

**MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2010**  
**10:00 A.M., CONFERENCE ROOM A**

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Gafrick called the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

Committee members and staff introduced themselves. A list of Committee representatives and alternates attending today's meeting is included with these Minutes as Attachment 1. There were 28 members in attendance; 16 are required for a quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Ms. Patricia Knudson Joiner made a motion for adoption of the Agenda and Ms. Perri D'Armond seconded the motion. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Kelley Carpenter, AICP made a motion for approval of the Minutes of the December 9, 2009 meeting and Mr. David Crossley seconded the motion. The Committee voted and approved the minutes.

CONFORMITY DETERMINATION FOR US 290

Dr. Graciela Lubertino, PhD provided a brief overview of the results of the conformity determination for US 290. Dr. Lubertino informed the Committee that the last conformity determination was approved in November 2009. A conformity analysis was required to update the Region Transportation Plan due to a change in one of the segments on US 290. The segment was identified as West 34<sup>th</sup> Street to Pinemont. This segment will be reconstructed by widening it to 12 (twelve) main lanes. Dr. Lubertino also identified and discussed other changes included in the conformity analysis.

Dr. Lubertino noted that the public comment period would begin on December 21, 2009 and end on January 25, 2010. A final approval by EPA and TCEQ is anticipated in February. Dr. Lubertino concluded the presentation by requesting TAC approval and recommendation for

TPC approval of the conformity determination for US 290. A brief question and answer with comments followed.

#### AIR QUALITY PROGRESS REPORT

Ms. Shelley Whitworth provided an overview of the Air Quality Progress Report and informed the Committee that copies of the report were available for review during the presentation. Ms. Whitworth reported that the Air Quality Progress report includes an overview of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding and the State Implementation Plan (SIP), program changes and progress, air quality cost-effectiveness, status of similar programs, and goals for 2010.

Ms. Whitworth informed the Committee that CMAQ funds are only given to areas with nonattainment status. The purpose for CMAQ funds are to reduce transportation system delays, protect and enhance the natural environment and protect and enhance communities affected by transportation. Ms. Whitworth discussed the goals for the 2010-2018 SIP, past and current Houston-Galveston-Brazoria SIP commitments, and the attainment deadline. The region must monitor the current standard through 2015 and maintain meeting the standard for 3 consecutive years in order to reach the attainment performance target. All measures must be in place by 2015.

Ms. Whitworth identified and discussed air quality programs that are funded with Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) dollars and air quality projects that are partially funded with Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. The presentation was concluded by question and answer with comments.

#### 2011-2014 TIP & 2035 RTP UPDATE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Ms. Pat Waskowiak provided a brief update on the preliminary steps and timeline to produce the 2011-2014 TIP and the 2035 RTP Update. Ms. Waskowiak informed the Committee that staff is reviewing existing projects in the 2008-2011 TIP for project readiness in terms of environmental clearance, right-of-way requirements, design and engineering, etc. Staff is revising those projects lists based on readiness information. Those project listings will also be balanced to the estimated revenues. Ms. Waskowiak informed the Committee that the anticipated revenue levels are fairly dismal in the CMAQ and STP categories. As a result, staff is considering moving elements around and even out of the TIP completely.

Ms. Waskowiak informed the Committee that staff is looking at how the TIP development process impacts the RTP. Staff has considered re-prioritizing projects in the mobility categories. TxDOT has taken on the responsibility for reviewing all projects to identify inactive projects and determine if they can be deferred from the TIP. No new federally funded projects have been added to the TIP but locally funded projects can be added to the TIP. Based

on an initial analysis, there is no new programming authority until 2014.

Ms. Waskowiak presented and discussed the development schedule for the 2011-2014 TIP. The TIP Subcommittee will meet before the next TAC Meeting to review project lists, etc. It is anticipated that there will be an action item for the February TAC meeting to release a final draft for public comment. Ms. Waskowiak concluded by informing the Committee that the project lists and summaries discussed by the TIP Subcommittee will be posted for review on the TAC website. The presentation was concluded by a brief question and answer with comments.

### ARRA IMPLEMENTATION STATUS REPORT

Ms. Pat Waskowiak provided a brief status report on ARRA funded projects. Ms. Waskowiak informed the Committee that the TPC selected approximately \$150 million in projects. To date, approximately \$40 million in projects has been let to contract. A number of large projects will be ready for obligation in the next 2 (two) months. TxDOT has been working hard to make sure that those projects will be obligated in that timeframe. Ms. Waskowiak identified and discussed a few of the remaining projects. Ms. Waskowiak added that the TPC also selected a contingency list of projects. Some of the projects on that contingency list have moved forward. The TxDOT Beaumont-District's staff has worked hard to turn those projects around very quickly.

