

MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2011
9:30 A.M., CONFERENCE ROOM A

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Elmer, P.E. called the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at 9:38 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 29 members in attendance; 16 are required for a quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Elmer, P.E. entertained a motion for adoption of the agenda.

Mr. Jeffrey Weatherford, P.E. 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 Elmer, P.E. entertained a motion for approval of the Minutes for the March 16, 2011 meeting.

Mr. Jeffrey Weatherford, P.E. made a motion for approval of the Minutes for the March 16, 2011 meeting and Mr. Ken Fickes seconded the motion. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2011 JOB ACCESS REVERSE COMMUTE (JARC)/NEW FREEDOM PROGRAMS

Mr. Kari Hackett provided the recommendations of the project evaluation team for the spring 2011 Coordinated Call for Projects in the Houston urbanized area. Mr. Hackett referred to the background information included in the meeting materials in discussing those recommendations. Mr. Hackett also discussed updates to that information that were not included in the mailout.

Mr. Hackett identified and discussed projects requesting JARC funding. Mr. Hackett also noted that staff has received letters of support for those projects but a letter of commitment indicating a dollar value and source of funding is required. Approval of the recommendations for the 2011 JARC/New Freedom Programs will be contingent upon obtaining additional letters of commitment from project proposers.

Mr. Hackett informed the Committee that New Freedom funds are primarily for the disabled population. Mr. Hackett discussed projects requesting New Freedom funding and available funding for the Houston urbanized area for FY 2009-2011. Mr. Hackett also discussed funding currently available for the Houston urbanized area for FY 2009-2011. Mr. Hackett noted that funding amounts for FY 2011 are estimates based on the 5/12 of the apportionments. Mr. Hackett also noted that it is anticipated that full funding will be available once the transportation bill is approved.

Mr. Hackett informed the Committee that the next steps will include recommendations to the METRO Board of Directors and the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) for further approval. Recommendations will also be presented as an amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and a continuous coordinated call for projects will later follow. Mr. Hackett reported that proposers will be able to submit applications throughout the year and have review cycles twice a year. The presentation was concluded by a brief question and answer with comments.

Chairman Elmer, P.E. entertained a motion for approval. Ms. Paulette Shelton made a motion for approval of the recommendations for the 2011 Job Access Reverse Commute/New Freedom Programs with the exception of the Harris County and Pasadena Project and pending letters of commitment on a local match. Mr. Ken Fickes seconded the motion. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

REVIEW OF PRELIMINARY 2010 CENSUS RESULTS

Mr. Dmitry Messen provided preliminary population trends for the 8-county region and discussed the 2010 Census Data Release Schedule. Mr. Messen informed the Committee that it was the first Census that did not use the long form, which collects information about income, education, disability, etc. Mr. Messen noted that the long form was replaced by the American Community Survey (ACS) Program which is also administered by the Census. Mr. Messen reported that the redistricting data was received in February 2011 and includes the 2010 Census Redistricting Data Tables and GIS Files. Mr. Messen noted that the data is available on the H-GAC website.

Mr. Messen identified and discussed total population and population change by decade in the H-GAC 8-county region. Mr. Messen reported that Harris County has crossed the four (4) million population mark by adding almost 700,000 people which is more than Fort Bend County

to date. Suburban counties such as Montgomery and Fort Bend Counties indicated very strong growth. Brazoria and Galveston Counties grew at a much slower pace. Counties in the 8-county region with the exception of Liberty County increased in population than in the previous decade. Mr. Messen also identified and discussed the ethnic populations in the H-GAC 8-county region by decade. The presentation was concluded by a brief question and answer with comments.

STATUS REPORT ON THE 2011-2014 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM CALL FOR PROJECTS

Mr. David Wurdlow provided a status report on the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Call for Projects. Mr. Wurdlow informed the Committee that there were no new developments in the information provided in the mailout. Mr. Wurdlow also informed the Committee that more time was utilized in preparing materials for distribution to project sponsors in order to ensure consistency and clarity. Mr. Wurdlow reported that additional information will be presented that will have a material impact on the 2011-2014 TIP Call for Projects. Mr. Wurdlow referred to the green sheet packet of the meeting materials in discussing that information.

