to:

Bob Dickinson

bdickinson@setrpc.org

2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas 77703

*To access virtually: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

All Comments received will be addressed and provided to the Transportation Planning Committee for consideration.

For special requests, please contact Bob Dickinson at least 48 hours in advance at 409-899-8444 x7520 or bdickinson@setrpc.org.



TRANSPORTATION &
ENVIRONMENTAL
RESOURCES

SETRPC
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

www.setrpc.org/ter

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 14, 2023

CONTACT: Bob Dickinson – Director, Transportation and Environmental Resources
409-899-8444 extension 7520 or email: bdickinson@setrpc.org

**Public Encouraged to Provide Comments on the JOHRTS MTP-2045,
the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP and the “DRAFT” Transportation Conformity Report**
“SETRPC to Host Series of Public Meetings beginning Tuesday, July 25, 2023”

(Beaumont) --- The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) will host a series of public meetings beginning **Tuesday, July 25, 2023**, providing citizens in Jefferson, Orange and Hardin Counties the opportunity to learn about and comment on the **JOHRTS MTP-2045, the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP, and “DRAFT” Transportation Conformity Report**. “This is an opportunity for the public to be directly involved in the process and have their voices heard as we make recommendations to address transportation-related issues that are affecting the southeast Texas region. Public input is an essential part of this process, and we want to make sure the needs of our region are properly addressed,” says Bob Dickinson, Director of Transportation and Environmental Resources for SETRPC.

The 32-day public comment period is being held July 14 through August 14, 2023. The public is encouraged to attend a meeting or provide written comments by 5:00 PM, August 14, 2023. Five public meetings will be held in **Orange, Lumberton, Port Arthur, Jasper and Beaumont** at the following locations:

Tuesday, July 25, 2023 - 3:00 PM – Hybrid Meeting

South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, TX

Monday, July 31, 2023 - 3:00 PM

City of Lumberton – City Hall, 836 N. Main Street, Lumberton, TX

Tuesday, August 1, 2023 - 3:00 PM

City of Orange – Community Room, 303 N. 8th Street, Orange, TX

Wednesday, August 2, 2023 - 3:00 PM

Jasper County Courthouse, Annex Building, 271 E. Lamar Street, Jasper, TX

Thursday, August 3, 2023 - 3:00 PM

City of Port Arthur – Public Library, 4615 9th Avenue, Port Arthur, TX

These meetings are designed to solicit the public’s ideas and input on the JOHRTS MTP-2045, the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP and the “DRAFT” Transportation Conformity Report for the southeast Texas area. All meetings are the same and are not restricted to a specific area. The public is strongly encouraged to be an active part of this process by selecting a meeting day and time that fits their schedule. For more information or for special needs requests (48 hours), please contact **Bob Dickinson** at (409) 899-8444 extension 7520 or bdickinson@setrpc.org.

SETRPC is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study (JOHRTS) area. SETRPC, in conjunction with the Texas Department of Transportation, local governments and other interested parties, facilitates the regional multi-modal transportation planning process.

We Value Your Input!

The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study (JOHRTS) area, comprised of Jefferson, Orange and Hardin Counties. In conjunction with the Texas Department of Transportation, the SETRPC-MPO is responsible for an overall plan that identifies the most desirable and efficient means of meeting transportation needs for the next twenty years.

As part of the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process, the SETRPC-MPO will be hosting a series of public meetings to provide the public an overview of and an opportunity to comment on the JOHRTS MTP-2045, the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP and the "DRAFT" Transportation Conformity Report, which contains projects and programs scheduled for implementation in the future.

Tuesday, July 25, 2023 - 3:00 PM
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The JOHRTS MTP-2045, the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP and the "DRAFT" Transportation Conformity Report can be downloaded at www.setrpc.org/ter. The 32-day public comment period ends on Monday, August 14, 2023. Please attend any meeting to provide input, or submit written comments by 5:00 PM on that day to Bob Dickinson at the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas 77703. For more information or for special needs requests (48 Hours), please contact Bob Dickinson at (409) 899-8444 extension 7520 or bdickinson@setrpc.org.

Legal Bids & Proposals

Legal Bids & Proposals

Legals/Public Notices

Legals/Public Notices

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids addressed to the Jefferson County Water Control & Improvement District #10 (JCWCID10) will be received until 2:00 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023, for furnishing necessary materials, equipment, superintendence and construction of JEFFERSON COUNTY WCID#10, WATER TREATMENT FACILITY ELECTRICAL/SCADA IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, generally described as: design and installation of all electrical gear, motor controls, conduit, conductor, terminal boxes, instrument piping, SCADA/HMI hardware, PLC cabinet, soft start, wiring, materials, all necessary appurtenances, and testing all in strict accordance with the plans and specifications.

Bids will be received at the Jefferson County WCID#10's Office. The bids will be opened and read at said office at the time set forth. There will be a NON-PROFIT pre-bid conference with the Owner, Engineer, and Prospective Bidders at 10:00 AM on WEDNESDAY, JULY 19TH, 2023, at the Jefferson County WCID#10's Office, 1001 N. Blvd., Nederland, Texas, 77627.

The right is reserved by the Jefferson County WCID#10, as its interest may require, to accept or reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in the bidding process.

Bidding Documents are on file at www.civcastusa.com. There is no cost for plans, and printing can be done through the website. Hard copies of Bidding Documents will not be sold. Complete sets of Bidding Documents shall be used in the bidding process. Neither Owner nor Engineer assumes any responsibility for errors or omissions resulting from the use of incomplete sets of Bidding Documents. Owner makes copies of Bidding Documents available on the above terms, for the purpose of obtaining Bids for the Work and do not confer a license or other right of any kind.

Bid Security, only in the form of: 1) a certified or cashier's check drawn and made payable to Jefferson County WCID#10; or 2) a bond executed by a company authorized to do business in Texas, in the amount of not less than 5 percent of the total bid, must accompany each bid at the time it is submitted.

Bids may be held by the Jefferson County WCID#10 for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

Upon award, the successful bidder will be required to furnish payment and performance bonds.

Jefferson County WCID#10
By: Thomas McDonald, District Manager

ments 2022, Additions to District. Proposers must bring the Construction Manual, 100, Richardson, TX. Website: www.jcwcid10.com. Bids will also be furnished to www.tonlisd.net, and thereafter, at 2:00 PM, the Construction Manual. Bids of 2:00 PM will not be complete proposal website as soon as possible. Bids will be opened and tabulated on Thursday, August 2, 2023 at 10:00 AM. Hard copies shall be available at 1001 N. Blvd., Nederland, TX. Bidding time, Thursday, August 2, 2023 at 10:00 AM. Attendance is encouraged.

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AS.COM

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NOTICE: vehicle vin TFRY5F11AX089342 Silver Toyota 4door Camry plate number JCY4297, is to be returned as soon as possible. Unauthorized use and possession. Anyone please call Dawson the Owner at 409-656-9581 or 281-850-5464 for information or return of said vehicle.

What makes newspapers the best source for public notice?

Newspapers are read both in print and online. So are the public notices we publish. And after they're published, we archive them. Forever.

Email legals@beaumontenterprise.com

McIlroy plays out of a bunker during a practice round for the British Open.



"I can understand why you're so excited when you see that and when you're in the hole, it's a fair to believe that you're one of the few..."

McIlroy returned to the top of the world with his victory in the Scottish Open. He said he would have arrived at Hoylake with confidence even without winning based on his consistency over the last few weeks.

From page B1
RORY
Twenty-four players have won majors since McIlroy captured his last...

Trucks, SUVs & Vans

2005 Ford Explorer 4x4 273,526 milas Precio Negociable Porfavor Llame al: 409-548-0378

Services

Concrete Work

Guillory Concrete Contractors Commercial & Residential Specializing in all Areas Bonded & Insured 40+ Years of Experience

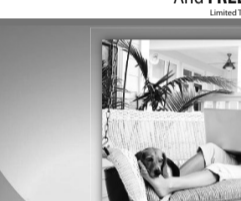
Home Improvement

BETTER BUILDING SERVICES LLC All Types of Remodeling Residential & Commercial

Golden Triangle Remodeling, Inc.

I&H CONCRETE Slabs • Parking Lots • Patios • Driveways • Sidewalks • Repair Work

Finally! Satellite Internet With No Hard Data Limits!



25 Mbps Download Speed No Hard Data Limits Wi-Fi Built-In

1-877-271-3236 HughesNet

Construction



Residential & Commercial • Leveling • Welding • Bathroom Remodel • Framing • Roofing

Home Improvement



COMPLETE REMODELING Interior/Exterior "Roofing" Large or Small Jobs

Home Improvement

Finally! Satellite Internet With No Hard Data Limits! And FREE Standard Installation!

Home Improvement



MID-COUNTY HOME REMODELING Room Additions Complete Remodel

Lawn Care & Landscaping



FLOWER BEDS NEED WORK? TOTAL BED CLEAN-UP NEED LAWN CARE?

Pest Control



PESTCO PROFESSIONAL PEST CONTROL, INC. First Time Customers Receive 10% Off

Selling your home?

Roofing and Gutters



Commercial • Industrial Fully Bonded & Insured All Jobs Certified By State

Public Notices

Public Notices

Public Notice

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's on premise permit

Port Arthur News: Jul. 15 and 22, 2023 APPLICATION

Public Notice

We Value Your Input! The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization

As part of the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process, the SETRPC-MPO will be hosting a series of public meetings

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Port Arthur News: Jul. 22, 2023 MEETING

Selling your home?

Public Notices

Public Notice

PORT OF PORT ARTHUR NAVIGATION DISTRICT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, TEXAS NOTICE TO BIDDERS OF MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE will be held on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

A performance bond and payment bond, each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price, will be required in accordance with State Law for any contract more than Twenty-Five Thousand (\$25,000) Dollars.

