

## **MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2011**

**9:30 A.M., CONFERENCE ROOM A**

### INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Gafrick called the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at 9:33 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 27 members in attendance; 16 are required for a quorum.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments were presented by Mr. Charles Mayfield representing the Super Neighborhood 64/88, Mr. Barney Giesen representing the Idylwood Civic Club, and Ms. Rachel de Cordova representing the East End Chamber of Commerce regarding Agenda Item seven (7) 2011-2014 TIP Call for Projects.

Mr. Mayfield, member of the METRO's East End Light Rail Community Advisory Board and resident of the East End provided comments supporting and endorsing the Greater East End Management District's application for funds to complete pedestrian-oriented improvement projects along Harrisburg Blvd. Those improvements include additional sidewalks, landscaping, pedestrian lighting, benches, bicycle trails and their connectors to the Light Rail Line. Mr. Mayfield discussed the benefits and importance of those improvements to the citizens of the East End.

Mr. Geisen provided comments supporting and endorsing the Greater East End Management District's application of funds for the utilization of light rail for the City of Houston. Mr. Geisen commented on his personal experience in living in the East End area. Mr. Geisen also discussed the advantages of utilizing light rail to alleviate congestion in the east and west sides of town.

Ms. de Cordova, Chair of the Infrastructure Committee for the East End Chamber of Commerce and resident of the East End, provided comments to support the Greater East End Management District's application of funds for the Livable Centers Study. Ms. de Cordova discussed the importance of the Livable Centers concept in revitalizing inner city neighborhoods in the area.

### ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Gafrick entertained a motion for adoption of the agenda as presented.

Mr. Clark Martinson made a motion for adoption of the Agenda and Mr. Ken Fickes seconded the motion. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Gafrick entertained a motion for approval of the Minutes for the January 12, 2011 meeting. Mr. Scott Elmer, P.E. made a motion for approval of the Minutes for the January 12, 2011 meeting and Mr. Mark Loethen, P.E. seconded the motion. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

#### ELECTION OF 2011 TAC OFFICERS

Mr. Ashby Johnson informed the Committee that the TAC Nominating Committee met on February 1, 2011 for selection of 2011 TAC officers. The TAC Nominating Committee includes Mr. Billy Cooke, P.E. (Klotz Associates, Inc.), Mr. Yancy Scott, P.E. (Waller County) and Mr. Jeffrey Weatherford, P.E. (City of Houston). The following slate of officers was presented for approval.

Mr. Scott Elmer, P.E. (City of Missouri City) – Chairman  
Mr. Yancy Scott, P.E. (Waller County) – Vice Chairman  
Mr. Mark Loethen, P.E. (City of Houston) – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman

Chairman Gafrick entertained a motion for approval. Ms. Paulette Shelton made a motion for approval of the slate of officers for 2011 and Mr. Ken Fickes seconded the motion. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

Mr. Johnson addressed Chairman Elmer, P.E. in expressing appreciation for Ms. Gafrick's service as Chairman of the TAC from 2009-2011. Ms. Gafrick was also presented with a plaque on behalf of staff and TAC.

Ms. Gafrick thanked Ms. Perri D'Armond for her parliamentary guidance during past meetings and expressed her enjoyment in working with staff and the Committee during her term as Chairman.

#### APPOINTMENT OF TAC BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Mr. Ashby Johnson informed the Committee that there have been bills filed in Austin to change the make-up of voting members on MPO Policy Boards and/or passing different laws that will affect the Policy Board or the Technical Advisory Committees of an MPO. Staff is proposing to have a TAC Bylaws Committee appointed by the Chairman. The purpose of the TAC Bylaws Committee will be to look at extending the ethics rules that are currently governing

TPC members to TAC members.

Mr. Johnson also informed the Committee that staff would like to increase the membership on some of the TAC subcommittees because there are two (2) subcommittees that are currently above the fifteen voting member limit. The bylaws will also be revised to reflect this adjustment.

