

Comments Received at Public Meetings

Transcript of Public Comments
Recorded at 2013-2016 TIP Call for Projects Public Meetings
March 19, 2013

Public Comments Recorded at 6:00 P.M. Meeting:

1. **Tom Thompson**, member of Bike Houston – Expressed general support for the bike-ped alternative mode projects, Post Oak Blvd reconstruction and integration with bike-ped infrastructure as much as possible.

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Noon Meeting:

1. **Dominic Mazoch** – Regarding the IH 10 corridor restriping project from Beltway 8 and Addicks to Hwy 6: The problem with that is westbound you lose three lanes. The restriping that needs to be done is from Addicks to Katy Mills, so you would gain a lane and keep the traffic from becoming congested on that section of the road. He does not have an issue with the BRT Line up Post Oak Blvd because it is part of METRO Solutions, but the trade in is the some sort of signature bus along Westheimer – or the “Standheimer” corridor if you ride METRO – because the buses are always crowded. There are other ways to handle that. Instead of having fancy bus stations, try what they do in San Antonio with VIA. They have two bus routes, a regular bus route that stops every two blocks, and a frequent-stop or a skip-stop service. It stops only at intersections where there is already a bus route. So why not have METRO put in a skip-stop service on Westheimer using conventional buses and conventional stops that could probably be done within the conventional budget?

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Noon Meeting:

1. **Sherry Wright**, Sheltering Arms Trip Transportation Program. Her concern is the seniors who have a large transportation need in our community. Eighty percent of seniors report that the current transportation options do not meet their need for flexible curb-to-curb transportation services. One solution would be to expand volunteer rights programs where volunteers are reimbursed for their gas to take seniors to and from appointments.

2. **Deidre Rashid**, on behalf of Representative for Congresswoman Shelia Jackson Lee – The Congresswoman wants to go on record to state that she will work with our organization to make sure that the funding dollars are utilized somewhere within the 18th Congressional District. She would like to be able to identify those projects and exactly what tier those projects are falling within. She just wants to make sure she is adequately represented on the funding she allocated for the 18th Congressional District.



**Public Meeting to Receive Comments on
The 2013-2016 TIP Call for Projects
Tuesday, March 19, 2013
Noon - 1:00 p.m.**

H-GAC Offices
3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor, Room A
Houston, TX 77027

Name: Sherry Wright

Email Address: Swright@neighborhood-centers.org

Address: 3838 Aberdeen Way, Houston, TX

Phone: 713.558.6367

Comments / Questions / Concerns: _____

Senior Transportation is a large
need in our communities. 80% of our
residents report that current transportation
options do not meet their needs for
flexible, door-to-door services.
One solution would be to
expand volunteer ride programs
where volunteers are reimbursed
for their gas to take seniors
to and from appointments.

Thank you! Please check here if you would you like to be added to the H-GAC Transportation Department's mailing list.

Public input is vital to the success of these proposed improvements. Written comments can be made online at PublicComments@h-gac.com, faxed to 713-993-4508, or mailed to H-GAC Transportation Public Information, P.O. Box 22777, Houston, TX 77227-2777.

Toll free voicemail to submit comments: 1-855-363-2516.

Email Comments Received

Multiple Projects

The Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Houston Transportation Partnership (BayTran) voted at its February 28, 2013, meeting to support the following projects:

City of Galveston – Transit Preventative Maintenance 2013-2016

City of Pearland – McHard Road widening to 4-lanes: Cullen to Mykawa

City of Pearland – Smith Ranch Rd widening to 4-lanes: Hughes Ranch to N of Broadway

TxDOT Houston – SH 146 ROW acquisition for widening to 8-lanes: Red Bluff to NASA 1

Gulf Coast Center – Kemah Multimodal Terminal

Gulf Coast Center – Kemah Trolley Circulator Program

TxDOT Houston – W NASA 1, Construct 6-foot wide shared used path: NASA Blvd to Kobayashi Road

TxDOT Houston – FM 270 10' Shared Use Path: Henderson Road to NASA 1

All of these projects are needed to keep the Bay Area Houston region moving forward. If you have any questions regarding BayTran's support for any of the above mentioned projects, please feel free to contact me.

Karen Coglianese

Suggested Projects and Miscellaneous Comments

One of the worst bottle necks in Texas and in Houston is the Loop at the Galleria. Please consider installing a second level that spans from San Felipe to Fournace Place. EVERYONE who does not want to exit to the Galleria area can zip right through helping the traffic flow of this badly congested area.

Elmy Biermanns

The West Loop backs up morning and evening on weekdays and sometimes on weekends in both the Northbound and Southbound directions where the Southwest Freeway crosses the Loop. Congestion appears to be caused by having too small capacity for the lanes leaving the Loop. Is this intersection on your study plan? If not, it should be.

Ruth Milburn

I would like to see some rapid mass transit crisscross the whole west side of town and get all those cars off the streets. I was trying to get from my house in Rice Village to Augusta and San Felipe one evening. It took me a solid hour. Recently, a catering truck from the Memorial City area was supposed to deliver dinner to a function in the Rice area. It got there an hour late with cold food. This is ludicrous. Are the car manufacturers, oil tycoons, and medical personnel in cahoots trying to get people to burn fuel, wear out cars, and kill each other with road rage or themselves with strokes with this nonsense?

