

STUDY BACKGROUND

In the coming decade, the Houston region will attract a projected one million new residents. Much of the residential growth will occur in suburban areas located 20 to 25 miles from the urban core of downtown Houston, while employment concentrations are expected to remain in Downtown Houston, the Texas Medical Center, The Galleria and the Energy Corridor. The projected growth will bring new opportunities and challenges to the region. Creating a clear vision for public transit now will help the region confidently manage the growth that is projected to come.

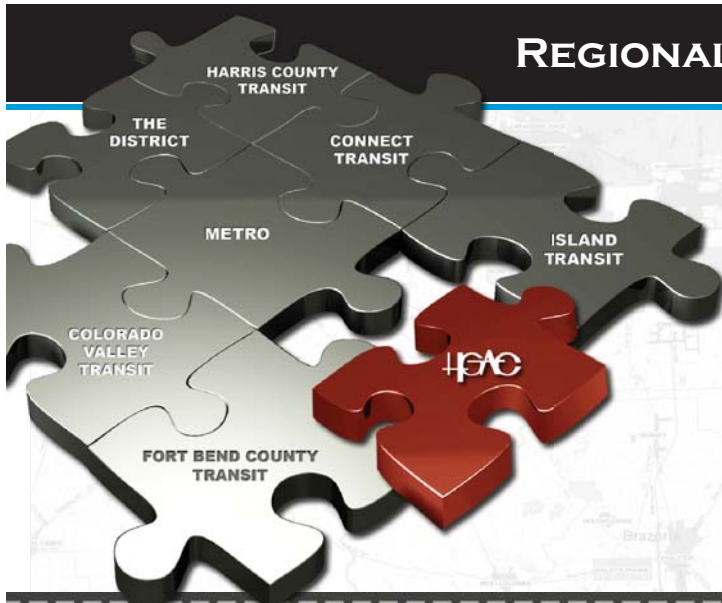


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REGIONAL TRANSIT FRAMEWORK STUDY



STUDY PURPOSE

The purpose of the Regional Transit Framework Study (RTFS) is to identify and prioritize future transit improvements to meet the needs of the growing region. The Framework study will include technical evaluations of regional land use, socioeconomic conditions, existing and planned infrastructure and transit service. In addition, transit services in other U.S. cities will be evaluated to learn how proven transit service concepts can be incorporated into the Houston-Galveston region. Recommendations from the RTFS will be incorporated into the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

Para más información y para solicitar actualizaciones del proyecto, por favor llame a Shaida Dezfuli al 713.627.3200 o envíe un correo electrónico a: PublicComents@h-gac.com.

STUDY APPROACH

To manage this comprehensive regional transit needs study, the region has been divided into four sub-areas. Planners will be working closely with community members, various stakeholders, and transit service providers in each of the sub-areas to identify regional transit needs and potential solutions. Throughout the planning process, the information gathered from each of the sub-area studies will be shared with all of the sub-area managers to better understand how local and regional transit needs can be addressed.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

A three-phase process lasting approximately one year is being undertaken to complete the H-GAC Regional Transit Framework Study in a schedule consistent with other regional framework planning efforts.

The phases include:

Phase I: Research

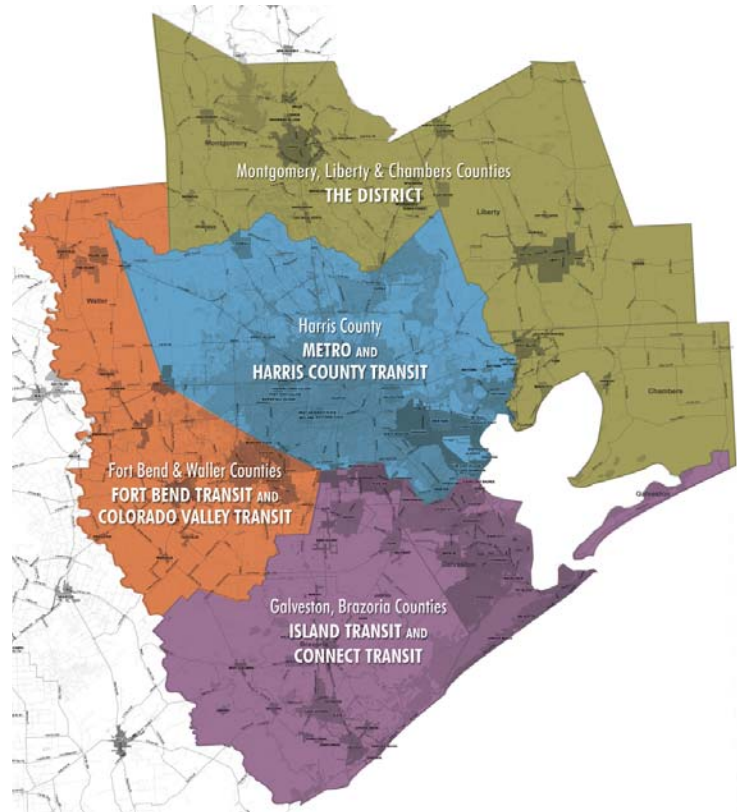
Current and future regional travel patterns, travel markets, population growth and employment growth will be analyzed, while research will be completed to identify what other regions, similar to the Houston region, have done or are doing to address their regional transit challenges. At the end of Phase I, the most significant regional transit issues facing the study area will be defined.

Phase II: Develop and Analyze Options

Alternative transit scenarios that address the regional transit deficiencies, constraints and opportunities defined in Phase I will be developed and tested during Phase II. Cost projections for the alternative scenarios will be prepared for purposes of comparing each scenario and prioritizing the transit service and capital infrastructure elements included in each scenario.

Phase III: Study Recommendations

The characteristics and financial element of each alternative transit scenario will be refined during the final phase of the planning process to develop a final study recommendation.



TASK	2009				2010								
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept
Public & Agency Involvement	[Green bar spanning Sep 2009 to Sep 2010]												
Research & Analysis	[Green bar spanning Sep 2009 to May 2010]												
Transit Travel Demand	[Green bar spanning Oct 2009 to Apr 2010]												
Evaluation of Needs & Opportunities	[Green bar spanning Nov 2009 to Jun 2010]												
Cost Analysis	[Green bar spanning Apr 2010 to Aug 2010]												
Regional Transit Framework Study	[Green bar spanning Apr 2010 to Sep 2010]												
	PHASE I							PHASE II			PHASE III		

For additional information about the study contact:

Shaïda Dezfuli of the Houston-Galveston Area Council at 713-627-3200 <http://www.h-gac.com/transit>

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