

THE VISION

Houston-Galveston Area Council

August 2010

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Meetings

TAC, Aug 18, 2010

TPC, Aug 27, 2010

TIP Public Meeting

5:30-7:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 12, 2010

3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor
Conference Room A
Houston, TX 77027

2010 Commute Solutions Awards Luncheon
August 19, 2010

2010 Clean Air Action Leadership Awards Luncheon



Now in its 10th year, the Awards luncheon recognizes companies, organizations, and local governments that have committed to improving our region's mobility and air quality, as well as individuals whose hard work and dedication have helped create successful alternative transportation programs.

This year's event will feature United States Congressman Gene Green as the keynote speaker. For more information, please visit www.commutesolutionshouston.org.

August 19, 2010
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Hilton Americas
1600 Lamar Street,
Houston, TX 77010

2011-2014 TIP Public Comment Period and Public Meeting

The 2011-2014 TIP recently approved by the Transportation Policy Council and is being amended. The public comment period runs from July 19, 2010 to August 17, 2010. A public meeting will be held on Thursday, August 12, 2010 at the H-GAC offices, 3555 Timmons Lane, in the 2nd Floor Conference Room A at 5:30 p.m.



H-GAC Public Meeting
Thursday, August 12, 2010

5:30-7:00 p.m.

3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor
Conference Room A
Houston, TX 77027

H-GAC Public Comments

Written comments are welcomed and may be submitted to Transportation Public Information, Houston-Galveston Area Council, P.O. Box 22777, Houston, Texas 77227-2777, email to

Hilton Americas
1600 Lamar Street,
Houston, TX 77010

RTP public Meeting
Thursday, August 19, 2010
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor
Conference Room A
Houston, TX 77027

SH 6 South Public Meetings
Tuesday, September 7, 2010
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Santa Fe High School Cafeteria
16000 Highway 6
Santa Fe, TX 77517

Thursday, September 9, 2010
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Church of the Harvest
7505 Wilson Dr.
Manvel, TX 7757

publiccomments@h-gac.com, or fax to (713) 993-4508.

More Information regarding the 2011-2014 TIP can be found at
<http://www.h-gac.com/taq/tip/default.aspx>.

2035 RTP Public Comment Period and Public Meeting



For decades our community relied on State and Federal dollars to supplement local dollars that are used to grow and maintain the region's Transportation system; unfortunately the funds from these sources have not kept pace with our region's population growth. The result is that we can no longer afford

to build everything that is planned.

A 30-day public comment period is now underway to give the public an opportunity to provide comments on revenue enhancing funding scenarios and associated projects for the 2035 RTP Update. The public comment period began on July 30, 2010 and will end on August 30, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

H-GAC Public Meeting

Thursday, August 19, 2010

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor
Conference Room A
Houston, TX 77027

H-GAC Public Comments

H-GAC Transportation Public Information, Houston-Galveston Area Council, P.O. Box 22777, Houston, Texas 77227-2777, email to publiccomments@h-gac.com or fax to (713) 993-4508. For more information, please visit: <http://www.2035plan.org>.

Transportation Funding Survey

We need your input to decide what must be done: find new funding sources, change or reduce the number of planned transportation projects or maybe a combination of both. Click [HERE](#) to launch the survey and thanks for your participation!

State Highway 6 South Public Meetings

Final Round of Public Meetings to southern section of State Highway 6

The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) invites public participation in the final round of public meetings regarding safety and mobility improvements to the southern section of SH 6 from FM 521 to IH 45 South. Began in 2009, the Access Management Study encompasses the communities of Arcola, Alvin, Manvel, Santa Fe, Hitchcock and Bayou Vista; and Brazoria and Galveston Counties. The study is seeking solutions to reduce crashes, improve traffic flow and minimize motorist delay.

Two open house meetings will be held along the corridor to provide ample opportunity for all interested parties to learn about and comment on the recommended improvements plan. H-GAC representatives will be available to answer questions. More information can be found at www.sh6mobility.com.

SH 6 South Public Meetings**Tuesday, September 7, 2010**

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Santa Fe High School Cafeteria

16000 Highway 6

Santa Fe, TX 77517

Thursday, September 9, 2010

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Church of the Harvest

7505 Wilson Dr.

Manvel, TX 7757

TxDOT Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan Public Meetings

A final round of open-house public meetings on TxDOT's Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan will be held throughout the State until August 13, 2010. Public input is vital for TxDOT to fulfill its mission of providing safe, effective and efficient movement of people and goods throughout Texas. See the complete list of meeting dates, times, and locations [HERE](#).

Following this round of public meetings, TxDOT will analyze the feedback for plan finalization. A final public hearing before submission of the plan for adoption by the Texas Transportation Commission is anticipated this fall.

H-GAC and TxDOT Partnering to Conduct Workplace Travel Survey

H-GAC and TxDOT are conducting a Workplace Travel Survey during the month of August. Various businesses will be asked to provide information about how their employees travel to work and the route they take to get to work every day. Other questions will focus on the mode of transportation (car, bus, carpool, bicycle, etc.). The purpose of the survey is to assist transportation planners with where and how to invest in highway facilities, transit facilities, improved sidewalks and bicycle trails.

The survey will take about one year to complete. The results will be used in H-GAC's new long-range transportation plan for Harris County and the seven surrounding counties.