Port Arthur News: Jul. 22, 2023 BIDS

Selling your home?

Public Notices

Public Notice

SABINE NECHES NAVIGATION DISTRICT PLACEMENT AREA 14 LEEVEE PROJECT

I. ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed lump sum BIDS will be received by the Operations Manager of the Sabine Neches Navigation District of Jefferson County, Texas at the Sabine Neches Navigation District Office, 8180 Anchor Drive, Port Arthur Texas 77642 until 10:00 a.m. Local Time on Friday, August 4th, 2023

The BID PACKAGE can be downloaded from our website, www.navigationdistrict.org as of Friday, July 21st, 2023

Notice of Public Hearing

Notice of Public Hearing

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Notice of Public Auction

Selling your home?

Prepare for power outages today WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR \$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

GENERAC FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty* A \$695 Value!

Public Notices

Insurance companies issuing PERFORMANCE and PAYMENT BONDS and any reinsurance companies utilized by such insurance companies, in order to issue PERFORMANCE and PAYMENT BONDS to the Owner, shall have at least an "A" rating according to the Best's Key Guide and must be authorized to transact business in Texas. Additionally, such insurance companies shall be on the current list of "Companies Holding Certificates of Authority as Acceptable Sureties on Federal Bonds and as Acceptable Reinsuring Companies" as published in Circulars 570 (as amended) by the Audit Staff, Bureau of Government Financial Operations and United States Treasury Department.

Public Notices

1973, as amended. Orangefield ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs. It is the policy of Orangefield ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, military status, genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by law in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Public Notices

Orangefield Independent School District
Aviso del programa preescolar para niños con discapacidades (PPCD)
Orangefield ISD ofrece servicios educativos para niños de 3 a 5 años con discapacidades identificadas. Los estudiantes con discapacidades son elegibles para recibir servicios en su tercer cumpleaños, independientemente de cuándo sea el cumpleaños dentro del año escolar.

Public Notices

el hijo de un miembro activo de las fuerzas armadas de los Estados Unidos, incluyendo las fuerzas militares estatales o un componente de la reserva de las fuerzas armadas que se ordena al servicio activo por la propia autoridad; o
• Ser el hijo de un miembro de las fuerzas armadas de los Estados Unidos, incluyendo las fuerzas militares estatales o un componente de la reserva de las fuerzas armadas que resultó herido o muerto mientras estaba en servicio activo; o
• ¿Está o ha estado bajo la custodia del Departamento de Familia y Servicios de Protección después de una audiencia adversa bajo el Código Familiar 262.201?

Public Notices

TCEQ Central Office, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building E, First Floor, Austin, Texas 78753; the TCEQ Beaumont Regional Office, 3870 Eastex Fwy, Beaumont, Texas 77703-1830; and the Vidor Public Library, 440 E Bolivar St, Vidor, Texas 77662-5014, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The draft permit and statement of basis are available at the TCEQ Website: www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tvnotice

Public Notices

tion of any changes to the draft permit will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments, a hearing request, or requested to be on the mailing list for this application. This mailing will also provide instructions for public petitions to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to request that the EPA object to the issuance of the proposed permit. After receiving a petition, the EPA may only object to the issuance of a permit which is not in compliance with the applicable requirements or the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 122.

In accordance with Texas State law, including Local Government Code Chapter 176, each BIDDER MUST COMPLETE AND SUBMIT WITH THEIR BID A COPY OF THE VENDOR'S CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE CONTAINED IN THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS. The Owner is a sales tax-exempt governmental entity. A sales tax exemption notice will be issued to the Contractor when the contract is awarded in order that he does not have to pay sales taxes on labor and/or materials utilized in or consumed in connection with the Owner's project.

Orangefield Independent School District
Aviso público de no discriminación en programas de educación profesional y técnica y Igualdad de Oportunidades en el Empleo

La política del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Orangefield es no discriminar por motivos de raza, religión, color, origen nacional, sexo o discapacidad en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales como lo requiere el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmendada; Título IX de las Enmiendas de Educación de 1972; Título II de la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades de 1990 (ADA), según enmendada, que incorpora y amplía los requisitos de la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmendada.

Orangefield Independent School District
Notice of State Mandated Pre-Kindergarten Program

To be eligible for enrollment in the state mandated Pre-K program, a child must be 4 years of age on or before Sept. 1, live in the district, and must:
• Be unable to speak and/or comprehend the English language; or
• Be educationally disadvantaged (qualify for free/reduced lunch); or
• Be homeless, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11302, regardless of the residence of either parent of the child, or of the child's guardian or other person having lawful control of the child; or
• Be the child of an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces who is ordered to active duty by proper authority; or
• Be the child of a member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces who was injured or killed while serving on active duty; or
• Is or ever has been in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services following an adversary hearing under Family Code 262.201.

PUBLIC NOTICE
TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Notice of Draft Federal Operating Permit

Draft Permit No.: O3831
Application and Draft Permit. Jefferson Railroad Terminal I (Texas) LLC, 350 Pine St Ste 1725, Beaumont, TX 77701-2437, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a significant revision of Federal Operating Permit (herein referred to as Permit) No. O3831, Application No. 35034, to authorize operation of the Jefferson Railroad Terminal, a Petroleum Bulk Stations and Terminals facility. The area addressed by the application is located at 94 Old Highway 90 in Vidor, Orange County, Texas 77662. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to the application. You can find an electronic map of the facility at: https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?mark=94.086111,30.083333&level=13.

PUBLIC NOTICE
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Orangefield Independent School District
Notice of Pre-School Program for Children with Disabilities (PPCD)

Orangefield ISD provides educational services for children ages 3 to 5 with identified disabilities. Students with disabilities are eligible for services on their third birthday, regardless of when the birthday falls within the school year. Pre-School Program for Children with Disabilities (PPCD) services are provided on campus based on individual student need. Special education services through PPCD are offered at no cost to parents. For more information, please contact Mrs. Melanie Marino, Director of Special Programs, (409) 735-4895.

Orangefield Independent School District
Notificación de Estado bajo mandato Programa de Pre-Kind

Para ser elegible para la inscripción en el mandato del estado programa de Pre-K, un niño debe tener 4 años de edad en o antes del 1 de septiembre, viven en el distrito, y debe;
• Ser incapaz de hablar y / o entender el idioma inglés; o
• Tenga en desventaja educativa (calificar para almuerzo gratis / reducido); o
• Ser personas sin hogar, según lo definido por 42 USC Sección 11302, con independencia de la residencia de cualquiera de los padres del niño, o del tutor del niño u otra persona que tenga control legal del niño; o
• Ser

PUBLIC NOTICE
This application was received by the TCEQ on April 18, 2023. The purpose of a federal operating permit is to improve overall compliance with the rules governing air pollution control by clearly listing all applicable requirements, as defined in Title 30 Texas Administrative Code § 122.10 (30 TAC § 122.10). The draft permit, if approved, will codify the conditions under which the area must operate. The permit will not authorize new construction. The executive director has completed the technical review of the application and has made a preliminary decision to prepare a draft permit for public comment and review. The executive director recommends issuance of this draft permit. The permit application, statement of basis, and draft permit will be available for viewing and copying at the

Public Comment/Notice and Comment Hearing. Any person may submit written comments on the draft permit. Comments relating to the accuracy, completeness, and appropriateness of the permit conditions may result in changes to the draft permit. A person who may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the permitted area may request a notice and comment hearing. The purpose of the notice and comment hearing is to provide an additional opportunity to submit comments on the draft permit. The permit may be changed based on comments pertaining to whether the permit provides for compliance with 30 TAC Chapter 122 (examples may include that the permit does not contain all applicable requirements or the public notice procedures were not satisfied). The TCEQ may grant a notice and comment hearing on the application if a written hearing request is received within 30 days after publication of the newspaper notice. The hearing request must include the basis for the request, including a description of how the person may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the application area. The request should also specify the conditions of the draft permit that are inappropriate or specify how the preliminary decision to issue or deny the permit is inappropriate. All reasonably ascertainable issues must be raised and all reasonably available arguments must be submitted by the end of the public comment period. If a notice and comment hearing is granted, all individuals that submitted written comments or a hearing request will receive written notice of the hearing. This notice will identify the date, time, and location for the hearing.

Written public comments and/or requests for a notice and comment hearing should be submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, or electronically at www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/ and be received within 30 days after the date of newspaper publication of this notice. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. A notice of proposed final action that includes a response to comments and identifica-

Public Notice
NOTICE TO PROPOSER

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT sealed proposals, addressed to the City of Orange, will be received at the office of the City Secretary, City Hall, 812 N. 16th Street Orange, Texas 77630 until Wednesday, August 9th, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. Any proposals received after the cut-off time will be returned unopened. Please submit one (1) marked original and two (2) exact duplicates of your complete proposal. Proposals must be fully sealed inside an envelope when submitted. If your packet is sent via courier package, the sealed envelope must be placed inside the courier package. The proposer's information must be clearly marked in the upper left-hand corner on the outside of both the sealed envelope and courier package. The name of the project and project number must be clearly marked on the bottom lower left-hand corner of both the envelope and courier package. RFP #2023-35 Employer Paid Dental and Voluntary Vision Insurance Respondent certifies that they are eligible to participate in this RFP and have not been subjected to suspension, debarment, or similar ineligibility determined by any federal, state, or local governmental entity. Entities ineligible for federal procurement are listed at https://www.sam.gov. Section 3 Business Concerns, Small Business Enterprises, Minority-Owned Businesses, Women-Owned Businesses, and labor surplus firms are encouraged to submit a proposal.

