

REGIONAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

Tuesday, February 03, 2009
H-GAC Conference Room A
3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor
Houston, Texas 77027

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Charles Airiohuodion (Alternate), Bob Allen (Alternate), Jed Anderson, Dana Blume, Elena Craft, Bud Karachiwala, Dale Kornegay (Alternate), Robert Lanham, Snehal Patel, Edmund Petry (Alternate), Cynthia Redwine, Ronald Schultz, Sarah Mason (Alternate), Matthew Tejada, G. Michael White, Beth Whitehead, Mary Ellen Whitworth, Paulette Wolfson, and Julie Woodard

STAFF PRESENT:

Andrew DeCandis (H-GAC), Graciela Lubertino (H-GAC), Crystal Spencer (H-GAC), Mary Schuwerk (H-GAC), and Shelley Whitworth

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Craig Beskid, Patrick Buzbee, Elvira R. Cardinal, Catarina Cron, Dee Ann Haney, Dan Holt, Matthew Kuryla, Larry Mann, Mark McClelland, Karl Pepple, Kimberly Slaughter, Adam Smith, and Jeff Suggs

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Matthew Tejada called the meeting to order and all members were welcomed for attending.

PRESENTATION:

STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN DRAFT SHORT LIST MOBILE CONTROL MEASURES – *Chris Lindhjem, ENVIRON; Shelley Whitworth, H-GAC*

(Please refer to handout.) Ms. Shelley Whitworth delivered her presentation “State Air Quality Plan Mobile Source Control Strategies”. Ms. Whitworth spoke on topics such as: 1.) NOx Emissions in the HGB Region 2.) HGB Region 8-Hour Ozone Design Value Trends 3.) Important SIP Reminders 4.) TCM Commitments 5.) Recommend Six Transportation Control Measure Projects From TIP 6.) Voluntary Mobile Emission Reduction Program (VMEP) 7.) Recommended on Road VMEPs 8.) Recommended Non-Road VMEPs 9.) Recommended Weight of Evidence VMEPs 10.) Actions for Local Governments 11.) Actions for Local Governments 12.) Overview of Comments Received (Request to) 13.) Overview of Comments Received (Support for) 14.) Next Steps 15.) Timeline. The presentation included charts and graphs.

ACTION ITEMS:

DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE H-GAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGARDING THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN DRAFT SHORT LIST ON-ROAD AND OFF-ROAD MOBILE CONTROL MEASURES.

RAQPC members unanimously approved the recommendation to the H-GAC Board of Directors with verbiage revisions regarding the State Implementation Plan Draft Short List On-Road and Off-Road Mobile Control Measures.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- No Public Comments announced.

OTHER BUSINESS:

OVERVIEW OF H-GAC AND RAQPC – *Mary Schuwerk, H-GAC*

(Please refer to handout.) Ms. Mary Schuwerk began her overview by briefly explaining the H-GAC Transportation and Air Quality Committee Structure chart. H-GAC Board of Directors is composed of 35 elected officials representing the 13 counties, 105 cities, and 14 member independent school districts in the region. The

Board of Directors has a number of advisory committees; including RAQPC. RAQPC's role is to advise the Transportation Policy Council which is the Metropolitan Planning Organization. The Technical Advisory Council is a subcommittee to the Transportation Policy Council. RAQPC advises recommendations to the Board of Directors on actions to improve the region air quality. Brief comments regarding the chart and having a representative from the executive committee at every Board of Directors meeting followed this overview.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – *Beth Whitehead*

Ms. Beth Whitehead began her update by announcing that she is currently tracking up to 80 bills related to air quality. Ms. Whitehead mentioned that the most attention grabbing was Senator Averitt's bill that was filed last week; the Senate Bill 16 is an appropriate summary of the bill. Senator Averitt is looking at proposing grant programs under TERP, new technology implementation grants, and plug-in hybrids grants. Also, there will be a reshuffle of the NTRD program; proposing to be placed back under TCEQ and it is expected that this item will be discussed. Ms. Whitehead concluded with stating that the Senate Bill 16 speaks across several areas regarding energy efficiency that a lot of individuals are interested in. Updates will follow and if any RAQPC members or executive committees have interests in other Legislative pieces to please contact Ms. Whitehead.

MEMBERSHIP – *Shelley Whitworth, H-GAC*

Ms. Shelley Whitworth began her briefing with announcing that the RAQPC membership is staged so that everyone's term does not expire at the same time. RAQPC has 6 members with terms to be expired this year: Craig Beskid, Michael White, Jed Anderson, Badruddin Karachiwala, Mary Ellen Whitworth, and Rhonda Boyer. An alternate for Rhonda Boyer is attending the RAQPC meetings because Ms. Boyer is no longer with METRO. Ms. Whitworth encouraged the soon to be expired committee members to notify Ms. Mary Schuwerk if they would like to remain or be removed as committee members. RAQPC committee member appointments are made by H-GAC Board of Directors, but they are often interested in participation. Comments followed this briefing.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The next RAQPC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2009 at 1:30 P.M.

ADJOURN

- If you have an item you wish to be added to the agenda for a future meeting, please e-mail Mary Schuwerk at mary.schuwerk@h-gac.com.