

April 8, 2020

WHEREAS, the Texas Transportation Commission is responsible for planning and making policies for the location, construction and maintenance of state highways, overseeing the design, construction, maintenance and operation of the state highway system; and

WHEREAS, on February 27, 2020, the Commission was briefed on potential updates to the 2020 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) to address a \$4.34 billion funding gap for the Interstate Highway (IH) 35 Capital Express Central Project in Austin, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Transportation Commission is considering funding the \$4.34 billion gap for the IH 35 Capital Express Central Project in Austin, Texas by diverting funds from other areas of the State; and

WHEREAS, the Commission will have a public comment period from March 13, 2020 to 4:00 PM CST on April 24, 2020 on proposed changes to the UTP; and

WHEREAS, the Commission will hold a virtual public hearing on April 24, 2020 to receive comments related to the proposed changes to the UTP; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that over \$1 billion could be diverted from projects in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area to help close the \$4.34 billion funding gap for the IH 35 Capital Express Central Project in Austin, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area by the Governor of Texas and in accordance with federal law; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) is the regional transportation policy body associated with the NCTCOG and is the regional forum for cooperative decisions on transportation in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, the RTC is responsible for the approval of transportation projects and policies in the region's long-range transportation plan (Mobility 2045) pursuant to its federal responsibilities under Title 23 of the United States Code; and

WHEREAS, for purposes of membership on the RTC, the City of Dallas is part of a "city cluster", along with the cities of Highland Park and University Park, that has six positions on the RTC; and

WHEREAS, five Dallas City Councilmembers and one Dallas citizen serve in the six positions for the Dallas/Highland Park/University Park city cluster; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020 the RTC passed a "Resolution on the Texas Transportation Commission's Proposed Updates to the 2020 Unified Transportation Program"; and

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WHEREAS, the RTC's resolution supports the IH 35 Capital Express Central Project in Austin, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the RTC's resolution suggests the Commission consider other methods of funding the Capital Express Central Project in Austin, Texas; and

WHEREAS, NCTCOG staff have requested RTC member cities pass their own resolutions in support of the RTC's position related to the IH 35 Capital Express Project in Austin, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dallas RTC appointees support the RTC's position related to the IH 35 Capital Express Project in Austin, Texas.

Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:

SECTION 1. That the City Council hereby authorizes a resolution **(1)** in support of the Regional Transportation Council's March 12, 2020 "Resolution on the Texas Transportation Commission's Proposed Updates to the 2020 Unified Transportation Program,"; and **(2)** authorizes the City of Dallas RTC members to provide comments on the proposed revisions to the 2020 Unified Transportation Program during the open comment period and at the public hearings on behalf of the City Council.

SECTION 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so resolved.