PUBLIC NOTICE
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PUBLIC NOTICE
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PUBLIC NOTICE
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PUBLIC NOTICE
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Orange Leader:
Jul. 22, 2023
MEETING

PUBLIC NOTICE
Orangefield Independent School District
Public Notice of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technical Education Programs & Equal Employment Opportunity

It is the policy of Orangefield ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, or disability in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as amended, which incorporates and expands upon the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of

Orangefield Independent School District
Notificación de Estado bajo mandato Programa de Pre-Kind

Para ser elegible para la inscripción en el mandato del estado programa de Pre-K, un niño debe tener 4 años de edad en o antes del 1 de septiembre, viven en el distrito, y debe;
• Ser incapaz de hablar y / o entender el idioma inglés; o
• Tenga en desventaja educativa (calificar para almuerzo gratis / reducido); o
• Ser personas sin hogar, según lo definido por 42 USC Sección 11302, con independencia de la residencia de cualquiera de los padres del niño, o del tutor del niño u otra persona que tenga control legal del niño; o
• Ser

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TRANSPORTATION &
ENVIRONMENTAL
RESOURCES

REGISTRATION

Please Print and/or Initial

*Denotes Committee Member

MEETING: TRANSPORTATION
CONFORMITY PUBLIC MEETING

LOCATION: HOMER E. NAGEL ROOM

DATE: TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2023 3:00 P.M.

| NAME | INITIAL | TITLE | AGENCY | PHONE | EMAIL |
|------------------|---------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Bob Dickman | BD | MPO Director | SETRPC | 409- 899-8444 | bdickman@setrpc.org |
| Richard Robinson | RR | Transportation Planner | SETRPC | " | R.Robinson@setrpc.org |
| JAMES MOORE | JM | GIS Analyst | SETRPC | " | jmoore@setrpc.org |
| Lucie Michaud | LM | Admin. Assistant | SETRPC | " | Lmichaud@setrpc.org |
| John Cannata | JC | City Eng'r | City Pt. A | | |
| Mary Bernard | MB | | | | |
| Thurman Bartie | TB | Mayor | City of Port Arthur | | Thurman.bartie@portarthurtx.gov |
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TRANSPORTATION &
ENVIRONMENTAL
RESOURCES

REGISTRATION

Please Print and/or Initial

***Denotes Committee Member**

**MEETING: TRANSPORTATION
CONFORMITY PUBLIC MEETING**

LOCATION: HOMER E. NAGEL ROOM

DATE: TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2023 3:00 P.M.

| NAME | INITIAL | TITLE | AGENCY | PHONE | EMAIL |
|-----------------|---------|------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| Scott Ayers | SA | Planning Engineer | TxDOT | (409) 898-5743 | scott.ayers@txdot.gov |
| Larry Kelley | LK | Executive Port Director/CEO | Port of Port Arthur | (409) 983-2011 | lkelley@portofportarthur.com |
| Vernon Pierce | VP | Commissioner | Jefferson County | (409) 835-8628 | vernon.pierce@jeffcotx.us |
| Kevin Hall | KH | Travel Forecasting Program Manager | Texas A&M | (512) 467-8971 | K-Hall@tti.tamu.edu |
| Tammye Fontenot | TF | Model Task Lead Planner | TxDOT – Austin | | Tammye.Fontenot@txdot.gov |
| Lanie Brown | LB | Representative | Rep. Brian Babin | (409) 883-8075 | Lanie.brown@mail.house.gov |
| Arnold Vowles | AV | Planner | TxDOT – Beaumont | (409) 898-5773 | Arnold.vowles@txdot.gov |
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MINUTES OF THE CONFORMITY PUBLIC MEETING

DATE: July 25, 2023

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: SETRPC – Homer E. Nagel Room

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Bob Dickinson, Director, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, T&ER Division, called the meeting to order, welcomed guests and requested introductions.

II. OPENING REMARKS AND EXPLANATION OF PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Mr. Dickinson opened the meeting letting the attendees know that this is the first of five public meetings he will be hosting from Tuesday, July 25 to Thursday, August 3, 2023. Each of the five meetings will provide the same information.

He explained that these meetings will provide an overview of and an opportunity to comment on the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which contains projects and programs scheduled for implementation within the next four years, the JOHRTS MTP-2045 includes transportation projects through year 2045 and the "DRAFT" Transportation Conformity Report. A 30-day comment period to update the conformity report began on Friday, July 14, 2023, and will end on Monday, August 14, 2023.

III. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS AND ANSWERS

Several issues were discussed regarding upcoming projects in Port Arthur and how it will be funded.

IV. SET NEXT MEETING DATE

No future meeting dates have been scheduled.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 3:22 p.m.

GUESTS PRESENT

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Arnold Vowles | Planner, TxDOT – Beaumont District |
| Kevin Hall | Travel Forecasting Program Manager, Texas A&M - TTI |
| John Cannatella | City Engineer, City of Port Arthur |
| Larry Kelley | Executive Port Director/CEO, Port of Port Arthur |
| Lanie Brown | Representative, Rep. Brian Babin |
| Mary Bernard | |
| Raymond Sanchez | Field Representative TxDOT TP&P, TxDOT |
| Scott Ayers | Planning Engineer, TxDOT – Beaumont District |
| Tammye Fontenot | Model Task Lead Planner, TxDOT – Austin |
| Thurman Bartie | Mayor, City of Port Arthur |
| Vernon Pierce | Commissioner, Jefferson County |

SETRPC STAFF PRESENT

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Bob Dickinson | Director, Transportation and Environmental Resources |
| James Moore | Senior GIS Analyst, SETRPC |
| Lucie Michaud | Administrative Assistant, SETRPC |
| Rachael Robinson | Transportation Planner, SETRPC |



TRANSPORTATION &
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RESOURCES

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*Denotes Committee Member

MEETING: TRANSPORTATION
CONFORMITY PUBLIC MEETING

LOCATION: CITY OF LUMBERTON - CITY HALL

DATE: MONDAY, JULY 31, 2023 3:00 P.M.

| NAME | INITIAL | TITLE | AGENCY | PHONE | EMAIL |
|---------------------|---------|------------------|-------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| Stephanie Constance | S.M.C | Admin. | City of Lumberton | | Stephanie@cityoflumberton.com |
| Steve Clark | SC | City Manager | Lumberton | | |
| Anita M Price | AMP | Zoning Secretary | City of Lumberton | | anita@cityoflumberton.com |
| Darla Harrington | DKH | City Secretary | City of Lumberton | | darla@cityoflumberton.com |
| Bob Dickinson | B | MPO Director | SETRPC | | bdickinson@setrpc.org |
| James Moore | JM | GIS Analyst | " " | | jmoore@setrpc.org |
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MINUTES OF THE CONFORMITY PUBLIC MEETING

DATE: July 31, 2023

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: City of Lumberton – City Hall

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Bob Dickinson, Director, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, T&ER Division, called the meeting to order, welcomed guests and requested introductions.

II. OPENING REMARKS AND EXPLANATION OF PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Mr. Dickinson opened the meeting letting the attendees know that this is the first of five public meetings he will be hosting from Tuesday, July 25 to Thursday, August 3, 2023. Each of the five meetings will provide the same information.

He explained that these meetings will provide an overview of and an opportunity to comment on the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which contains projects and programs scheduled for implementation within the next four years, the JOHRTS MTP-2045 includes transportation projects through year 2045 and the "DRAFT" Transportation Conformity Report. A 30-day comment period to update the conformity report began on Friday, July 14, 2023, and will end on Monday, August 14, 2023.

III. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS AND ANSWERS

Several issues were discussed including proposed routes for a new bypass around the city of Lumberton.

IV. SET NEXT MEETING DATE

No future meeting dates have been scheduled.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 3:28 p.m.

GUESTS PRESENT

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Anita Price | City Manager, City of Lumberton |
| Darla Harrington | City Secretary, City of Lumberton |
| Stephanie Constance | Administrative Assistant, City of Lumberton |
| Steve Clark | City Manager, City of Lumberton |

SETRPC STAFF PRESENT

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Bob Dickinson | Director, Transportation and Environmental Resources |
| James Moore | Senior GIS Analyst, SETRPC |



TRANSPORTATION &
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*Denotes Committee Member

MEETING: TRANSPORTATION
CONFORMITY PUBLIC MEETING
LOCATION: CITY OF ORANGE – COMMUNITY ROOM
DATE: TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2023 3:00 P.M.

| NAME | INITIAL | TITLE | AGENCY | PHONE | EMAIL |
|-----------------|---------|--|----------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Bob Dickinson | BD | MPO Director | SETRPC | 409-899-8444 | |
| JAMES MOORE | JM | GIS Analyst | " " | " " | |
| KELVIN KNAUF | KK | PLANNING DIRECTOR | CITY OF ORANGE | 409-988-7397 | kknauf@orangetexas.gov |
| DIVON WILLIAMS | DW | Deputy Director of Planning + Com. Dev. | City of Orange | 409-221-3344 | dwilliams@orangetexas.gov |
| Bryce Broussard | BB | ORANGE AREA ENGINEER | TxDOT | 409-239-9746 | Bryce.Broussard@TxDOT.GOV |
| Jim Grissom | JG | Orange Assistant Area Engineer | TxDOT | 409-698-6186 | Jim.Grissom@Txdot.gov |
| ADAM JACK | A | Director PW Orange | City of Orange | 409-883-1082 | ajack@orangetexas.gov |
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MINUTES OF THE CONFORMITY PUBLIC MEETING

DATE: August 1, 2023

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: City of Orange – Community Room

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Bob Dickinson, Director, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, T&ER Division, called the meeting to order, welcomed guests and requested introductions.