For more information, contact Ms. Sharon Ju at 713-993-2419, sharon.ju@h-gac.com or Mr. Charlie Hall at 512-486-5120, cdhall@dot.state.tx.us.

H-GAC Seeks Proposals for Planning Studies

H-GAC is seeking proposals from local governments or other eligible project sponsors to conduct planning studies in areas of the region with strong demand for pedestrian and bicycle travel.

All applications must be received by 3 p.m. Friday, August 13. More information is available [online](#). For more information, contact Gina Mitteco at 713-993-4583.

Note: H-GAC is requesting proposals from local governments, MUDs, TIRZs and other entities that can implement transportation projects, not consulting firms.

**Regional Projects Receive Funding Through Transportation Enhancement Program**

The Texas Transportation Commission approved \$76 million in funding for [54 transportation-related enhancement projects](#), including nine in the Houston-Galveston region totaling \$14,819,961.

The action gives the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) authority to move forward with funding for the [Transportation Enhancement Program](#).

Projects were selected on a competitive basis. TxDOT issued a program call for project nominations in October 2009. The projects selected are the result of 200 project nominations received in response to the program call.

Projects selected in the Houston-Galveston region include:

- Sugar Land, U.S. 59 Pedestrian/Bicyclist Improvements, \$1,873,286
- League City, FM 518 Bypass Bikeway, \$2,187,386
- Texas City, FM 1764 Landscape, \$650,929
- Houston, International Management District Bikeways, \$1,606,274
- Houston, Houston SE Downtown Sidewalks, \$1,585,906
- Houston, Cullen Park Path, \$661,940
- Houston, Brays Path, \$1,970,390
- Houston, Fannin/Main Esplanades, \$2,999,765
- Rosenberg, US 59 / FM 762 Landscaping Project, \$1,284,085

Designing Streets for Pedestrian Safety Workshop Planned for August 26 and 27

H-GAC and the Texas Department of Transportation will host a free Federal Highway Administration training course for state and local transportation professionals on August 26 and 27. Designing Streets for Pedestrian Safety is a two-day course that addresses pedestrian safety issues through design and engineering solutions. Course topics include:



- Sidewalk and walkway design
- Intersection geometry
- Signs, signals, and crosswalks
- Interchange designs and alternatives
- Pedestrian safety at signalized intersections
- Roundabouts with pedestrian accommodations
- Connections to transit
- Road diets and other traffic calming measures

The workshop will be at H-GAC Conference Room B, second floor, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days. For more information or to register, please contact [Gina Mitteco](#) at 713-993-4583.

Estimation and Mitigation of Green House Gases

H-GAC partnering with TTI, TxDOT, and HARC on a project to design a methodology to estimate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and assess mitigation options for project and county level applications for on-road mobile sources.

This research will enable agencies to:

- Understand the current critical issues regarding greenhouse gas emissions
- Assess greenhouse gas emissions
- Track progress toward reaching GHG reduction goals
- Understand the various options for GHG emissions mitigation
- Assess and compare various mitigation options.

This research and pilot application is focused on the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) region in Texas. This region faces unique and pressing challenges, and is an ideal location to explore air quality/GHG modeling and analyses. The duration of the project will be one year.

For more information, please contact Dr. Graciela Lubertino at graciela.lubertino@h-gac.com.

Hurricane Season is Here

Planning for a hurricane includes determining if you will need to evacuate. Many people who stayed during Hurricane Ike lost power and decided that they would evacuate if the region was hit again. Remember that if you do not live in a surge zone or mobile home, it is best to "hide from the wind" and "hunker down".

If you live in a surge zone (see zip evacuation [MAP](#)), make plans now for your family and pets to leave when your Mayor or County Judge calls for an evacuation. If you cannot evacuate yourself, register now by dialing 2-1-1.



For more information on preparing for hurricane season, check out our website:

[Hurricane Evacuation Planning](#)

Federal Sustainability Funding Deadlines

As an outcome of the Federal partnership formed in June 2009 by the US Department of Transportation (DOT), the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), several grant opportunities are now available. Current grant funding and submission deadlines can be found at the following links; **(Note: The Tiger II and the Sustainable Community Regional Planning grant applications are due by August 23, 2010):**

Tiger II

<http://www.dot.gov/recovery/ost/tigerii/>

Sustainable Community Regional Planning:

<http://www.h-gac.com/community/sustainability/default.aspx>

FTA -Alternatives Analysis: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=54952>

HUD/DOT Community Challenge Grants:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa10/huddotnofa.cfm>

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Access Management: A to Z Workshop

You can watch the entire workshop online [HERE](#).

The Power of Transit: Learning from Peer Regions

You can watch the entire workshop [HERE](#).

Sustainability Grant Program Listening Session

You can watch the entire Listening Session online [HERE](#).

ARRA Transit and Roadway Projects



For information on the status of transit and roadway projects that were selected for ARRA funding, visit: <http://www.h-gac.com/taq/stimulus>.

SAVE THE DATE for the 2010 Fort Bend Regional Infrastructure Conference!

<http://cfbca.org/events/Infrastructure/2010Infrastructure.pdf>

Quick Links

[H-GAC](#)
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[Livable Centers](#)
[ARRA Recovery](#)
[Clean Air Action](#)
[Commute Solutions](#)
[Regional Transit Framework Study](#)

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