



RESILIENCY AND DURABILITY PILOT KICKOFF

Project Description

Working with federal, state, and local partners, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) will conduct a vulnerability assessment of the transportation system and assets within the 8-County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) region to climate impacts such as flooding, sea-level rise, and storm surge disruptions. The vulnerability assessment will follow the FHWA's Vulnerability Assessment Scoring Tool (VAST) methodology and will include consideration of exposure, sensitivity, adaptive capacity, economic impact, and risk. Resiliency recommendations will be developed based on vulnerability assessment results.

Kickoff Meeting Objectives & Expectations

The kickoff will be an interactive day made up of presentations and brainstorming sessions with the objective of finalizing the study's scope parameters and reviewing components of the study's analysis methodology.

All attendees are asked to actively participate by sharing resiliency goals, concerns, and knowledge of relevant data, studies, and other efforts.

The kickoff's outcomes will be to:

1. **Finalize scope parameters**—climate variables to be used and transportation assets to be assessed
2. **Select resiliency indicators for use in VAST analysis**—resiliency indicators fall into the three categories of exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity. See VAST analysis handout for more information

Participants will also have the opportunity to provide feedback on the critical infrastructure identification methodology and preliminary results.

Next Steps

The kickoff will be the first in a series of stakeholder meetings. Subsequent meetings will be held to discuss and review VAST analysis results, to discuss probability and economic impact analysis methodology, and to present final vulnerability assessment results.

Following the May 22, 2019 kickoff, meeting materials and outcomes will be shared with kickoff attendees.