II. OPENING REMARKS AND EXPLANATION OF PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Mr. Dickinson opened the meeting letting the attendees know that this is the first of five public meetings he will be hosting from Tuesday, July 25 to Thursday, August 3, 2023. Each of the five meetings will provide the same information.

He explained that these meetings will provide an overview of and an opportunity to comment on the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which contains projects and programs scheduled for implementation within the next four years, the JOHRTS MTP-2045 includes transportation projects through year 2045 and the "DRAFT" Transportation Conformity Report. A 30-day comment period to update the conformity report began on Friday, July 14, 2023, and will end on Monday, August 14, 2023.

III. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS AND ANSWERS

Several issues were discussed including the widening project on IH-10 and when it will be completed.

IV. SET NEXT MEETING DATE

No future meeting dates have been scheduled.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 3:31 p.m.

GUESTS PRESENT

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Adam Jack | Public Works Director, City of Orange |
| Bryce Broussard | Orange Area Engineer, TxDOT |
| Divon Williams | Dep. Director of Planning & Community Dev., City of Orange |
| Jim Grissom | Orange Assistant Area Engineer, Tx DOT |
| Kelvin Knauf | Planning Director, City of Orange |

SETRPC STAFF PRESENT

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Bob Dickinson | Director, Transportation and Environmental Resources |
| James Moore | Senior GIS Analyst, SETRPC |



TRANSPORTATION &
ENVIRONMENTAL
RESOURCES

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*Denotes Committee Member

MEETING: TRANSPORTATION
CONFORMITY PUBLIC MEETING

LOCATION: CITY OF JASPER - COURTHOUSE

DATE: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2023 3:00 P.M.

| NAME | INITIAL | TITLE | AGENCY | PHONE | EMAIL |
|----------------|---------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Bob Dickinson | BD | NRPO-Direct | SETRPC | | |
| JAMES MOORE | JM | GIS Analyst | " " | | jmoore@setrpc.org |
| Bryce Bruns | BB | Orange Area Engineer | TxDOT | 409-239-5746 | Bryce.Brunson@TxDOT.GOV |
| Brittany Cloud | BC | Admin Asst. County Judge | Jasper County | 409-384-2612 | brittany.cloud@co.jasper.tx.us |
| MARK ALLEN | MA | COUNTY JUDGE | JASPER COUNTY | 409-384-2612 | |
| Kandi Davis | KD | Admin. Asst. Jasper Co. Judge | Jasper County | 409-384-2612 | Kandi.davis@co.jasper.tx.us |
| Gina Cleveland | GC | JP # 4 | Jasper County | 409-423-0005 | gina.cleveland@co.jasper.tx.us |
| John Cooper | JC | JP # 1 | Jasper County | 409-582-5125 | John.Cooper@co.jasper.tx.us |
| Rhonda Marks | RM | Court Clerk JP4 | Jasper Co | 409-782-7982 | jp4@co.jasper.tx.us |
| Raymond Hopson | RH | JP # 2 | Jasper, Co. | 409-382-524 | raymond.hopson@jasper.tx.us |



MINUTES OF THE CONFORMITY PUBLIC MEETING

DATE: August 2, 2023

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: City of Jasper - Courthouse

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Bob Dickinson, Director, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, T&ER Division, called the meeting to order, welcomed guests and requested introductions.

II. OPENING REMARKS AND EXPLANATION OF PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Mr. Dickinson opened the meeting letting the attendees know that this is the first of five public meetings he will be hosting from Tuesday, July 25 to Thursday, August 3, 2023. Each of the five meetings will provide the same information.

He explained that these meetings will provide an overview of and an opportunity to comment on the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which contains projects and programs scheduled for implementation within the next four years, the JOHRTS MTP-2045 includes transportation projects through year 2045 and the "DRAFT" Transportation Conformity Report. A 30-day comment period to update the conformity report began on Friday, July 14, 2023, and will end on Monday, August 14, 2023.

III. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS AND ANSWERS

Several issues were discussed regarding the future upgrading of U.S. 190 and S.H. 63 as part of IH-14 and how it will be funded.

IV. SET NEXT MEETING DATE

No future meeting dates have been scheduled.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 3:44 p.m.

GUESTS PRESENT

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Brittany Cloud | Admin. Assistant, Jasper County Judge |
| Bryce Broussard | Orange Area Engineer, TxDOT |
| Gina Cleveland | JP #4, Jasper County |
| John Cooper | JP #1, Jasper County |
| Kadi Davis | Admin. Assistant, Jasper County Judge |
| Mark Allen | County Judge, Jasper County |
| Raymond Hopson | JP #2, Jasper County |
| Rhonda Marks | Court Clerk, Jasper County |

SETRPC STAFF PRESENT

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Bob Dickinson | Director, Transportation and Environmental Resources |
| James Moore | Senior GIS Analyst, SETRPC |



TRANSPORTATION &
ENVIRONMENTAL
RESOURCES

REGISTRATION

Please Print and/or Initial

*Denotes Committee Member

MEETING: **TRANSPORTATION
CONFORMITY PUBLIC MEETING**
LOCATION: **CITY OF PORT ARTHUR – PUBLIC LIBRARY**
DATE: **THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2023 3:00 P.M.**

| NAME | INITIAL | TITLE | AGENCY | PHONE | EMAIL |
|--------------------|---------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Christie Hutchison | CH | Court Clerk | Jasper County | 409-423-2281 | JP3@CO.Jasper.tx.us |
| Brenda Vaughn | BV | | | | wbrenda.5817@gmail.com |
| Jane Moore | JM | GIS Analyst | SETRPC | 409 899 8444 | jmoore@setrpc.org |
| Arnold Vowles | A.V. | Planner | TxDOT | 409-898-5773 | Arnold.Vowles@txdot.gov |
| Bob Dickinson | BD | SETRPC-IMPO | SETRPC | 409-899-8444 | |
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MINUTES OF THE CONFORMITY PUBLIC MEETING

DATE: August 3, 2023

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: City of Port Arthur – Public Library

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Bob Dickinson, Director, South East Texas Regional Planning Commission, T&ER Division, called the meeting to order, welcomed guests and requested introductions.

II. OPENING REMARKS AND EXPLANATION OF PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Mr. Dickinson opened the meeting letting the attendees know that this is the first of five public meetings he will be hosting from Tuesday, July 25 to Thursday, August 3, 2023. Each of the five meetings will provide the same information.

He explained that these meetings will provide an overview of and an opportunity to comment on the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which contains projects and programs scheduled for implementation within the next four years, the JOHRTS MTP-2045 includes transportation projects through year 2045 and the "DRAFT" Transportation Conformity Report. A 30-day comment period to update the conformity report began on Friday, July 14, 2023, and will end on Monday, August 14, 2023.

III. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS AND ANSWERS

Several issues were discussed regarding upcoming projects in Port Arthur and how it will be funded.

IV. SET NEXT MEETING DATE

No future meeting dates have been scheduled.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

GUESTS PRESENT

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Arnold Vowles | Planner, TxDOT |
| Brenda Vaughn | |
| Christie Hutchinson | Court Clerk, Jasper County |

SETRPC STAFF PRESENT

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Bob Dickinson | Director, Transportation and Environmental Resources |
| James Moore | Senior GIS Analyst, SETRPC |

JOHRTS FY 2023 - 2026 Transportation Improvement Program

JOHRTS Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2045

"DRAFT" Transportation Conformity Report



TRANSPORTATION &
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SETRPC
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Public Comment Period:
July 14 to August 14, 2023

MEETING PURPOSE

The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) will host a series of public meetings beginning Tuesday, July 25, 2023, providing citizens in Jefferson, Orange and Hardin Counties the opportunity to learn about and comment on the JOHRTS MTP-2045, the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP, and "DRAFT" Transportation Conformity Report.

AGENDA

Welcome and Greetings from the SETRPC-MPO Staff

Opening Remarks and Explanation of Planning Documents

Comments and Questions

Adjournment

Welcome

Welcome to the series of Public Meetings for the JOHRTS Metropolitan Transportation Plan – 2045, the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program and the "DRAFT" Transportation Conformity Report. We appreciate your attendance and participation in the transportation planning process of the southeast Texas region.

In case you don't know who we are, let us take this opportunity to introduce ourselves and what we do for the southeast Texas region. We are a part of the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC). The Commission is a voluntary association of local governments that works to promote intergovernmental cooperation and coordination concerning local issues. Local governments are able to combine resources to meet challenges beyond their individual capabilities.

The SETRPC-MPO is a function under the Transportation and Environmental Resources Division. MPO stands for Metropolitan Planning Organization. SETRPC-MPO is responsible for coordinating regional transportation planning efforts for the Jefferson Orange Hardin Regional Transportation Study Area (JOHRTS). The principle purpose of the JOHRTS planning process is to provide an overall Transportation Plan that will permit the most desirable and efficient means of meeting transportation needs for the next twenty years. We interact with each city and county government to coordinate efforts to improve our transportation system. We also ensure that our area complies with the rules and guidelines that the federal government requires. Compliance is necessary for us to be eligible to spend federal money on transportation improvements. The SETRPC-MPO is governed by a body of elected officials from throughout the three-county region.

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South East Texas Regional Planning Commission

is hereby notifying the public about the opportunity to offer comments on transportation improvements proposed for southeast Texas. The projects and programs included in the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP are eligible to move forward in the process that leads to construction and implementation.

Comments

If more space is needed, please use back of sheet.

Comments are being accepted during the 30-day comment period from **July 14 to August 14, 2023**.

Comments may be:

- Turned in at a public meeting
- Delivered or mailed to the SETRPC office, 2210 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas 77703
 - Faxed to (409) 729-6511.
 - Emailed to bdickinson@setrpc.org

Thank you!

