

SAFETEA-LU Compliance Issues Checklist

Update Cycles – Long-Range, MTP, TIP and STIP Plans

- The TIP and MTP must be SAFETEA-LU compliant by July 1, 2007 (Public meetings will be held April 4th, 17th and 25th. Both documents will be submitted to TPC for approval on April 25th).
- The TIP will now be on a 4-year cycle instead of the current 2-year cycle and must be fiscally constrained during all 4 years (A note has been placed in the side bar in Chapter 1, page 2 of the MTP informing readers of this SAFETEA-LU change in requirement for the TIP).
- The current TIP/MTP documents will continue to be valid even after the July 1, 2007 deadline. However, they cannot be amended until they become SAFETEA-LU compliant. (MTP changes and updates are done; new 2008-2011 TIP is ready for review and approval. Public meetings are scheduled).
- Air Quality issues should not be a concern because we are an air quality Attainment Area (No action needed on this item).

Annual Listing of Projects

- Be sure to include all federally funded projects in the annual project listing for which Federal funds were obligated in the preceding program year. (The 2006 list was submitted to TxDOT in December 2006 and is currently posted on the MPO website).
- The Annual Project Listing should specifically identify bicycle facility and pedestrian walkway projects (No bicycle or pedestrian projects were let or completed in 2006. If such projects become available, they will be added to the 2007 list).

Metropolitan & Statewide Transportation Planning Factors

- Develop a new Public Participation Plan (PPP) based on the existing Public Involvement Procedures (PIP), which will include the following:
- Incorporate the two new stand-alone planning factors into the Public Participation Plan
 - 1st new planning factor: “Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
 - 2nd new planning factor: “Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.”
- Expand on the ISTEA/TEA-21 environmental factor
 - Include the phrase: “promote consistency of transportation plan and transportation improvement programs with State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.”

- Follow guidance provided by FHWA to “close the gap” between ISTE/TEA-21 and SAFETEA-LU concerning safety and security planning factors
- [PPP is complete and incorporates all of the above. PPP has been on MPO website since March 12, 2007 for public review and comment.](#)
- [All of the above was also incorporated into the 2005-2030 MTP.](#)

Fiscal Constraint

- FHWA may have the MPO document total project costs (i.e. construction, right-of-way, utilities, etc.) versus construction costs only in the MTP
- [Texas Urbanized Mobility Plan \(TUMP\) should satisfy this requirement.](#)

Environmental Mitigation Activities

- Include language in the updated MTP discussing how environmental mitigation will be addressed. This language should include a general discussion of potential impacts, avoidance and mitigation activities and should be developed with Federal, State, and Tribal wildlife, land management, and regulatory agencies
- There should be a comparison of transportation plans with available State conservation plans, maps, and inventories.
- [All of these issues are addressed in the SAFETEA-LU Addendum contained inside of Chapter 4 of the 2005-2030 MTP.](#)

Consultation and Cooperation

- MPO Public Participation Plans (PPP) and consultation procedures should be developed to include coordination with noted Federal, State, Tribal and Local agencies
- Compare plans, maps, inventories of historic or natural resources
- Work with Federal, State and Tribal wildlife, land management and regulatory agencies
- [All of the above is addressed in both the MTP and the PPP.](#)

Air Quality/Conformity

Should not apply since we are an Attainment Area ([Does not apply to us](#)).

- Continue to facilitate the Multi County Regional Transit Plan, which is being developed through a process that includes representatives of public, private, and nonprofit transportation and human services providers and participation by the public ([Plan is complete and on file at the North Texas Regional Planning Commission. MPO has a copy also](#)).
- Additional work may be required based on final FTA rule-making decisions ([wait and see](#)).

Transportation Facilities

- Include documentation in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) detailing how operational and management strategies will be addressed. (Addressed in Chapter 5 of MTP)
- Develop strategies for preserving, improving and enhancing the existing multi-modal transportation system (Addressed in Chapter 5 of MTP)
- Develop strategies and costs for improving the interconnectivity of the existing multi-modal transportation system (Addressed in Chapter 5 of MTP)
- Congestion Management Process (CMP) formerly known as Congestion Management System (CMS) applies to Non-Attainment areas only. We should not have to be concerned with this. (Addressed in Chapter 7 of MTP. Added the word "Process" to end of chapter title)
- **Planning Certification Cycle:** FHWA and FTA will revise certification review schedule to accommodate new 4-year cycle (assume this applies to TIP)

Interested Parties and Participation

- The Public Participation Plan (PPP), which provides for expanded consultation and stakeholder involvement, must be adopted by July 1, 2007
 - The PPP must be made available for public comment for 45-days prior to adoption
 - TxDOT/MPO should identify and confirm that stakeholders, interest groups, and the general public have an opportunity to comment on the PPP and any transportation plans/programs
 - MPO should consider changing meeting times to accommodate the public (i.e. evening meetings instead of daytime)
 - Make sure all transportation plans and programs are in electronic format and are available on the MPO website for viewing and download
 - MPO should begin investing in technology (software, training, etc.) to employ visualization techniques when depicting statewide and MTP plans. This will involve such techniques as 3-D modeling, animated projections utilizing fly-overs, spatial analysis, aerial photography, pictometry and planimetrics. (PPP was placed on MPO website 45-days prior to April TPC meeting. All other items have, or are being, accomplished)
- A copy of the PPP will be provided to FHWA and FTA (Draft copy was sent out to all TAC meeting recipients)
- The requirement for a user friendly MPO website is complete and continues to evolve as work to improve the site
- Current MPO plans and programs are now available for viewing and download on the MPO website
- We will need to include language in the MTP/TIP describing how visualization techniques will be implemented (Done in the PPP)

TEMPO Additional Information

- TEMPO Meeting – September 28, 2006 – Additional SAFETEA-LU Requirements
 - STIP approval must be completed by October 2007
 - TIP document should be completed by May 2007 for SAFETEA-LU compliance inspection by TxDOT, Austin (which means we have less time than previously communicated. The actual deadline is July 2007)
 - FHWA is working to eliminate the mismatch between STIP and TIP by either having all the MPO's use the TELUS Transportation Information Database System or, by providing all MPO's with a standardized Excel spreadsheet
 - This measure would help eliminate the inconsistencies between the state's STIP and the 25 MPO TIP's