Mr. Wurdlow informed the Committee that discussions have taken place regarding the reconciliation of prior expenditures or obligation activities for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Program-Metropolitan Mobility (STP-MM) Programs. Mr. Wurdlow reported that the 2010 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) was modified in December 2010 and approximately \$2 billion was set aside by the Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) for fiscal year 2012 in Category 12. Mr. Wurdlow noted that approximately \$775 million of that money is called "Potential Availability Funding" which will be an adjustment to the 2010 UTP. Mr. Wurdlow reported that details on that distribution and how it was apportioned was included in the green sheet packet. Mr. Wurdlow also informed the Committee that the proposal indicates that \$350 million would support the construction of Grand Parkway Segment E and the overpass over Interstate 10 or Segment D. Mr. Wurdlow identified the remaining apportionments with project descriptions.

Mr. Wurdlow informed the Committee that the TTC has directed that approximately \$34 million of additional funds be expended in the current FY 2011 and that projects should let or be obligated by July 2011. Mr. Wurdlow added that the directive on submitting a plan on how the additional funding will be utilized was transmitted to staff on April 10, 2011. The TTC anticipates a response by April 14, 2011.

Mr. Wurdlow further discussed current funding included in the 2010 UTP as it relates to the 2011-2014 TIP Call for Projects. Mr. Alan Clark provided additional comments and further clarification on how the funding will be distributed. Mr. Clark also discussed the reconciliation process.

REGIONAL GOODS MOVEMENT STUDY UPDATE

Ms. Christy Willhite provided a brief overview of the topics to be discussed in the Regional Goods Movement Study update. Ms. Willhite discussed the upcoming public meetings for the Regional Goods Movement Study and introduced Ms. Paula Dowell of Cambridge Systematics as presenter of the update.

Ms. Dowell identified and discussed the detailed components of the Regional Goods Movement Study which also included its primary data sources. Ms. Dowell informed the Committee that Stakeholder input was a key component and discussed the Stakeholder Outreach and Public Involvement Process for the study.

Ms. Dowell informed the Committee that a strategic freight subsystem is most critical to goods movement and logistics patterns of key industries. Ms. Dowell also discussed the importance of a strategic freight subsystem. Other topics discussed were safety, education and awareness, economic competitiveness, community/environmental impacts, and next steps. The presentation concluded with a brief question and answer.

2012-2013 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM DRAFT WORK PRODUCTS

Mr. Jeff Kaufman provided a brief overview of the 2012-2013 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) draft work products and planning activities for FY 2012-2013. Mr. Kaufman identified and discussed anticipated activities and products to be accomplished in the time period covered by this UPWP (October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2013). Mr. Kaufman also noted that budgets have not yet been assigned to the anticipated work activities or products to be accomplished.

Mr. Kaufman informed the Committee that the 2012-2013 UPWP is divided into five (5) tasks as required by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Mr. Kaufman also provided a brief summary of each task and a timeline for completion of the document. The Committee was advised to submit comments or recommendations for the 2012-2013 UPWP by phone or email to him or Mr. Ashby Johnson. Mr. Kaufman also informed the Committee that a revised draft of the 2012-2013 UPWP will be presented for approval to be released for public comment at the May meeting. The presentation was concluded by a brief question and answer with comments.

FUTURE BUSINESS

There was no future business to report.

REPORT ON STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

H-GAC Mr. Ashby Johnson reported on House and Senate bills included in the green sheet packet of the meeting materials and noted that the status of most of the bills had already changed. Mr. Johnson reported that HB 630 (Picket) had been scheduled for a vote. Mr. Johnson also reported that the status of SB 1420 (Hegar) - TxDOT Sunset had changed with more activity.

Mr. Johnson reported that he gave testimony on behalf of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations to the Congressional House Subcommittee on Transportation on March 30, 2011. A copy of that testimony was included in the meeting materials. Mr. Johnson informed the Committee that lead staff expressed interest in the ideas put forward in that testimony. Mr. Johnson further discussed other comments received following his testimony.