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Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study (JOHRTS)

The United States Congress, in seeking a solution to increasing transportation related problems, included in the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962 provisions for studying all transportation systems in urban areas with populations of fifty thousand or greater. The Act required that these planning endeavors be comprehensive, cooperative and continuing in nature, thus the term “3C” planning process emerged. This process is mandated through Section 134 of Title 23, U.S.C. In an effort to achieve those objectives as outlined in the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962, the Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study (JOHRTS) area was initiated in 1964.

Planning of separate modes by separate agencies without common goals or coordination of efforts results in an ineffective and inadequate transportation system. All forms of transportation are interrelated and, although each serves a specific need, all must interface properly to provide a coordinated transportation system. Planning for coordinated transportation systems is a major part of the comprehensive planning process in the southeast Texas Region.

In the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973, the Federal Government stressed the formation of Metropolitan Planning Organization’s (MPO) in the Study areas. The federal government’s intention was to establish a method for local governments to have some say in where federal transportation dollars are spent in their areas.

In May 1974, the Governor of Texas designated the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the JOHRTS area. According to federal regulations the MPO is “...the forum for cooperative decision making by principal elected officials of general purpose local government.” The MPO is “...that organization designated responsible, together with the State, for carrying out the provisions of...the federal transportation planning requirements.”

The principle purpose of the JOHRTS planning process is to provide an overall Metropolitan Transportation Plan that permits the most desirable and efficient means of meeting the transportation needs (highway and transit) of the Study Area over the next twenty years. This planning process is achieved on a cooperative basis between the State, the SETRPC-MPO, local governing bodies, and the Federal Highway Administration.

The standard structure of the MPO consists of the planning staff, a technical advisory committee, and a policy committee. The SETRPC-MPO serves as the planning staff. The JOHRTS Transportation Planning Committee, serving as the policy committee, is comprised of elected officials from local government bodies in the region and is the MPO governing body (Appendix A).

The JOHRTS Technical Committee, serving as the technical advisory committee, is comprised of local professionals involved in some aspect of the transportation infrastructure, such as public works directors, traffic engineers, representatives of public transportation operations, and related private sector interests (Appendix B). This Committee is responsible for interacting with the planning staff to review transportation plans and projects for recommendation to the policy committee.

In order to achieve a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process, the Texas Department of Transportation, the SETRPC-MPO, and the various cities and counties, are involved in planning activities which center around the surveillance of transportation factors. These factors include population, land usage, economic considerations, environmental considerations, and travel pattern characteristics of the region. The Study also brings into the mechanics of transportation planning, an active role for public involvement and a proper assessment of the plan's social, economic and environmental implications for consistency with federal, State and community goals and objectives (Appendix C).

Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study

Transportation Planning Committee

Voting Membership

City of Beaumont
 City of Bridge City
 City of Groves
 City of Nederland
 City of Orange
 City of Port Arthur
 City of Port Neches
 City of Lumberton

City of Vidor
 City of West Orange
 City of Silsbee
 County of Hardin
 County of Jefferson
 County of Orange
 Texas Department of Transportation

Nonvoting Ex Officio Membership

City of Bevil Oaks
 City of Pinehurst
 City of Rose Hill Acres
 City of Nome
 City of Sour Lake
 U.S. Representative Dist. 2
 State Senator, Dist. 3
 State Representative, Dist. 19
 State Representative, Dist. 21
 Federal Highway Administration
 TxDOT – East Region
 South East Texas Regional Planning Commission

City of China
 City of Pine Forest
 City of Rose City
 City of Kountze
 US Representative, Dist. 9
 State Senator, Dist. 4
 State Representative, Dist. 20
 State Representative, Dist. 22
 State Representative, Dist. 23
 Governor's Office
 U.S. Coast Guard
 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Purpose

The JOHRTS Transportation Planning Committee has been designated the responsibility for directing the “Continuous Phase” of the Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study and all other transportation planning activities in the region. This Committee assures that transportation plans and programs are consistent with the objectives and goals of regional comprehensive planning.

Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study

Technical Committee

Voting Membership

City of Beaumont
 City of Bridge City
 City of Groves
 City of Nederland
 City of Orange
 City of Port Arthur
 City of Port Neches
 City of Lumberton

City of Vidor
 City of West Orange
 City of Silsbee
 County of Hardin
 County of Jefferson
 County of Orange
 Texas Department of Transportation – *Beaumont District*

Nonvoting Advisory Status Membership

Federal Highway Administration – Austin
 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Beaumont Office
 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Austin Mobile Source Division
 Texas Department of Transportation
Austin – Transportation Planning & Programming

Purpose

The JOHRTS Technical Committee provides routine guidance for multi-modal transportation planning, ensures coordination among various modes of transportation, examines the adequacy of current transportation studies, reviews recommended transportation plans and appoints sub-committees to review matters of special consideration.

Goals and Objectives

Transportation plans require developing goals and objectives that reflect regional values and satisfy long-term regional transportation needs.

The Goals are used as a general guide to achieve the result stated in the Vision Statement. Objectives are more specific than goals as they define results that must be attained or actions that must be followed for reaching the respective goal. The Vision Statement and the goals and objectives – together form a coherent plan to provide pragmatic solutions to identified transportation needs. While the Vision Statement stands alone, goals and objectives are not mutually exclusive of each other and often conflict with each other. For example, some projects that may encourage economic development may be excluded from the MTP because they have the potential to endanger wetlands or have an adverse effect on local communities. The cumulative effect that each project has on the MTP's goals and objectives must produce a significant net benefit before it can be incorporated into the MTP.

The transportation goals and objectives established by the SETRPC-MPO fulfill the MTP's Vision Statement and are as follows. Please note: Not listed in any particular order.

Goal #1: Preserve and Maintain the Existing Transportation System.

This goal focuses on optimizing the existing system while accommodating present and future transportation needs without constructing expensive new transportation facilities. This will help improve system reliability, enhance safety, and reduce operating costs.

Objectives:

- Give priority to projects that improve the condition of the existing transportation system or upgrade existing transportation facilities.
- Improve junctions between transportation modes.
- Discourage improvements that create unnecessary increases in travel demand.

Goal #2: Improve the Operational Efficiency of the Transportation Network.

This goal centers on improving person and goods movement within the existing transportation system.

Objectives:

- Encourage initiatives that promote transit and other transportation modes as alternatives to the single occupancy vehicle.
- Promote operational efficiency through the use of technological improvements.
- Support measures that reduce traffic congestion and peak hour travel demand.

Goal #3: Enhance the Safety of the Transportation Community.

Public safety is a major concern for all residents in the JOHRTS area. Every effort is made to ensure that the safety of the public is improved whenever possible. Projects promoted under this initiative include those that continue to develop and maintain hurricane evacuation routes or prevent rail/vehicle accidents at railway crossings.

Objectives:

- Promote programs and projects that reduce the number and severity of traffic accidents, especially at railroad crossings.
- Give priority to construction projects that eliminate roadway hazards.
- Support the development and implementation of roadway design standards that improve highway safety.
- Maintain and enhance the existing hurricane evacuation system.

Goal #4: Enhance the Security of the Transportation Community.

With the JOHRTS area being a hub of intermodal traffic (land and seaborne) and with the everchanging weather in the Gulf of Mexico, the SETRPC-MPO has many facets to consider in transportation planning. Although the SETRPC-MPO may not be directly involved in Homeland Security planning, the SETRPC-MPO ensures that the Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) members review and consider the following issues:

Objectives:

- Ensure that priority access routes for emergency vehicles and other responders are identified and marked.
- Ensure that the TxDOT, city and county agencies work to coordinate the use of reversible lanes in the event of an emergency (either natural or manmade).
- Ensure that transit authorities and stakeholders are included in the planning process.
- Work with state and federal agencies to optimize the use of new and existing electronic message boards.
- Work with members to identify “bottlenecks” or “points of congestion” and work to improve those areas with applicable transportation related projects.

Goal #5: Protect and Improve the Environment.

The JOHRTS area contains extensive wetlands, parks, and wildlife preserves. The SETRPC-MPO recognizes its responsibility in maintaining and protecting the integrity of these precious ecosystems as a legacy for future generations.

Air quality is also a major environmental issue in the JOHRTS area. The presence of petrochemical industries, dependency on the automobile as the main source of transport, and the proximity to other areas with similar characteristics make efforts to improve air quality a priority.

Objectives:

- Continue to develop plans and programs that will help the JOHRTS area achieve the federal clean air standard for ozone in accordance with the 1990 CAAA.
- Promote the development of a transportation system that minimizes the degradation of wetlands, wildlife reserves, recreational areas, and other valuable natural resources in the JOHRTS area.

- Promote consistency of transportation plan and transportation improvement programs with State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Support the design and construction of transportation projects that adhere to high environmental standards. Such projects should reduce soil erosion, control sediment runoff, assist in floodplain management, protect watersheds, and enhance wetlands.

Goal #6: Maximize the Social Benefits of the Transportation System.

Every effort will be made to improve social conditions in the area by promoting transportation projects and programs that provide a net benefit to society. These projects and programs that have a potential to adversely impact society will be modified.

Objectives:

- Promote programs that provide transportation services to the economically disadvantaged, the disabled, and persons lacking automobile access.
- Support initiatives that improve access to natural, historic, cultural, and recreational resources within the region.
- Minimize any detrimental impacts of proposed transportation improvements upon neighborhoods.
- Encourage transportation projects and programs that support community development and revitalization.
- Ensure that all segments of the public have an opportunity to participate in the transportation planning process and all interested public and private organizations are kept up-to-date on all current transportation issues.
- Improve the aesthetics of existing transportation facilities through landscaping, beautification, roadway design, and architecture whenever possible.