Flora Roeder

The Chronicle recently had an article regarding proposed road projects to relieve congestion, which the City of Houston very much needs. On this list of proposed projects, there was no mention of the intersection of where 610 E intersects and splits off to Route 45 South. No matter what time it is, this intersection is extremely crowded and backs up onto 610. There also is much congestion as traffic merges onto Rt. 45 and has to change several lanes due to the right 2 lanes being for the coming exit only. Please consider this intersection as one of the projects for congestion improvement. All you have to do is travel on this road and you will see (and be

in) the problem.

Linda and Richard Warrington

Could you please put a second level from Fournace to San Felipe going north on the West Loop so that people can avoid the Galleria entrances and exits? It would really help traffic congestion which is a pain to drive through during rush hour.

Mary Kay McMurrough

I propose that a bike/hike trail be paved from Peek Road to 1463/359 along the old railroad right-of-way on 1093. The old railroad bridge crossing Hw99 could be utilized.

Jonathan Gaynor

I studied your TIP proposal on the various areas being addressed in these plans. I was happy to see that more consideration is given to pedestrians and bike riders in Houston, but that is probably the only positive comment I will be able to make. I didn't see anything at all about expediting the light rail expansion for Houston and its surrounding areas! All I see is increasing lanes from 20 to 40 lanes, more concrete, more cars, more fumes, there is no sustainable pattern in Houston's traffic plans. I have lived here nearly 40 years and nothing seemed to be changing! Who is in charge of this council, is it only oil and gas people, concrete manufacturers, and automobile industry representatives? Do they all think that nobody in Houston wants to ride trains? Houston is a highly diversified city, probably one of the most diversified cities in the U.S. and people are here from all over this nation and the world, with a majority familiar with available public transportation in form of light rail, subways, trains and similar. I am so disappointed in this long-term planning, and I hope that I might be missing a separate plan that you all have for light rail development. Wouldn't it be much nicer to have a light rail train running on Post Oak Blvd in the Galleria instead of more buses, probably stinky, diesel powered buses (assuming no one is considering electric buses). Why are we not learning from cities around the world that provide their citizens with convenient, clean and comfortable rail transportation? Well, I am just getting worked up about this, and don't need this aggravation, however, when I found the Chronicle article about these plans, I was determined to at least vent my feelings about this very disappointing transportation planning.

Dagmar Beck

Population for Houston has and is moving south into Brazoria County and travel down 288 corridor. There are unfinished roadways needing to be completed to help move the traffic and provide better mobility to our areas stopping motorist from cutting thru local neighborhoods as they now do. Streets needing completion and reconstruction:

1. East Orem between Cullen and 288 South Frwy
2. MLK from South Beltway 8 to Almeda Genoa
3. Scott from South Beltway 8 to Almeda Genoa
4. Kirby from S. Main to Beltway 8
5. Airport between FM 521 and Hiram Clark
6. FM 521 from 610 South Loop to Beltway 8 / widen.
7. Mykawa from Airport St. to FM518 widen / drainage
8. Buffalo Spdwy from Stella Link to West Orem
9. Reconstruct 1-45 and 610 South Loop Interchange
10. Almeda Genoa from 288 Frwy to Hwy 35 / Telephone, widen to 4 lanes.

Tracy M. Stephens

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Tracy M. Stephens

REILLY PROPERTIES, LLC
2121 SAN FELIPE, SUITE 105
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77019

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	Houston-Galveston Area Council	FROM:	Judy Reilly
COMPANY:	Reilly Properties	DATE:	4/11/2013
FAX NUMBER:	713-993-4508	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:	1
PHONE NUMBER:			
RE:	Transportation choices in Houston		

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

It is disgraceful that we voted for public transportation on Richmond and nothing was ever started on that project. It becomes more congested and more necessary every year for us to have an alternative to 1 person in 1 car in a city that is growing so fast in population daily.

I understand that roads have to be kept up, but building new roads at this point is not what is needed. The transit planning and implementation need to be 1st in line. Another imperative is to educate people in Houston about how to drive on the same road as bicycles do. This wonderful city needs to move into the 21st century with our transportation choices.

Thank you.

TELEPHONE 713/520-5882 FACSIMILE 713/523-2465

Letters & Other Correspondence



energycorridor

Mr. Alan Clark
MPO Director Transportation Department
Houston-Galveston Area Council
P.O. Box 22777
Houston, Texas 770027-2777

2013-2016 TIP Public Comments

Support the H-GAC Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee's Request for a Regional Bikeway Map, Interactive Electronic Application and Marketing and Promotion Services

Dear Alan,

As chair of the Ped/Bike Subcommittee I am sending this letter requesting that a separate line item be established in the Commute Solutions budget to pay for the design, production, hosting, maintenance and revisions of a Regional Bikeway Map and Interactive Electronic Application. Included in the project would be the Marketing and Promotion of the app to reach potential users.

Other MPOs and cities are marketing and providing accurate maps and apps that guide cyclists between origins and destinations per their on-line inquiries. Smart phones are also used to track routes commonly taken to verify the most popular routes for cyclists.

Such a service could couple with NuRide's bike buddy matching service to encourage more bicycle trips and to record trips taken for H-GAC's benefit.

The subcommittee passed a resolution requesting that \$150,000 per year be allocated for the duration of the 2013-2016 TIP for the Regional Bikeway Map and Interactive Electronic Application and related marketing and promotion to encourage more cycling trips throughout the H-GAC region.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clark Martinson".

Clark Martinson AICP
General Manager
The Energy Corridor District
Chair H-GAC Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee