Federal and State Legislative Update

Regional Transportation Council
April 14, 2011
Federal Update – FY 2011 Budget

- **HR 1363** – the one week Continuing Resolution expires tomorrow, April 15
- **HR 1473** – the full year FY 2011 CR, a vote is expected this week
  - Rescinds $400M from FY 2010 High Speed Rail
  - Cuts all new funding for High Speed Rail in FY 2011
  - Rescinds $280M in FY 2010 for New Starts Program
  - Reduces New Starts Program to FY 2008 funding levels, from $2 billion to $1.597 billion.
  - Cuts 2010 TIGER grants from $600M to $527M
  - Reduces unobligated contract authority for the highway program by $2.5 billion
  - Rescinds $630M from highway earmarks from 1998 TEA-21 and earlier surface transportation bills
State Budget

**HB 1**
- LIRAP funded at $25M, statewide, biennium
  - Passed the House April 3
  - Referred to Senate Finance April 4
- Riders may provide up to an additional $50M
  - Riders contingent upon passage of two other bills, SB 655/HB 3106 and SB 657/HB 2694

**SB 1**
- Recommended $25M, statewide, biennium
- Possible amendment for additional $15M, on agenda for today
  - Currently in Senate Finance Committee
  - TCEQ recommendations were pending as of April 13
Transportation Revenue Legislation

- **SJR 22 (Nichols)** – Moves revenue on vehicle sales tax from GR to State Hwy Fund 10% annually, 2013 to 2022
- **SJR 23 (Wentworth)** – Increases fuel tax by ten cents per gallon, indexes for inflation (index by CPI), dedicates additional revenue to transportation
- **SJR 38 (Davis)** – Stops increases in diversions/reduces diversions over time.
  - All three left pending in Senate Finance, April 4
Transportation Revenue Legislation

• HB 563 (Pickett) – Transportation reinvestment zone
  – Eliminates the requirement that projects be on the state highway system
  – Eliminates the requirement that projects utilize TxDOT’s pass through toll program
  – Allows for greater flexibility of transportation projects
  – Passed out of the House, March 31

• HJR 63 (Pickett) - Permits a county to issue bonds or notes to finance a transportation reinvestment zone.
  – Requires constitutional amendment
  – Reported favorably from committee, March 30
CDA Legislation

- SB 1017 (Davis) – North Tarrant Express CDA
- SB 1144 (Shapiro) – I-35E CDA
- SB 1145 (Shapiro) – 183 CDA
  - All three Senate bills passed on the local calendar April 7, referred to House Transportation Committee April 11
  - The House companion bills are all pending in House Transportation Committee
Pipeline Legislation

- **SB 103 (Davis)** - Relating to the installation, maintenance, operation and relocation of wastewater pipeline facilities (produced during drilling or operating natural gas).

- **SB 106 (Davis)** - Relating to condemnation of municipal property for, and municipal regulation of, pipeline operations.
  - Both have been referred to Senate Natural Resources but not heard in committee
MPO Legislation Possible Action Item

- **HB 611/SB 829 (Murphy)** – Restricts a regional planning commission from participating in environmental document preparation, engineering, architecture and construction services.
  - HB 611 passed out of Efficiency & Government Reform, March 30

- **HB 664 (Larson)** – MPO Policy Board voting member must be elected official
  - Pending in House Transportation, April 4

- **HB 2160 (Coleman)** – Offers MPO Policy Board membership to a member of the legislature who represents the region
  - Passed out of House County Affairs, April 12