Goal #7: Foster Economic Development.

All transportation projects and programs should support efforts to improve the economy in southeast Texas.

Objectives:

- Support regional cooperation and collaboration in the promotion and operation of economic assets in the JOHRTS area.

- Encourage all economic development organizations to continuously promote the economic attributes of the region.
- Continue to promote transportation programs and projects that support economic development initiatives, with particular emphasis on intermodal facilities.
- Subscribe to efforts that encourage the development of tourism in the region.
- Give priority to transportation programs that retain existing businesses and attract new businesses to the area.

Goal #8: Maintain Financial Responsibility in the Development and Preservation of the Transportation System.

As stated under SAFETEA planning guidelines, all MTPs must adhere to the principles of financial responsibility. The SETRPC-MPO seeks to expand on this initiative by including it as a goal of the MTP for the JOHRIS area.

Objectives:

- Uphold cost-effective operating strategies for all transportation services.
- Ensure that all transportation projects and programs utilize available funds in the most cost-effective and financially responsible manner possible.
- Give priority to those transportation projects and programs that provide the greatest net benefit at the least cost.
- Seek out additional federal and state transportation funds whenever possible.



Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study

DRAFT

Transportation Conformity Report

SETRPC JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP
SETRPC JOHRTS MTP-2045

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

SETRPC
SOUTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION


TRANSPORTATION &
ENVIRONMENTAL
RESOURCES

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TBD

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Glossary of Abbreviations

| | |
|-----------|---|
| ACS | American Community Survey |
| CAA | Clean Air Act Amendments |
| EPA | United States Environmental Protection Agency |
| FHWA | Federal Highway Administration |
| FTA | Federal Transit Administration |
| IAC | Inter-Agency Consultation |
| JOHRTS | Jefferson Orange Hardin Transportation Study |
| MPO | Metropolitan Planning Organization |
| MTP | Metropolitan Transportation Plan |
| NAAQS | National Ambient Air Quality Standards |
| NOx | Oxides of nitrogen |
| PPP | Public Participation Plan |
| SETRPC | South East Texas Regional Planning Commission |
| SIP | State Implementation Plan |
| TAZ | Traffic Analysis Zone |
| TCEQ | Texas Commission on Environmental Quality |
| TCM | Transportation Control Measure |
| TDC | Texas Demographic Center |
| TDM | Travel Demand Model |
| TIP | Transportation Improvement Program |
| TPC | Transportation Planning Committee |
| TxDOT-TPP | Texas Department of Transportation – Transportation Planning and Programming Division |

| | |
|-------|--|
| TWC | Texas Workforce Commission |
| USDOT | United States Department of Transportation |
| UTSA | University of Texas - San Antonio |
| VMT | Vehicle Miles Traveled |
| VOC | Volatile organic compounds |

Chapter 1: Executive Summary

1.1 Conformity Overview

Section 176(c)(4) of the Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) of 1990 requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) for areas designated as nonattainment or maintenance for the pollutant ozone to conduct an air quality conformity analysis to ensure Metropolitan Transportation Plans (MTPs) and Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) are consistent with the region's air quality goals. Recent court rulings in the *South Coast Air Quality Management District vs EPA (South Coast II)* case have affected the status of areas such as the Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study (JOHRTS) area which was re-designated to attainment with a maintenance plan for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS in 2010 and was designated attainment/unclassifiable for the 2008 8-hour Ozone NAAQS and 2015 8-hour Ozone NAAQS.

The court rulings have resulted in such areas, known as 'orphan' areas, having to demonstrate conformity under their previous designation for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS. Based on the [November 2018 EPA guidance document 'Transportation Conformity Guidance for the South Coast II Court Decision.'](#) a regional emissions analysis is not required for this conformity demonstration. This document details this effort by the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission-MPO (SETRPC-MPO), with technical assistance from the Texas Department of Transportation – Transportation Planning and Programming Division (TxDOT-TPP), to perform the air quality conformity analysis and obtain a conformity determination.

1.2 Maintenance Area

The Beaumont-Port Arthur area (Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange Counties) was re-designated from nonattainment to attainment-maintenance for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS, effective November 19, 2010. The area was initially designated attainment/ unclassifiable for the 2008 8-hour Ozone NAAQS and remains in attainment for that standard as well as the new 2015 8-hour Ozone NAAQS. When the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS was revoked by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), transportation conformity requirements for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS were also revoked (effective 4/6/2015). The court's decision in *South Coast II* reinstated the conformity requirements for the area as part of maintenance for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS. The EPA's November 2018 guidance document for areas affected by the *South Coast II* decision includes the conformity criteria that the EPA considers applicable to 'orphan' areas.

1.3 Conformity Criteria

As per the EPA guidance referenced in Section 1.2, conformity for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS can be demonstrated by the SETRPC-MPO, with technical assistance from TxDOT-TPP, by meeting 1) use of the latest planning assumptions, 2) consultation requirements, 3) fiscal constraint

requirements of MTPs and TIPs, and 4) if applicable, timely implementation of Transportation Control Measures (TCMs). As the JOHRTS region has no TCMs, requirement 4) is not part of the conformity criteria for the region.

1.4 MTP & TIP Conformity

Results of the transportation conformity determination demonstrate that the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP meet all transportation air quality conformity requirements of the CAAA and the *South Coast II* guidance. This conformity determination involved Interagency Consultation (Chapter 7) and Public Participation (Chapter 8).

Chapter 2: Air Quality

2.1 Air Pollution

Based on the CAAA, the EPA sets national standards, known as National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), for six criteria pollutants: ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and lead. In the JOHRTS region, the primary pollutant issue is ozone. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), in concert with the MPO, is responsible for attributing nitrogen oxides (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) amounts to on-road vehicles. Ground level ozone is known to trigger a variety of health problems. It is particularly harmful for children, older adults and people of all ages who have lung diseases such as asthma.

2.2 Background

The Beaumont-Port Arthur area (Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange Counties) was re-designated from nonattainment to attainment-maintenance for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS, effective November 19, 2010. The area was initially designated attainment/ unclassifiable for the 2008 8-hour Ozone NAAQS and remains in attainment for that standard as well as the new 2015 8-hour Ozone NAAQS. When the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS was revoked by the EPA, transportation conformity requirements for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS were also revoked (effective 4/6/2015).

The court's decision in the *South Coast II* case reinstated the conformity requirements for the area as part of maintenance for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS. The EPA's November 2018 guidance document for areas affected by the *South Coast II* decision includes the conformity criteria that the EPA considers applicable to 'orphan' areas. As a result of a court case and subsequent rulings, it has been determined by EPA that transportation conformity applies for the revoked 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS and that these areas must demonstrate transportation conformity of MTPs and TIPs. The SETRPC-MPO Transportation Conformity Determination for the JOHRTS 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the JOHRTS 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program was issued by the U. S. Department of Transportation on July 26, 2019, to meet the new requirements.

The SETRPC-MPO Transportation Conformity Determination for the JOHRTS MTP-2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the JOHRTS 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program was issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation on November 21, 2019.

In addition, the SETRPC-MPO is working to complete a Transportation Air Quality Conformity action on the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and the JOHRTS 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program by August 2023.

Chapter 3: Conformity

3.1 Transportation Conformity

Transportation conformity establishes the framework for improving air quality to protect public health and the environment. Specifically, the CAAA section 176(c) requires that federally funded or approved highway and transit activities are consistent with ('conform to') the purpose of the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Conformity to the purpose of the SIP means the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding and approvals are given to highway and transit activities that will not cause new air quality violations, worsen existing air quality violations, or delay timely attainment of the relevant air quality standard, or any interim milestone.

3.2 Purpose

This report and its supporting appendices explain the conformity determination for the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP with respect to the requirement of transportation conformity for 'orphan' areas such as the JOHRTS region. See Section 1.1 Conformity Overview; Section 1.2 Maintenance Area; Section 2.2 Background; and Section 3.3 Criteria for further explanation regarding 'orphan' areas.

3.3 Criteria

As a result of the *South Coast II* decision, transportation conformity for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS applies in 'orphan' areas. This includes the JOHRTS region as an Orphan Maintenance Area e.g., 1997 maintenance yet 2008 attainment. The SETRPC-MPO Transportation Conformity Determination for the JOHRTS 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the JOHRTS 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program was issued by the U. S. Department of Transportation on July 26, 2019, to meet the new requirements. In addition, the SETRPC-MPO Transportation Conformity Determination for the JOHRTS MTP-2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the JOHRTS 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program was issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation on November 21, 2019.

As an Orphan Maintenance Area, transportation conformity for the MTP and TIP for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS can be demonstrated without a regional emissions analysis. As no regional emissions analysis is required, there is no requirement to use the latest emissions model, or use either the emissions budget test or interim emissions test. As no regional emissions analysis is required, there is by extension no requirement to perform emission modeling or regional travel demand modeling specifically to support a regional emissions analysis.

Based on the *South Coast II* decision, transportation conformity for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS can be demonstrated, without a regional emissions analysis as per guidance referenced in Section 1.2, by:

- Use of the latest planning assumptions, including TCMs;
- Meeting consultation requirements; and
- Meeting fiscal restraint requirements.

Documentation of SETRPC-MPO actions to demonstrate adherence to the three above criteria are contained in subsequent chapters of this document.

3.4 Document Format

This Transportation Conformity Report is a streamlined version of the Model Conformity Documentation outline adopted by the Technical Working Group for Mobile Source Emissions. As this conformity does not require a regional emissions analysis, the Transportation Conformity Report does not contain a section on emissions modeling. Additionally, the Travel Demand Model section describes the status of the validated travel demand model (TDM) and does not include discussion pertaining to use of the TDM to develop inputs to the regional emissions analysis.