Mr. Johnson reported that H-GAC staff drafted a letter for signature by Commissioner James Patterson, Chairman of the TPC to the Chairman of the Texas Legislature House Transportation Committee concerning HB 664. A copy of the letter was included in the meeting materials for review. Mr. Johnson noted that the letter was signed by Commissioner Patterson and sent forward.

Mr. Johnson reported that the public process has started for amendments to the 2011-2014 TIP. A public meeting was held on April 6th at H-GAC offices. Approximately four (4) to five (5) Texas Southern University students were in attendance.

Mr. Johnson reported that H-GAC hosted its annual Fresh Air Friday at Jones Plaza on April 8, 2011. Approximately 2,500 participants were in attendance.

TxDOT There was no status report from 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 Ms. Kimberly Slaughter reported that METRO is starting its long range planning process. Ms. Slaughter informed the Committee that a kick-off meeting is scheduled to take place at METRO offices on May 3, 2011 at 2 p.m. A total of twenty-five (25) meetings are scheduled for the first round of public meetings. Ms. Slaughter noted that additional meetings are welcomed.

RAQPC There was no status report from RAQPC.

CITY OF SUGAR LAND

There was no status report from the City of 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

There was no status report from the Harris County Toll Road Authority.

FORT BEND COUNTY

There was no status report from Fort Bend County.

BRAZORIA COUNTY TOLL ROAD AUTHORITY

There was no status report from the Brazoria County Toll Road Authority.

TCEQ

There was no status report from TCEQ.

FUTURE BUSINESS

There was no future business to report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Robert Benz, President of the Industry Advisory Council at Prairie View A&M announced that a benefit luncheon will be held at the Prairie View Nursing Center in the Texas Medical Center on April 21, 2011 at 11:30 a.m. For more information, contact Ms. Norma Santoyo of HNTB Corp.

Chairman Elmer, P.E. announced that the next Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting will be held April 29, 2011 and the next TAC meeting will be held on May 18, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Elmer, P.E. adjourned the meeting of the TAC at 11:23 a.m.

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

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2011 MEETING ATTENDANCE ROSTER

04/13/11 at 9:30 a.m.

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

TAC Roll, continued
Wednesday, April 13, 2011

ATTACHMENT 1

Jeff Johnson, P.E.	Montgomery County	J. Ross McCall, EIT	X
Stan Kitzman	Waller County	Orval Rhoads, P.E.	X
James Koch, P.E.	TxDOT-Houston District	Rakesh Tripathi, P.E.	X
Phillip Lujan, P.E.	TxDOT-Beaumont District	Steven Stafford, P.E.	X
Andy Mao, P.E.	Harris County	Charles Dean, P.E.	X
Clark Martinson	Citizen & Business Interests	Coletta Castleshouldt	X
Luis Nunez	Smaller Cities	Robert Heineman, FAIA	A
Rich Oller, P.E.	City of League City	Linc Wright, P.E.	—
Terence O'Rourke	Environmental/Planning	Billy Cooke, P.E.	X
Gerald Roberts, P.E.	Brazoria County	Michael Shannon	X
Paulette Shelton	Rural Transit	Vastene Olier	X
Kimberly Slaughter	METRO	Larry Badon	X
Jeff Taebel, FAICP	Environmental/Planning	David Crossley	X
John Tyler, P.E.	Intermodal Interests	David Gornet	X
Patrick Walsh, P.E.	City of Sugar Land	Dale Rudick, P.E.	X
Charlotte Warner	Liberty County	David Douglas	—
Jeffrey Weatherford, P.E.	City of Houston	Carol Haddock, P.E.	X
Mike Wilson	Intermodal Interests	Diane Falcioni	X
Michael Worthy	City of Galveston	Rick Beverlin	X
Bill Zrioka	Intermodal Interests - <i>Airports</i>	Carlos Ortiz	X

TAC Roll, continued
Wednesday, April 13, 2011

ATTACHMENT 1

*** 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

29 Voting Membership Present

16 Required Quorum