



# **Bexar County Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) Program**

January 17, 2023

# Agenda

- Bexar County Reclassification
- Safety vs. Emissions Inspections
- Bexar County Study

# Bexar County Reclassification

- Bexar County nonattainment area reclassified to moderate for 2015 eight-hour ozone standard.
  - Bexar County I/M program implementation required within four years of reclassification.
  - Attainment is required by the end of 2023.
- Reclassification effective November 7, 2022.
- I/M program implementation by November 7, 2026.

# Bexar County Reclassification

- Bexar County I/M rulemaking and state implementation plan (SIP) revision
  - Expected proposal on May 31, 2023 and adoption on November 8, 2023.
  - If approved for publication and comment, the rule and SIP revision proposals will include a 30-day public comment period which is anticipated to close on July 17, 2023.
  - Expected effective date on November 30, 2023.
- Dates for when stations will need to have emissions analyzers in place and when emissions testing will be needed for vehicle registration have yet to be determined but will be no later than November 7, 2026.

# Safety vs. Emissions Inspections

- Safety inspection
  - All model years inspected for items such as tires, brakes, lights, and windshield wipers.
- Emissions inspection
  - Gasoline vehicles model-year 2 through 24 years old.
  - On-board Diagnostics (OBD) inspections only.
  - Plug in to on-board computer to test emissions-related components and systems of the vehicle.
  - Adds approximately 15 minutes to safety inspection.

# Safety vs. Emissions Inspections

- Emissions inspection waivers and time extensions are available from the Texas Department of Public Safety for eligible vehicle owners.
  - Individual vehicle waiver
  - Low-income time extension
  - Low mileage waiver
  - Parts availability time extension

# Safety vs. Emissions Inspections

- Bexar County: to be set by the commission through rulemaking

Program Area	Safety Inspection Fee	Emissions Inspection Fee	Fees charged at Registration	Total to motorist
DFW / HGB	\$7.00	\$18.50	\$8.25	\$33.75
El Paso	\$7.00	\$11.50	\$8.25	\$26.75
Austin / Round Rock	\$7.00	\$11.50	\$8.25	\$26.75

# Bexar County Study

- Eastern Research Group (ERG) conducted a study in June 2020 to determine:
  - If implementing an I/M program in only Bexar County would satisfy the requirements in 40 CFR §51.350(b)(2) that programs shall nominally cover at least the entire urbanized area based on the 1990 census; and
  - What efforts are needed to implement I/M in Bexar County, including station costs and number of stations necessary.

# Bexar County Study

- Bexar County alone would satisfy the federal requirement because:
  - The county covers a geographic area comparable to the San Antonio Urbanized Area; and
  - The county's population and emissions exceed that of the urbanized area.
- [Link to Study](#)

# Bexar County Study

- Two station scenarios:
  - New station with full startup costs; and
  - Existing station with partial startup costs.
- Startup costs before generating revenue:
  - Analyzer purchase or rental;
  - Training for inspectors; and
  - Building space purchase or rental.

# Bexar County Study

- Analyzer costs
  - Purchase: \$6,895 to \$7,950
  - Rent: \$195 to \$199 per month
- Two certified analyzer vendors
  - OPUS Inspection, Inc.
  - Worldwide Environmental Products, Inc.
- Training costs
  - \$503 estimated annual training costs per inspector

# Bexar County Study

- Building costs
  - New stations
    - \$570: average monthly cost for 600 square feet building space
  - Existing stations
    - Building space is already assumed.
    - In 2020, there were 615 safety-only inspection stations in Bexar County that could add emissions testing at no additional building cost.

# Bexar County Study

- Approximately 458 stations will be necessary to adequately test Bexar County vehicle fleet.
  - Analyzed population and vehicle registration data and emissions testing throughput.
  - Compared to existing station counts in other I/M areas from Fee Analysis project.

# Bexar County Study

Program Area	2019 Population	Number of Registered Vehicles	Emissions Testing Throughput	Number of Emissions Testing Stations - 2021
Bexar	1,991,779	1,753,744	1,399,119	N/A
HGB	6,833,416	5,770,473	4,516,021	2,494
DFW	7,314,575	6,565,993	5,091,514	2,494
El Paso	855,623	735,569	586,764	225
ARR	1,832,230	1,592,363	1,278,653	419

# Contact Information

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