

## Plain Language Summary of the Bexar County Inspection and Maintenance Program Plan and Rulemaking

### Introduction

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the maximum level of ozone in the air to protect human health (70 parts per billion for the 2015 ozone standard). Bexar County does not meet the EPA's 2015 standard for ozone and is classified as a moderate nonattainment area under that standard. The federal Clean Air Act (FCAA) requires moderate nonattainment areas to implement a vehicle inspection and maintenance (I/M) program. To meet this requirement, the state must implement an I/M program in Bexar County by November 7, 2026.

### Summary

The proposed I/M program plan (Project No. 2022-027-SIP-NR) and rulemaking (Project No. 2022-026-114-AI) establish an I/M program in Bexar County that would begin by November 1, 2026. The proposed rulemaking would amend rules in 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 114, Control of Air Pollution from Motor Vehicles, to implement the program in Bexar County. In addition to establishing an I/M program in Bexar County, the proposed I/M program plan also incorporates minor changes from a previously adopted rulemaking (Project No. 2021-029-114-AI) that expanded options for displaying a vehicle's registration. These changes were made to implement Senate Bill 604, 86th Texas Legislature, 2019.

The proposed I/M rulemaking, in addition to establishing rules for an I/M program in Bexar County, also amends 30 TAC Chapter 114 to clean up the definitions provided for rules in the chapter and to update rules for the state's Low Reid Vapor Pressure Program. The proposed amendments remove several definitions that were found to no longer be needed and to remove Ellis, Johnson, Kaufman, Rockwall, and Wise Counties from the list of counties that must comply with the low Reid vapor pressure requirements.

### Public Comment and Hearing Information

The TCEQ will offer a public hearing in San Antonio on July 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Alamo Area Council of Governments board room, located at 2700 Northeast Loop 410, Suite 101. This hearing is offered to receive public comments on the proposed I/M program plan and rulemaking for Bexar County (Project Nos. 2022-027-SIP-NR and Project No. 2022-026-114-AI). The hearing is also offered to receive public comments on two other proposals that would impact Bexar County. One is a proposed attainment plan for Bexar County (Project No. 2022-025-SIP-NR), and the other is a reasonable further progress plan for Bexar County (Project No. 2022-024-SIP-NR). The hearing will be conducted in English, and Spanish language interpretation services will be available. For accommodation needs, contact Brad Patterson, Office of the Chief Clerk at (512) 239-1201 or 1-800-RELAY-TX (TDD) as far in advance as possible.

The comment period for these projects opens on June 2, 2023 and closes on July 17, 2023. Submit written comments through the *eComments* system at <https://tceq.commentinput.com/>. Comments for the proposed I/M plan must reference **SIP Project Number 2022-027-SIP-NR**.

The proposed I/M plan documents can be found on the TCEQ's website at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/sip/san/san-latest-ozone> and the proposed I/M rulemaking documents can be found at [https://www.tceq.texas.gov/rules/propose\\_adopt.html](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/rules/propose_adopt.html).

For more information or to get help with submitting written comments, contact Alison Stokes, SIP Team Leader, at (512) 239-4902 or [alison.stokes@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:alison.stokes@tceq.texas.gov).