



Federal Economic  
Stimulus/Recovery  
Package

San Antonio  Bexar County  
**MPO**  
Metropolitan Planning Organization  
January 26, 2009



## Disclaimer

*This is the best information we have to date.*

*This information is changing everyday.*

*We are staying on top of this issue to ensure that we are prepared when and if an Economic Stimulus Package (ESP) is approved.*



## Background

- On January 15<sup>th</sup> the House Appropriations Committee passed a \$550 billion economic recovery package
- Proposal includes approximately \$29.2 billion for the nation's highways and bridges
- Approximately \$2.42 billion for the State of Texas



## Funding Breakdown

- Of the amount given to each State, 55% will be given to the DOT and 45% will be treated as Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds
- STP Metropolitan Mobility funds are the most flexible federal dollars we receive

# Funding Breakdown

- Of the 45% in STP funds:
  - 10% will be set-aside for enhancement projects
  - Remaining 90% of the 45%
    - 62.5% to MPO's
    - 37.5% to DOT's





## Funding Breakdown

- Statewide Total = \$2.421 B
- DOT Share = \$1.331 B (55%)
- STP Share = \$1.089 B (45%)
  - 45% would be suballocated:
    - \$108.9 M for enhancement projects
    - \$612.7 M distributed by population
    - \$367.6 M back to the DOT
- All funding is 100% federal



# Funding Stipulations

- All title 23 rules apply:
  - Projects must be functionally classified (no local roads)
  - Projects must be environmentally cleared to proceed
  - Projects must be in the MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

# Use it or Lose it Provision

- Highway Funds must be apportioned within 7 days of enactment of the bill
  - States must award contracts on 50% of the funds w/i 120 days
  - Remaining funds must be under contract by August 1, 2010
  - MPO's must have 50% of their allocation under contract in 90 days
  - Balance of MPO funds must be under contract by July 1, 2010
- Selected projects must be “ready to go” to meet these provisions



# Transit Projects

- Federal package includes \$9 billion for public transportation
- \$6 billion will be distributed through normal federal formulas
- Texas Breakdown:
  - Transit Capital: \$423 Million
  - Transit Energy: \$114 Million



# Reporting Criteria

- Goal is to have an open process
  - Website will be established to update the public on project status
  - Website will have individual contact information
- Reports will be required w/i 30/60/90/180 days, 1 year and 3 years
  - Reports will detail expenditures
  - Results of the investment





## Local Project Selection

- MPO staff asked partner agencies to compile list of eligible projects
  - 963 projects were submitted
  - Totaling approximately \$3.9 Billion
  - VIA submitted 22 projects at \$2.2 B
- Many of the submitted projects will not be eligible for funding



## Milestones

- Congress hopes to have a bill signed by the President ASAP (no later than mid February)
- MPO sent a list of eligible projects to TxDOT on Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>
- The MPO TPB needs to come up with a way to prioritize and select projects

# MPO TIP Requirements

- MPO's have been allowed to work without fiscal constraint to develop list of potential projects
- Therefore, January TPB meeting can be used as a “first reading” of projects
- May need “special board meeting” for final project selection to meet federal deadlines





## Next Steps

- Partner agency workgroup can:
  - Sort through the list and decide with projects meet federal criteria
  - Develop project prioritization criteria *or* actually rank projects
- Can bring criteria *or* ranked projects to Executive Committee
- Action on selected projects at February Meeting