3.5 Electronic Data Submittal

The MTP, TIP, and Transportation Conformity Report are available in PDF format on SETRPCs website: <https://www.setrpc.org/3183-2/> or by calling (409) 899.8444 x7520.

Chapter 4: MTP & TIP Conformity

4.1 Overview

The MTP is the official multimodal transportation plan for the JOHRTS area and addresses a 20-year planning horizon. The MTP includes goals and objectives that reflect regional values and long-term regional transportation needs. The MTP underscores the vital role transportation plays in the social, environmental, and economic health of the area. The fiscally constrained MTP is the [Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study Metropolitan Transportation Plan-2045 \(JOHRTS MTP-2045\)](#).

The JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP presents the various highway and transit projects that are expected to be let for construction or implementation within the next four years. Regional transportation projects and programs are identified and prioritized in the TIP. The fiscally constrained TIP is the [Jefferson-Orange-Hardin Regional Transportation Study Fiscal Years 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program \(JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP\)](#).

4.2 Submittal Frequency

For nonattainment and maintenance areas subject to conformity requirements, regional transportation conformity analysis is required to be performed on a 4-year cycle. As the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP have been developed, this conformity determination represents the second conformity determination of the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP.

As the region remains designated attainment for the 2008 8-hour Ozone NAAQS and the 2015 8-hour Ozone NAAQS, the region is required to update the MTP on a 5-year cycle.

4.3 Regionally Significant Projects

The networks used in the TDM consist of existing and planned future roadways. Functionally classified roadways (collector and above) or projects seeking federal funding are considered regionally significant. Most of the roadways contained in the model networks are regionally significant. Some roadways are included that are not regionally significant but are necessary to define the traffic analysis zone (TAZ) structure used in the TDM. Networks for the 2016, 2021, 2026 and Forecast Year 2045 were developed to support the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP.

Funding specifics for project is noted in the annotation for each project. The funding is identified as Federal, State or Local.

While the cities in the JOHRTS region have public transit systems and while there are rural transit systems in the lesser populated portions of the three-county area; these systems do not represent a significant portion of the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT). Therefore, mode choice was not used in this TDM.

See JOHRTS MTP-2045 and JOHRTS FY2023-2026 TIP for the area's project listing.

4.4 Latest Planning Assumptions

The JOHRTS MTP-2045 was developed using the latest demographic and roadway activity assumptions at the time of its development in 2018 and 2019. As the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP is drawn from the JOHRTS MTP-2045, the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP is based on these same planning assumptions. Details of the development of these planning assumptions are provided in the context of discussion of the regional TDM (Chapter 5).

4.5 Non-Federal Projects

The MTP must include the design concept and descriptions for all existing and proposed regionally significant transportation projects, regardless of funding source ([23 CFR 450.324\(f\)\(9\)](#)). Further, it must also identify all necessary financial resources from public and private sources that are reasonably expected to be available to carry out the plan. Such regionally significant projects are included within the conformity determination of the MTP.

Non-federal projects funded by sources such as local governments and local transportation authorities, such as signal improvements, intersection improvements and local roadway widening, may be of insufficient scale or scope to require inclusion within a transportation conformity regional emissions analysis. These 'non-regionally significant' projects that do not require any federal project approval actions (i.e., environmental clearance or permit approvals) are not individually listed within the MTP or TIP.

4.6 Exempt Projects/Programs

Highway and transit projects characterized as Safety, Mass Transit, Air Quality or Other ([40 CFR 93.126](#)) are exempt from the requirement to determine conformity. Absent Consultative Partner consensus that such projects have the potential for adverse emissions impacts, these projects may proceed to the project development process even in the absence of a conforming MTP and TIP.

Projects exempt from Regional Emission Analysis ([40 CFR 93.127](#)) include: intersection channelization projects; intersection signalization projects at individual intersections; interchange reconfiguration projects; changes in vertical and horizontal alignment; truck size and weight inspection stations and bus terminals and transfer points. Absent Consultative Partner consensus that such projects have the potential for regional impacts, these projects may also proceed to the project development process even in the absence of a conforming MTP and TIP.

For SETRPC projects, as described above, see JOHRTS MTP-2045 and JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP.

4.7 Constraints

One of the key requirements of the MTP and TIP is financial constraint, which is intended to ensure that the total estimated cost of projects included in the MTP does not exceed reasonably available estimated revenues. A conformity determination on financially constrained plans ensures that

conformity findings are based on realistic plans and programs and that any TCMs and other projects that may be beneficial to air quality are funded.

4.7.1 Long-Range Financial Constraint (MTP)

The JOHRTS MTP-2045 financial element identifies all sources of funds reasonably expected to be available and any innovative financial strategies that may be necessary to implement the MTP. The financial element of the MTP is documented in JOHRTS MTP-2045.

4.7.2 Short-Range Financial Constraint (TIP)

Financial constraint is also required for a conforming TIP, with funds programmed being equal to the total funds available. The JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP comprises the first four years of transportation activities in the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and the requirement of financial constraint ensures that those activities committed to be funded in that timeframe have the financial resources available for implementation.

4.8 Summary Statement

The JOHRTS MTP-2045 and the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP adhere to the conformity requirements as described in EPA's November 2018 guidance. The JOHRTS MTP-2045 and, by extension, the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP were developed based on the latest planning assumptions at the time of MTP development in 2019. The JOHRTS MTP-2045 and JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP meet the fiscal constraint requirements. The conformity process was completed for the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP following the required consultative process described in the Texas Conformity SIP.

Chapter 5: Travel Demand Model

5.1 Overview

The JOHRTS regional TDM is used to estimate and forecast vehicular traffic patterns and roadway volumes in the Jefferson-Orange-Hardin County region. This model is a Trans CAD-based model cooperatively developed by TxDOT-TPP, the SETRPC-MPO and the TxDOT-Beaumont District.

To establish that the JOHRTS model is suitable for forecasting future traffic, the model is validated to match observed conditions in a current year. In the case of the version of the JOHRTS model used in development of the JOHRTS MTP-2045, the validation year is the year 2016 as it was the year for which the most current set of non-state roadway and state roadway traffic counts that are critical to a robust validation were available.

5.2 Modeling Process

The JOHRTS TDM uses the traditional three-step process of trip generation, trip distribution and traffic assignment to estimate and forecast travel patterns and traffic volumes. The 'mode-choice' step of the process is excluded in the JOHRTS model given the very small amount of transit demand in the region.

The critical inputs to the three-step process are TAZ demographics and the model networks. Both inputs are developed locally in cooperative fashion by the SETRPC-MPO and the TxDOT-Beaumont District.

5.2.1 Demographic Development

Demographic data inputs to the development of JOHRTS MTP-2045 involved creation of population and employment estimates for the year 2016 and forecasts for the years 2021, 2026 and 2045. The demographic inputs were submitted to TxDOT-TPP, who developed and validated the model for use in MTP development.

The year 2016 population demographics were based on two sources of Census data. The 2016 Census American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year block group data were used and supplemented by block-level 2010 Census data to establish TAZ level population and households. Targeted review of aerial photos, previous data sources along with internet searches, and phone calls were performed to obtain information on group quarters, schools, and special generators.

Year 2016 employment demographics were developed based on data from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). Due to schedule challenges in TxDOT's transition from TWC-based employer data to InfoUSA employer data for the model year 2016, TxDOT and SETRPC along with staff from the Texas Demographic Center (TDC) at University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) developed an

approach to make use of latest available TWC data. The latest available TWC data for the region was the year 2013 data. That data is a basis for estimating 2016 data. SETRPC then performed review of aerial photos, Census data, and previous model data to determine areas of growth and developed growth rates by employment category based on observed growth areas. The growth rates were applied to each category of employment to develop the estimated 2016 data and reviewed the resultant data for reasonableness in numeric growth and in its relationships to other TAZs and to adjacent residential growth.

Both the population and employment demographics were adjusted to match the county-level control totals which were provided by the TDC through TxDOT. The control totals provided both numeric targets for each category and established the relationships between the demographic elements which were followed.

Forecasts of population, households and employment were developed by SETRPC at the TAZ level to serve as inputs for travel model forecasting to support development of the JOHRTS MTP-2045. Using county-level control totals for population, households and employment provided by the Texas Demographic Center (TDC), SETRPC developed TAZ level demographics through allocation of county totals informed by the 2016 base year data, local knowledge of development since 2016, and planned future development and development constraints. The TAZ-level demographics for 2021, 2026 and 2045 were provided to TxDOT-TPP for review and use in application in the JOHRTS travel model that was validated to the year 2016.

5.2.2 Network Development

Along with TAZ demographics for the base and future years, SETRPC developed model networks for the base year 2016 and future years 2021, 2026 and 2045. Starting with a modeling network representing the year 2013, SETRPC added completed roadway projects on regionally significant facilities to bring the network up to a representation of the year 2016.

The future year networks were created by adding projects from the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP and JOHRTS MTP-2045 to the base year 2016 network in the future years as projects became operational. These networks are used in the JOHRTS TDM to develop estimated and forecasted travel patterns and traffic volumes in the 3-county region.

5.3 Model Validation

The model was validated by TxDOT-TPP to within 1.5% of observed traffic counts at the regional level for the year 2016. As the model is validated to recently observed conditions and in keeping with traditional use of regional travel models, the JOHRTS TDM is applied to the forecast future travel demand in the JOHRTS region for the MTP year of 2045.

Chapter 6: TCMs

6.1 Description of TCM status

The JOHRTS region is not required to have, nor has TCMs.

