

Appendix 16
Public Comment Process

Legal Notice

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL Public Comment period and Public Meeting Conformity Finding for the 2011-2014 TIP, 2013-2016 TIP and a 2012 Amendment to the 2035 RTP Update

H-GAC is announcing the opening of a 30-day public comment period to give the public an opportunity to review the new air quality conformity finding for revisions to the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the 2013-2016 TIP, and an amendment to the 2035 Regional Transportation Program (RTP) Update.

The transit providers are the Metropolitan Transit Authority (METRO), Harris County, Fort Bend County, Connect Transit and The District. This public notice and public comment period will satisfy the federal public notice requirements for each of the transit providers regarding its transit program of projects (POP) for fiscal year 2013-2016. The proposed program unless amended, will meet the requirements regarding the final POP. Upon amendment, H-GAC will make available a final publication of the POP.

H-GAC will host a public meeting on the new air quality conformity finding on **Thursday, April 12, 2012, from 5:30-7:00 p.m.** at the H-GAC offices, 3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor Conference Room A, Houston, TX 77027. **The public comment period begins on Wednesday, March 28, 2012 and ends on Thursday, April 26, 2012 at 5:00 pm.**

The public is encouraged to attend and provide comments to H-GAC. All written comments should be submitted to Transportation Public Information, Houston-Galveston Area Council, P.O. Box 22777, Houston, TX 77227-2777, emailed to publiccomments@h-gac.com, or faxed to (713) 993-4508. For more information, please visit http://www.h-gac.com/taq/public_info.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, H-GAC will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending H-GAC functions. Requests from persons needing special accommodations should be received by H-GAC staff 24 hours prior to a function. The public meeting will be conducted in English, and requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least two working days prior to a function. Please call 713-993-4557 for assistance.



April 23, 2012

Houston Galveston Area Council
Alan C. Clark, MPO Director, Transportation Dept.
3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120
Houston, TX 77027

We are very pleased to hear of the recent proposed amendments that are being made to the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan and the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program. As you are aware, BayTran has been a strong advocate for the completion of State Highway 146 at the Seabrook- Kemah Section and widening to three lanes from Red Bluff to Fairmont Parkway.

In order to sustain the safety and livability of the regional cities, in this case Seabrook and Kemah, we must ensure good transportation planning. Furthermore, to emphasize the importance of this project, the completion of the improvements north on State Highway 146, while initially addressing the Port of Houston cargo, freight, and trucking issues, has done little to address the fact that as the Port continues to expand and with anticipation to the completion of the Panama Canal in 2014, truck traffic will continue to greatly increase in the region, thereby compounding the traffic congestion further south, causing bottlenecking and compromising the safety and welfare of the residents and businesses of Harris County Precinct Two and Galveston County. It is for this reason that we continue to advocate for transportation dollars for the completion of the State Highway 146 corridor improvements.

We thank you for your consideration of this priority transportation project and fully support the importance of the proposed amendments that are being considered. BayTran will continue to advocate for the "political will" and the dollars needed to fund and finalize this critical regional corridor.

Respectfully,

Coletta Castleschouldt
President, Executive Director, BayTran



HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

PO Box 22777 Houston, TX 77227-2777 • 3555 Timmons Ln, Houston, TX 77027 • 713-627-3200

April 26, 2012

Coletta Castleschouldt
Bay Tran
P.O. Box 626
Seabrook, TX 77586

Dear Ms. Castleschouldt:

Thank you for submitting comments, suggestions and recommendations on behalf of the Bay Area Houston Transportation Partnership (BayTran) concerning SH 146 in the proposed revisions to H-GAC's 2035 Regional Transportation Plan and transportation conformity finding.

We will forward your comments to the H-GAC Transportation Policy Council for their review and consideration.

Should you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (713) 993-4585. Again, thank you for taking the time to send your comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Alan Clark
MPO Director

AC/lm

From: Glenn Royal [<mailto:GRoyal@ci.seabrook.tx.us>]
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 2:15 PM
To: PublicComments
Subject: TIP & RTP Public Comments: Highway 146 Seabrook - Kemah Section

[April 26, 2012](#)

Houston-Galveston Area Council

[P.O. Box 22777](#)

[Houston, TX 77227-2777](#)

Delivery via email to publiccomments@h-gac.com

Dear Sir or Madam:

H-GAC is announcing the opening of a 30-day public comment period to give the public an opportunity to review the new air quality conformity finding for revisions to the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the 2013-2016 TIP, and an amendment to the 2035 Regional Transportation Program (RTP) Update.

As pleased as we are to see these much needed transportation projects within Harris and Galveston Counties, we are advocating for transportation dollars for the whole of the region. Presently we can think of no other more fitting project in terms of critical need than the completion of Highway 146 at the Seabrook - Kemah section.

This project will not only aid in hurricane evacuation safety as one of three corridors out of Galveston and the associated improvement in air quality by reduction of idling by freight truck carriers at stop lights, but it will also alleviate something equally critical - the economic uncertainty that exists in Seabrook today. Seabrook is at an economic disadvantage over the uncertainty of the timing of construction and our sales tax revenues are reflecting this. We are the only local city that I am aware of that is experiencing a decline in sales tax revenue this year. Our fear is that we do not have the luxury of

waiting on the uncertain timing for the completion of the Seabrook – Kemah section of Highway 146 without the possibility of reduction of city services for our residents.

Seabrook is a fiscally prudent city further evidenced by city council's recent action to set aside \$800,000 into a Highway 146 stabilization fund. This fund will cover two years of lost property and sales tax by businesses that are located within the expanded right-of-way. Our city is prepared for this project and has plans in place for real estate development that will allow impacted businesses to relocate within the city. However, business owners cannot plan for their livelihoods over the uncertainty of a start date regarding this project. We implore you to include this section of Highway 146 in your short-range plans.

On behalf of the residents, business owners, city council, and staff, I want to thank you for your consideration of an expedient completion of this transportation project.

Sincerely,

Glenn Royal

Mayor

City of Seabrook

(281) 979-6849

From: PublicComments

Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 2:58 PM

To: 'Glenn Royal'; PublicComments; Tobin, Bill; Wurdlow, David; Van Slyke, Chris; Lubertino, Graciela

Subject: RE: TIP & RTP Public Comments: Highway 146 Seabrook - Kemah Section - Glenn Royal

Dear Mr. Royal,

Thank you for your email regarding the Highway 146 Seabrook-Kemah Section project. Your comments will be forwarded to the appropriate staff and to the TPC for review.

Public Comments