Ms. Waskowiak informed the Committee that 24 -25 projects were funded with the first round of stimulus. TxDOT has worked on developing agreements with all of the local governments to keep those projects moving. Some of the projects that will not be obligated by the March 1, 2010 deadline but an August extension has been established to obligate those project cost underruns. The report was concluded by a brief question and answer with comments.

### REPORT ON STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

H-GAC      Mr. Ashby Johnson, AICP reported that the Center for Houston will be hosting a symposium on January 20, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

Mr. Johnson, AICP reported that he will be in attendance for a meeting in Washington, DC with the Texas Congressional Delegation. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss priorities for the next federal authorization bill and any potential stimulus.

Mr. Alan Clark reported that Harris County will be hosting a logistics conference regarding goods movement. Contact H-GAC staff for more information.

TxDOT Mr. Gabriel Y. Johnson, P.E. thanked the Committee and staff for their support during his career with TxDOT.

CITY OF GALVESTON

There was no status report from the City of Galveston.

CITY OF HOUSTON

There was no status report from the City of Houston.

METRO There was no status report from METRO.

RAQPC There was no status report from RAQPC.

ENERGY CORRIDOR DISTRICT

Mr. Clark Martinson reported that the Energy Corridor Connector starts operation on January 25, 2010. There will be a launching on January 28, 2010.

BRAZORIA COUNTY

There was no status report from Brazoria County.

HARRIS COUNTY

There was no status report from Harris County.

FORT BEND COUNTY

There was no status report from Fort Bend County.

BCTRA There was no status report from the BCTRA.

TCEQ There was no status report from TCEQ.

FUTURE BUSINESS

There was no future business to report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Gafrick announced that the next Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting will be held on January 22, 2010 and the next TAC meeting will be held on February 17, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Gafrick adjourned the meeting of the TAC at 11:43 a.m.

---

Scott Elmer, P.E., Vice Chairman  
Technical Advisory Committee



## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2010 MEETING ATTENDANCE ROSTER

01/13/10 at 9:30 a.m.

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>	<u>PRESENT *</u>
Sarah Benavides	City of Pasadena	(Vacant)	X
Don Brandon, P.E.	Chambers County	David Abernathy	___
Kelly Carpenter, AICP	City of Baytown	Dick Carter	X
Don Carroll	City of Texas City	(Vacant)	___
Maureen Crocker	Intermodal Interests	Jack Whaley, P.E.	A
Catarina Gonzales Cron	Environmental/Planning	Billy Cooke, P.E.	X
David Crossley	Citizen & Business Interests	Christof Spieler	X
Perri D'Armond	Citizen & Business Interests	Emily Braswell	X
David Douglas	Liberty County	Jimmy Sterling	___
Scott Elmer, P.E.	City of Missouri City	Valerie Ruda	X
Ken Fickes	Urban Transit	John Saavedra	X
Mike Fitzgerald, P.E.	Galveston County	Rod Shaut	___
Marlene Gafrick	Environmental/Planning	Carol Lewis	X
D. Jesse Hegemier, P.E.	Fort Bend County	Ron Drachenberg, P.E.	X
Robert Heineman, FAIA	Smaller Cities	Erwin Burden	X
James Jackson, P.E.	Intermodal Interests - <i>Ports</i>	Steve DeWolf, P.E.	X
Gabriel Y. Johnson, P.E.	TxDOT, Houston District	(Vacant)	X
Jeff Johnson, P.E.	Montgomery County	Ross McCall, EIT	X

Mark Loethen	Environmental/Planning	Karl Pepple	X
Phillip Lujan, P.E.	TxDOT Beaumont District	Steven Stafford, P.E.	___
Andy Mao, P.E.	Harris County	Charles Dean, P.E.	A
Clark Martinson	Intermodal Interests - Bike/Ped.	Regina Garcia	X
Mayor Toni Randall	Smaller Cities	Mike Hodge, P.E.	___
A.J. "Pete" Reixach, Jr.	Intermodal Interests	Mike Wilson	A
Gerald Roberts, P.E.	Brazoria County	Kevin Sherrod	X
Dale Rudick, P.E.	City of Sugar Land	Patrick Walsh, P.E.	A
Yancy Scott, P.E.	Waller County	Orval Rhoads, P.E.	X
Paulette Shelton	Rural Transit	Greg Smith	X
Kimberly Slaughter	METRO	Larry Badon	A
Jeff Taebel, FAICP	Environmental/Planning	Patricia Knudson Joiner	X
John Tyler, P.E.	Intermodal Interests	David Gornet	X
Jeffrey Weatherford, P.E.	City of Houston	(Vacant)	X
Michael Worthy	City of Galveston	Rick Beverlin	A
Bill Zrioka	Intermodal Interests - Airports	Joe Esch	X

\* Attendance of the Representative is marked with an "X" in the last column; Attendance of the Alternate is marked with an "A."

34 Total Voting Membership

28 Voting Membership Present

16 Required Quorum