

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## 2012 Unified Transportation Program Revision Public Meeting

March 22, 2012

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# Purpose of Tonight's Meeting

- Recently TxDOT announced the anticipation of approximately \$2 billion of State and Federal program capacity over the next 2 years.
- Tonight we will begin receiving public input on possible priorities, distribution, and scheduling as we seek to use this opportunity to facilitate construction on some of the state's high priority projects.
- This is the start of the process to allocate these funds by updating TxDOT's Unified Transportation Program.

# What is the Unified Transportation Program (UTP)?

- The UTP is part of our statewide transportation planning process.
  - ✓ Covering a 10 year period for project development and construction
  - ✓ Guides project development and authorizes construction of transportation projects involving state and federal funds based on projected available funding.
- The UTP includes funding levels and project lists.
- The UTP provides a foundation from which MPOs update their Transportation Improvement Plans (TIPs) for their local regions.

# Additional Program Capacity

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

- ~ \$750M of additional Federal Funds (above our Forecast)
- ~ \$600M through refinancing and restructuring debt capacity within the Texas Mobility Fund
- ~ \$650M of savings from anticipated costs of projects underway that are primarily funded using Proposition 12 and Proposition 14 bonds

# Goals for Additional Program Capacity

Advance construction on high priority projects that can authorize federal funds by the end of September 2012.

Seek projects that will best address the following objectives:

- Congestion
- Safety
- Preservation
- Connectivity

# 2012 UTP Revision Schedule

- March 22, 2012 (Today): Public Meeting
- March 23, 2012: Texas Register Posting (for public hearing). Start 30 day comment period.
- April 9, 2012 at 10:00 AM CST: Public Hearing @ 200 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, TX.
- April 23, 2012 at 4:00 PM CST: deadline for receipt of comments.
- April 26, 2012: Commission action to approved allocations for UTP revision.

# 2012 TIP and STIP Revision Schedule

- May-June 2012: Local MPOs and Districts amend the 2012 TIPs for specific projects
- July-August 2012: TxDOT Update to STIP
- August-September: FHWA Approval and Obligation of Funds

Throughout the schedule of activities, there will be additional opportunity for public input and hearings at both the state and local level.

## Key Questions:

- How will funds be allocated?

*A primarily formula based allocation will be used to distribute funds to TxDOT Districts and local MPOs or to projects approved by the commission.*

- Are there limitations on what projects are eligible?

*Projects must be in the STIP. Additionally, due to the mix of funding sources, projects must be eligible for obligation of federal highway funds this fiscal year.*

- Is there a federal fund matching requirement?

*A 20% state or local match is required. Some of the available state funds may be a source for this match.*



# 2012 Unified Transportation Program Revision

## *Why Public Involvement?*

### **WE WANT YOUR INPUT!**


Texas Administrative Code (TAC) rules §16.105, adopted January 1, 2011, require public involvement prior to the final UTP adoption & for UTP revisions:

- Tonight's statewide VTC public meeting is the beginning of the public input process
- Public input opportunities will continue until final program adoption.


# UTP Public Involvement web page

[http://www.txdot.gov/public\\_involvement/utp.htm](http://www.txdot.gov/public_involvement/utp.htm)

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- Texas Rural Transportation Plan 2035
- Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan 2035
- Statewide Transportation Improvement Program
- Draft Statewide Public Involvement Plan
- Unified Transportation Program
- 2012-2013 Legislative Appropriations Request

## Unified Transportation Program - Public Involvement

On March 22, 2012, TxDOT will host an open house-style public meeting to provide public involvement for revisions to the 2012 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). The meeting will be simultaneously broadcast at all 25 TxDOT district offices across the state.

Please [contact us](#) for more information.

### Public Comment

The [March 2012 UTP Revisions](#) and the [Draft 2013 UTP](#) are available for review.

Leave an [online comment](#) or print a [comment form](#) and mail it to:

Texas Department of Transportation  
Attention: Brian Ragland  
PO Box 149217  
Austin, TX 78714-9217

### Public Meeting Schedule

The [public meeting notice](#) and TxDOT's [Quick Guide to Public Involvement](#) are available for your review.

Date	Meeting Location
03/22/12 6 p.m. (CST)	Simultaneous Broadcast - <a href="#">Your Local TxDOT District Office</a>
5 p.m. (MST - El Paso)	



# To provide comments on the 2012 UTP Revisions

UTP Comments received until April 23, 2012, 4:00PM CST.

1. Comment cards available at this meeting
2. Email through TxDOT website:  
<http://www.txdot.gov> (type in search keyword: **UTP public involvement**)
3. Email through your email account: [FIN\\_UTP@txdot.gov](mailto:FIN_UTP@txdot.gov)
4. Toll-free information line at (800) 687-8108.
5. US mail:

**Texas Department of Transportation**  
**Attention: Marc Williams - UTP**  
**PO Box 149217**  
**Austin, TX 78714-9217**