

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTE ORDER

ALL Counties

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ALL Districts

The UNIFIED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (UTP) of the Texas Department of Transportation (department) is a 10-year plan that authorizes project planning and development, and is submitted to the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) for approval on an annual basis.

Transportation Code, §201.103 requires the commission to plan and make policies for the location, construction, and maintenance of a comprehensive system of state highways and public roads.

Transportation Code, §203.002 requires the commission to lay out, construct, maintain, and operate a modern state highway system, with emphasis on the construction of controlled access highways, and to plan for future highways.

Pursuant to Transportation Code, §201.602, the department conducted a public hearing on November 17, 2005, to receive testimony concerning the highway project selection process and the relative importance of the various criteria which the commission uses for project selection decisions. No public comments were received. Minute Order 110392, dated January 26, 2006, approved the project selection process.

In order to align the UTP with the simplified budget strategies outlined in the 2005-2009 Strategic Plan, the department has divided the UTP into two volumes: The Statewide Mobility Program and the Statewide Preservation Program (SPP). The SPP is part of the Maintain It budget strategy. The SPP indicates the commission's priority to preserve the existing highway network and protect the state's previous investments through authorization of annual program amounts for Category 1, Preventive Maintenance and Rehabilitation and Category 8, Safety as shown in Exhibit B. Exhibits C and D describe Category 6 projects that address structures replacement and rehabilitation. Exhibit E describes projects that address railroad grade separations. Exhibit F indicates anticipated preservation efforts through maintenance budget expenditures. Exhibit G describes preservation projects on the waterway and railroad networks for which the department is responsible. Exhibits H, I and J list Category 6 projects which are awaiting letting in Fiscal Year 2006 and must retain CONSTRUCT authority in the event an unexpected delay occurs.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that the 2007 SPP as shown in the following exhibits is hereby approved. It is understood that all previously approved projects with CONSTRUCT authority will retain this authority in the 2007 SPP.

- Exhibit A - Highway Construction Programs Policy and Restrictions
- Exhibit B - Allocation Program Amounts for Category 1, Preventive Maintenance and Rehabilitation and Category 8, Safety
- Exhibit C - Category 6 – On-System Structures Replacement and Rehabilitation
- Exhibit D - Category 6 – Off-System Structures Replacement and Rehabilitation
- Exhibit E - Category 6 – Railroad Grade Separations
- Exhibit F - Highway Maintenance Budget Distributions
- Exhibit G - Waterway and Railroad Preservation
- Exhibit H - Category 6 – On-System Structures Replacement and Rehabilitation
(Delayed from previous fiscal years)

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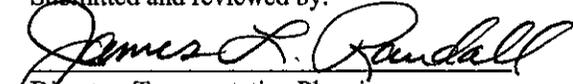
Exhibit I - Category 6 – Off-System Structures Replacement and Rehabilitation
(Delayed from previous fiscal years)

Exhibit J – Category 6 – Railroad Grade Separations
(Delayed from previous fiscal years)

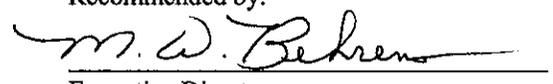
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

1. The executive director is hereby authorized to develop the projects in each list in the exhibits to the level of authority indicated for each project to include any necessary agreements, right of way acquisitions, utility adjustments, and relocation assistance, subject to the policies of the department and all applicable federal and state laws governing the acquisition of real property.
2. Pursuant to Transportation Code, §222.052, the commission may accept financial contributions from political subdivisions of the state for development of projects in the 2007 SPP.

Submitted and reviewed by:


Director, Transportation Planning
and Programming Division

Recommended by:


Executive Director

110479 MAR 30 06

Minute Date
Number Passed