

TCM/VMEP Development Working Group

Background

TCMs are voluntarily, yet legally-binding, commitments made by local and regional governmental entities to reduce mobile source emissions. These measures are typically in the form of specific projects, such as bike paths or traffic light synchronization that are both quantifiable and enforceable. Voluntary Mobile Emission Reduction Program (VMEP) commitments are voluntary, bottom-line commitments made by local and regional governmental entities to reduce mobile source emissions. The additional flexibility provided by VMEPs allows commitments to be made in the form of broad programmatic goals that are not tied to a particular project. Since the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria ozone non-attainment area has been recently reclassified as “severe”, new Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) will need to be developed for inclusion in the next State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions in addition to VMEP commitments.

Purpose

This working group will assist H-GAC staff in:

- The identification and analysis of the most cost effective on-road transportation emission reduction measures;
- The development of a list of committed Transportation Control Measures to be implemented by 2015 (when clean monitoring data needs to begin to occur) and will continue to generate emission reductions through 2019 (the next attainment date);
- The development of a list of new or expanded on-road transportation VMEPs that must be accomplished in a strictly voluntary manner.

Membership

The working group is comprised of 15 members drawn primarily from the membership of H-GAC’s TAC and RAQPC committees or their designated representatives who have the authority to propose and to evaluate the feasibility of accomplishing potential SIP commitments:

- Ten governmental entities including:
 - 7 local government representatives
 - Catarina Cron (Harris County/Local Government)
 - Joe Dickson (City of Santa Fe/Local Government)
 - Nick Finan (City of Pearland/Local Government)
 - Penny Hornsby (City of Missouri City/Local Government)
 - Karl Pepple (City of Houston/Local Government)
 - Paulette Shelton (Fort Bend/Local Government)
 - David Worley (City of Sugar Land/Local Government)
 - 1 TxDOT representative
 - Gabe Johnson
 - 1 TCEQ representative
 - 1 H-GAC representative
 - Jeff Taebel
- Two transit representatives
- Three environmental or public interest organizations.
 - Mustapha Beydoun (HARC/Environment)
 - Elena Craft (Environmental Defense/Environment)
 - Perri D’Armond (Fort Bend Economic Development Council/Public Interest)