Chairman Elmer, P.E. requested volunteers to serve on the TAC Bylaws Committee. Ms. Paulette Shelton (Fort Bend County Public Transportation), Ms. Kimberly Slaughter (METRO), Ms. Marlene Gafrick (City of Houston), Mr. Ken Fickes (Harris County Transit), and Mr. Patrick Walsh, P.E. (City of Sugar Land) volunteered to serve on the TAC Bylaws Committee.

Chairman Elmer, P.E. entertained a motion for approval of the volunteers to serve on the TAC Bylaws Committee. Mr. Jeffrey Weatherford, P.E. made a motion to approve the list of volunteers as presented to serve on the TAC Bylaws Committee and Mr. Mike Wilson seconded the motion. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

Following a brief discussion regarding action to expand TAC subcommittee memberships to a maximum of seventeen voting members, the Committee elected to defer action to the March meeting.

#### 2011-2014 TIP CALL FOR PROJECTS

Mr. Alan Clark provided an overview of the 2011-2014 TIP Call for Projects. Mr. Clark referred to the meeting materials during his presentation. Mr. Clark recapped the TIP Subcommittee's request for direction by the TPC concerning the allocation of funds among the major program categories of projects received for this call for projects. Mr. Clark discussed historical funding allocations for FY 2000 through FY 2011 for Mobility, Alternative Modes, Air Quality, and Planning/ Studies categories.

Mr. Clark informed the Committee that the TPC authorized the TPC Officers to serve as a subcommittee to evaluate historical funding information and make a recommendation back to the full TPC on how funding should be targeted to the various major program areas. The TPC Officers met on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Clark also presented and discussed Proposed Funding Ranges and 2011-14 Targets for Mobility, Alternative Modes, Air Quality, and Planning/ Studies categories as recommended by the TPC Officers. The proposed funding targets will be presented for TPC approval at the March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. The presentation was concluded by question and answer with a series of comments.

## OVERVIEW OF THE 2012-2013 UPWP AND DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE

Mr. Jeff Kaufman provided a brief overview of the 2012-2013 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Mr. Kaufman identified and discussed its components, purpose and financial aspects. Mr. Kaufman also discussed the five (5) work areas of focus, the timeline, and expectations of the UPWP. The presentation was concluded by question and answer with comments.

## REPORT ON STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

H-GAC Mr. Ashby Johnson reported that H-GAC hosted a successful US 90A Scoping Meeting on February 14, 2011.

Mr. Johnson reported that the JARC/New Freedom Call for Projects is currently underway. Proposals should be submitted by March 9, 2011. Additional information was provided in the meeting materials. Contact Kari Hackett with H-GAC or Edie Lowery with METRO.

Mr. Johnson provided a legislative status update. Mr. Johnson called attention to the greensheet included in the meeting materials. There were no departures from the H-GAC's previous legislative agenda from the last session. There was one update which is indicated in the first bullet item.

Ms. Shelley Whitworth reported that H-GAC received \$9 million from the Environmental Protection Agency for the Diesel Emission Reduction Program. Ms. Whitworth concluded with a video presentation of the program.

TxDOT Mr. Rakesh Tripathi, P.E. reported that the UTP is under public comment. A public meeting was held on February 15, 2011 at the Houston District office. There will be an action item at the next Commission meeting authorizing toll credits for the I-69 Relief Route Feasibility Study conducted by H-GAC.

### 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 Ms. Kimberly Slaughter reported that its President's FY 2012 budget was released on February 15, 2011. METRO conducted "Operation Thank You" to bus riders on Valentine's Day. METRO is also in the middle of the scoping process for the US 90A Southwest Rail Corridor. There were two (2) scoping meetings held in

the Texas Medical Center on Feb 15, 2011. Those meetings were well attended. A scoping meeting will be held at the Power Center this evening from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. and at Westbury Senior High School on Feb. 22, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

RAQPC        There was no status report from RAQPC.

**CITY OF SUGAR LAND**

There was no status report from Sugar Land.

**BRAZORIA COUNTY**

There was no status report from Brazoria County.

**HARRIS COUNTY**

There was no status report from Harris County.

