

THE VISION

Houston-Galveston Area Council

September 2010

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Meetings

TAC, Sept. 15, 2010
TPC, Sept. 24, 2010

Goods Movement Public Meetings

October 18, 2010
Lone Star Convention Center
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
9055 FM 1484
Conroe, TX 77303

Regional Goods Movement Study Public Meetings



H-GAC is hosting a series of four meetings in October to obtain freight-related observations and issues from the public. The meetings will also provide interesting information about goods movement in the region and how things like coffee and other groceries make the trip from a farm to your favorite store.

To view the meeting dates, please see "Meetings" section to the left or visit the Regional Goods Movement website [HERE](#).

2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) CALL FOR PROJECTS

H-GAC is pleased to announce a "Call for Projects" to select new projects for funding in the 2011-2014 TIP. The TPC approved the 2011-2014 TIP at its June 25, 2010 meeting.

The submittal packet for the Call for Projects can be downloaded from the H-GAC website at www.h-gac.com/taq/tip. In this packet you will find a project submittal form in Excel format and a selection schedule as well as guidelines for the readiness and selection criteria that will be used in the selection process. **Project proposals are due by 5:00 p.m. October 29, 2010.** Proposals received after the deadline will not be accepted.

For assistance with project submittals, please contact [Jim Dickinson](#) at (713) 993-4597.

Senator Tommy Williams to Speak at September 24 TPC

[Senator Tommy Williams](#), Texas State Senate District 4 (The Woodlands) will be guest speaker at the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting on Friday, September 24, at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will be held in H-GAC's Conference Room A, second floor.

Williams was named chairman of the Senate Transportation and Homeland Security Committee in July.



2010 ACT International Recognizes H-GAC Outreach

October 19, 2010
Baytown Community Center
 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
 2407 Market St.
 Baytown, TX 77520

October 20, 2010
Lake Jackson Civic Center
 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
 333 Highway 332 East
 Lake Jackson, TX 77566

October 21, 2010
City of Rosenberg
Civic & Convention Center
 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
 3825 SH 36 S.
 Rosenberg, TX 77471

At the 2010 ACT International Conference, the Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT), recognized the Houston-Galveston Area Council with a third place award in the Marketing and Outreach: Partnership Award Category for the "H-E-B 15,000,000 Mile Commuter Challenge". H-GAC worked with NuRide, Inc. and supermarket chain H-E-B to create the "H-E-B 15,000,000 Mile Commuter Challenge" with the goal of reducing 15 million miles of single occupancy vehicle driving in the Houston-Galveston Area.



Over 13,000 commuters participated in the event and reduced **15 million miles** of driving in a little over a year and a half.
<http://www.hebcommuterchallenge.com>

Draft 2035 RTP Update Public Outreach Schedule

H-GAC staff will be giving presentations on the *Draft 2035 RTP Update* during the months of September and October. With approval by the Transportation Policy Council at its September 24 meeting, H-GAC plans to host two public meetings during the public comment period, tentatively scheduled to run from Friday, September 24 through Tuesday, October 26. Adoption of the plan will be requested of the Transportation Policy Council at its October 29, 2010 meeting.

Watch for details about these meetings on the H-GAC website at www.h-gac.com/taq/public_info.

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

2010 Clean Air Action Leadership Awards Luncheon

H-GAC would like to extend its appreciation to everyone who made this year's Clean Air Action Leadership Awards Luncheon a success! At this year's program nearly 200 attendees including transportation stakeholders and elected officials paid tribute to employers and local governments leading the way in offering commuter benefits to their employees and for adopting clean fleet policies that mitigate congestion and improve air quality in our region.

The awards luncheon spotlighted employers like Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. and local governments such as the Cities of Baytown, Pasadena and Port Freeport. This year the Best all Around Clean Air Leadership Award went to the Port of Houston and the Air Quality Leadership Awards went to Damon and Spring ISD. The keynote address was delivered by U.S. Congressman Gene Green.

For more information, please visit www.commutesolutionshouston.org. For our image gallery, visit [HERE](#).

Transportation Funding Survey

H-GAC conducted an online survey from July 30 - August 30, 2010 as part of its comprehensive public outreach process on funding scenarios for the 2035 RTP Update. H-GAC received 956 completed surveys, with an additional 293 comments. Thank you to everyone who participated in the survey and sent their comments. In the coming months, H-GAC will be analyzing the data.

City of Conroe, Republic Services Partnering for Curbside Recycling Program

The City of Conroe and Republic Services, Inc. will be partnering to add automated curbside recycling to residential and small commercial customers starting in October 2010. Republic Services currently provides the municipal refuse collection and by now adding curbside recycling, the City and Republic will be doing its part to preserve precious landfill space. The program will include an automated refuse and recyclable collection.

Residents will be provided with a 96 gallon roll-away cart with a lid at no extra cost to their current collection rates. All recyclable items, including GLASS, can be placed into one container for a single-sort collection. Residents will place their refuse and recycle carts on the same day for a once a week collection schedule. Households with greater recycling participation can request an additional recycle cart at no extra cost.

For more detailed information about the program go to www.cityofconroe.org and click on Utility Billing then Recycling or contact Sam Masiel at 936-522-3171, smasiel@cityofconroe.org.

TxDOT Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan

A final round of open-house public meetings on TxDOT's Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan was held throughout the State during August. TxDOT is now in the process of analyzing the feedback received by the public for plan finalization. A final public hearing will be held on October 1 at 10:00 am. in Austin before submission of the plan for adoption by the Texas Transportation Commission.

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](#)

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/tag/stimulus>.

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

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

Quick Links

[H-GAC](#)

[Transportation and Air Quality](#)

[Livable Centers](#)

[ARRA Recovery](#)

[Clean Air Action](#)

[Commute Solutions](#)

[Regional Transit Framework Study](#)

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