Chapter 7: Interagency Consultation

Description of Interagency Consultation Including Process

Specific consultative procedures are specified for the transportation conformity process. The procedures provide a means for ensuring input from the public and other government agencies in the MTP development process. Under these procedures, the SETRPC-MPO public involvement policy is published in the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and is available online at <http://www.setrpc.org/> during the public comment period. All posted meetings are open to the public. Federal, State, and local agencies, as well as citizens, are given an opportunity to see which projects are being proposed in the TIP and the MTP, to comment on the effect that these projects will have on the region's air quality, and to propose projects during the designated project selection process each year. The MTP and the conformity statement itself must also go through an additional thirty-day public and interagency review process before final approval.

The Texas consultative procedures specifically require coordination with the following government agencies, hereafter known as the Inter-Agency Consultation (IAC) partners, during the transportation conformity process and for the interagency review: TxDOT-TPP; TCEQ; FHWA; FTA; and EPA.

The purpose of this group is to ensure that the modeling methodology utilized in this conformity analysis is consistent with the on-road modeling utilized in the SIP and that the most recent planning assumptions were used. The IAC partners were consulted regularly during the conformity process, and Table 7-1 summarizes the meetings that occurred before local determination of this conformity document by the MPO Transportation Planning Committee (TPC). The SETRPC-MPO committee structure helps to ensure that the consultative requirements are met during the transportation conformity determination development process.

The consultative procedures require that copies of the conformity determination to be submitted by the SETRPC-MPO to the IAC partners for a ninety-day review period, a copy of all comments received during the public comment period and, a summary of any action which was taken to address the comments received. After addressing IAC partner comments and, if necessary, revising the Transportation Conformity Report, the SETRPC-MPO then submits the report to the IAC partners along with the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and the JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP.

Table 7-1 summarizes the IAC partner meetings held as part of SETRPC's consultative process. From July 1, 2023, to August 24, 2023, the SETRPC-MPO provided opportunities for consultation on the MTP, TIP, and conformity.

Table 1: Interagency Consultation Meetings

| Date | MPO | TxDOT | TCEQ | FHWA | EPA | Subject |
|----------------------|-----|-------|------|------|-----|---|
| June 12, 2023 | X | X | | X | | Transportation Conformity for JOHRTS 2045-MTP and FY 2023 2026 TIP EPA November Guidance <i>South Coast II</i> |
| June 28, 2023 | X | X | X | X | X | Transportation Conformity – Pre-Analysis Consensus Plan |

At the conclusion of the MTP, TIP and Transportation Conformity Report public involvement period, the three documents were provided to the IAC partners for an iterative 90-day review and comment period. Following FHWA, EPA, TxDOT-TPP and TCEQ concurrence, US Department of Transportation (USDOT) issues a Conformity Determination letter.

Chapter 8: Public Participation

8.1 Process Description

Appendix A of the JOHRTS MTP-2045 provides detailed descriptions of the JOHRTS public involvement process. The JOHRTS [Public Participation Plan](#) was and released for public comment and was approved by the JOHRTS TPC on December 17, 2017. Chapter 11, 11.6 in the JOHRTS MTP-2045, describes the project selection process used for the preparation of the JOHRTS MTP-2045. Public comments received during the public involvement period are contained in Appendix A of the JOHRTS MTP-2045.

The JOHRTS public involvement process is designed to provide proactive public involvement in the transportation planning process. This process was used throughout the development of the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP, including the project selection process and MTP/TIP public reviews.

For each meeting, a notice was sent to the four newspaper editors (Beaumont Enterprise, Port Arthur News, Orange Leader, and The Examiner) in the JOHRTS region for public posting. Also, the meetings and comment periods shown in Table 8-1 were advertised in the retail sections of several daily and weekend issues of the area newspapers.

Locations of public meetings, as well as MTP and TIP public involvement periods, were evaluated as steps toward enhancing public involvement under environmental justice directives. The public meetings were increased to four hybrid and virtual meetings during the public involvement period, and public access was enhanced by relocating meetings in the major cities throughout the JOHRTS region.

The Transportation Conformity Report, including the MTP and the TIP, were made available to the public and local governmental agencies, at all public meetings. The Report was also posted on the SETRPC-MPO website during the 30-day public comment period.

Table 8-2 provides a list of the JOHRTS TPC meetings. The TPC meetings ensure a transportation planning process that is comprehensive, cooperative, and continuing in nature, by providing a forum for both the public and city/county officials to decide on the shape and scope of transportation plans, programs, and projects in the JOHRTS region. Notices for the TPC meetings were sent to the city clerks (Beaumont, Orange, and Port Arthur), county clerks (Jefferson, Orange, and Hardin), and the regional newspapers.

Table 8-3 provides a list of the JOHRTS Technical Committee meetings.

*Table 8-2: JOHRTS MTP-2045 & JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP
Conformity Public Involvement Meetings*

| Date | Topics |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| July 25, 2023 | Transportation Conformity |
| July 31, 2023 | Transportation Conformity |
| August 1, 2023 | Transportation Conformity |
| August 2, 2023 | Transportation Conformity |
| August 3, 2023 | Transportation Conformity |

Table 8-3: JOHRTS Transportation Planning Committee Activities

| Date | Meeting Topics |
|----------------------|--|
| June 15, 2023 | Status Report on the need for a new Transportation Air Quality Conformity on the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and the JOHRTS 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program |
| July 27, 2023 | Status Report on completing a new Transportation Air Quality Conformity on the JOHRTS MTP-2045 and the JOHRTS 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program |
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Table 8-4: JOHRTS Technical Committee Activities

| Date | Meeting Topics |
|------|-----------------------|
| N/A | No meetings were held |
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Chapter 9: List of Appendices

Appendix A: Resolution

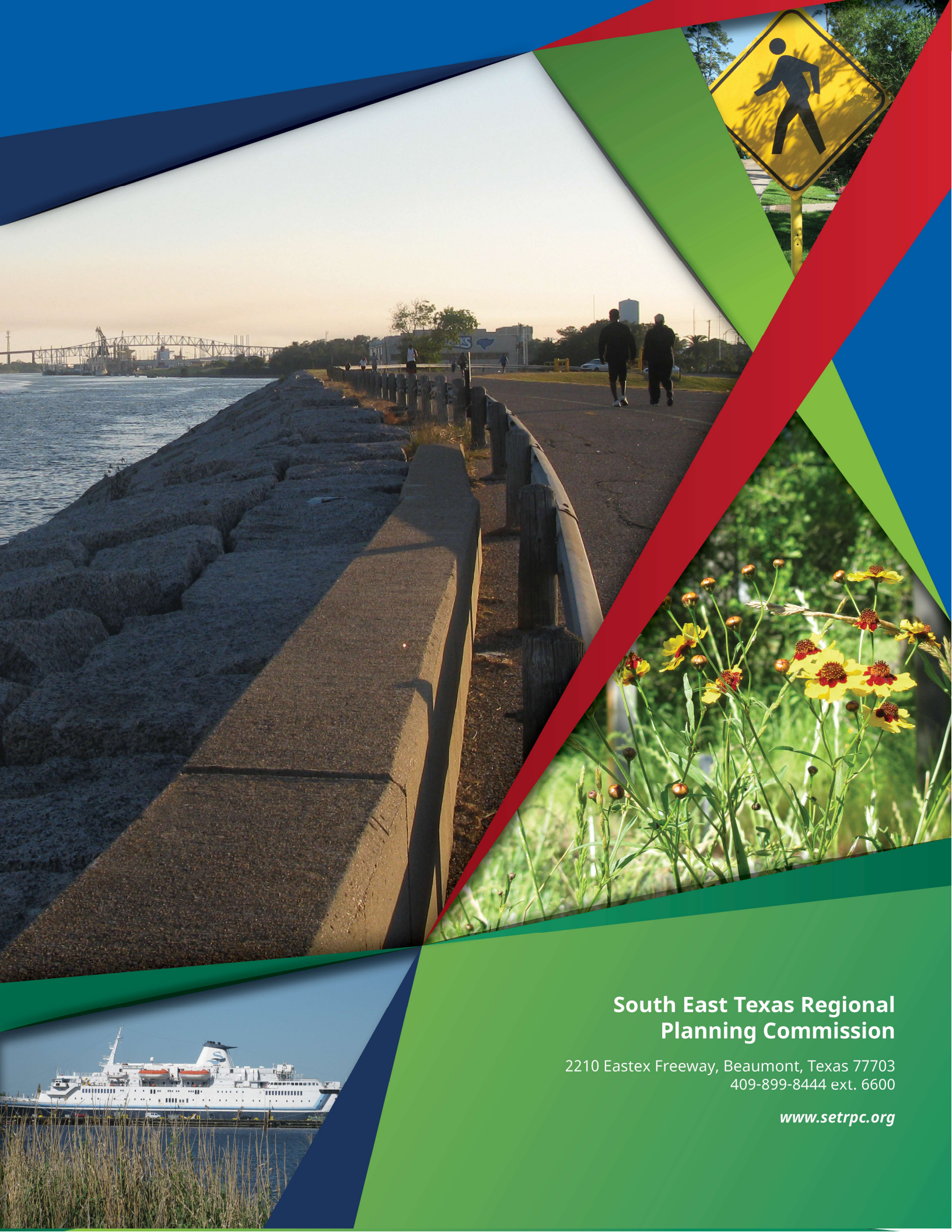
Appendix B: JOHRTS MTP-2045

Appendix C: JOHRTS FY 2023-2026 TIP

**Appendix D: JOHRTS Transportation Planning Committee
Agenda and Minutes**

**Appendix E: Interagency Consultative Process Meetings
Summaries**

Appendix F: Public Participation Process Documents



**South East Texas Regional
Planning Commission**

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