**HARRIS COUNTY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY**

Mr. John Tyler, P.E. reported that the last thirteen (13) miles of the Sam Houston Tollway from US 59 North to I-10 East will be open to traffic on February 26, 2011.

**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 Elmer, P.E. also announced that the next Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting will be held February 25, 2011 and the next TAC meeting will be held on March 16, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Elmer adjourned the meeting of the TAC at 11:12 a.m.

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

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
2011 MEETING ATTENDANCE ROSTER**

**02/16/11 at 9:30 a.m.**

<b><u>MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>REPRESENTING</u></b>	<b><u>ALTERNATE</u></b>	<b><u>PRESENT *</u></b>
<i>Chair</i> Scott Elmer, P.E.	City of Missouri City	Valerie Ruda Marvin	<b>X</b>
<i>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman</i> Yancy Scott, P.E.	Environmental/Planning	John Isom	<b>X</b>
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair</i> Mark Loethen	Intermodal Interests	John R. Whaley, P.E.	<b>X</b>
<i>Immediate Past Chair</i> Marlene Gafrick	Environmental/Planning	Mike Kramer	<b>X</b>
Sarah Benavides, P.E.	City of Pasadena	(Vacant)	___
Don Brandon, P.E.	Chambers County	Tommy Bridwell	___
Kelly Carpenter, AICP	City of Baytown	Jose Pastrana	<b>X</b>
Don Carroll	City of Texas City	(Vacant)	___
Maureen Crocker	Intermodal Interests	Carol Lewis	<b>X</b>
Bob Eury	Citizen & Business Interests	Perri D'Armond	<b>X</b>
Ken Fickes	Urban Transit	Vernon Chambers	<b>X</b>
(Vacant)	Galveston County	(Vacant)	___
D. Jesse Hegemier, P.E.	Fort Bend County	Ron Drachenberg, P.E.	<b>X</b>

TAC Roll, continued  
 Wednesday, February 16, 2011

**ATTACHMENT 1**

Mike Hodge, P.E.	Smaller Cities	Pat B. McLaughlan, P.E.	<b>X</b>
James Jackson, P.E.	Intermodal Interests - <i>Ports</i>	Brenda Trevino, P.E.	<b>X</b>
Jeff Johnson, P.E.	Montgomery County	J. Ross McCall, EIT	<b>X</b>
Stan Kitzman	Waller County	Orval Rhoads, P.E.	<b>X</b>
James Koch, P.E.	TxDOT-Houston District	Rakesh Tripathi, P.E.	<b>A</b>
Phillip Lujan, P.E.	TxDOT-Beaumont District	Steven Stafford, P.E.	<b>A</b>
Andy Mao, P.E.	Harris County	Charles Dean, P.E.	<b>X</b>
Clark Martinson	Citizen & Business Interests	Coletta Castleshouldt	<b>X</b>
Luis Nunez	Smaller Cities	Robert Heineman, FAIA	<b>X</b>
Terence O'Rourke	Environmental/Planning	Billy Cooke, P.E.	___
(Vacant)	Brazoria County	(Vacant)	___
Paulette Shelton	Rural Transit	Vastene Olier	<b>X</b>
Kimberly Slaughter	METRO	Larry Badon	<b>X</b>
Jeff Taebel, FAICP	Environmental/Planning	David Crossley	<b>X</b>
John Tyler, P.E.	Intermodal Interests	David Gornet	<b>X</b>
Patrick Walsh, P.E.	City of Sugar Land	Dale Rudick, P.E.	<b>X</b>
Charlotte Warner	Liberty County	David Douglas	___
Jeffrey Weatherford, P.E.	City of Houston	Carol Haddock, P.E.	<b>X</b>

*TAC Roll, continued*  
*Wednesday, February 16, 2011*

**ATTACHMENT 1**

Mike Wilson	Intermodal Interests	Diane Falcioni	<b>X</b>
Michael Worthy	City of Galveston	Rick Beverlin	<b>X</b>
Bill Zrioka	Intermodal Interests - <i>Airports</i>	Carlos Ortiz	<b>X</b>

**\* 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

27 Voting Membership Present

16 Required Quorum