

**MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL
FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TRANSPORTATION
MANAGEMENT AREA**

DATE: Friday April 27, 2018

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: Houston-Galveston Area Council, 3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor, Room B, Houston,
Texas 77027

Chairman Matt Sebesta called the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) to order at 9:30 a.m.

ITEM 1. CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM

Secretary Tom Reid announced that a quorum of TPC membership was present; 14 members comprise a quorum. A quorum was declared present and recorded on the Roll Call, which is included with these Minutes as Attachment 1.

ITEM 2. INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Sebesta invited introductions from Council members and staff.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Dominic Mazoch addressed the Council regarding Agenda Item 6 concerning the High Speed Rail presentation. Mr. Mazoch expressed his concerns regarding the reliability of the grid when the “bullet train” is installed. He wanted to know how this new rail line is going to affect the economy, future technology advancement that would render the bullet train obsolete, and he feels there might be the possibility of another option to be considered.

ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 23, 2018 MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY

Secretary Reid motioned for approval of the March 23, 2018 meeting Minutes and Council Member David Robinson seconded the motion. The Council voted and approved the Minutes.

ITEM 5A. RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE 2017-2020 TIP AND 2040 RTP

Mr. Jim Dickinson reviewed five amendments for which staff is requesting approval by the TPC:

- Program Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) for the FY 2018 Commuter and Transit Pilot Program and combine funds from the FY 2020 program year. The TDCs requested will only support the

non-federal match requirements for administrative costs borne by H-GAC and TxDOT. Without these TDCs, recipients of funding for transit pilot projects would otherwise be required to provide the non-federal match for both their individual projects plus a share of match required for TxDOT/H-GAC administrative costs.

- Update Fort Bend County Transit's FY 2017 FTA formula funding based on the amounts approved by the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County's Board of Directors at their January 25, 2018 meeting. Program Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) in lieu of local matching funds on the Capital and Planning Expenditures.

Mr. Jack Steele motioned for approval of Resolutions 2018-07 and 2018-08 amending the TIP and RTP and seconded by First Vice Chair Ken Clark. The Council voted and approved both Resolutions.

ITEM 5B. REVIEW OF ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENTS TO THE TIP AND RTP

Mr. Dickinson reviewed administrative modifications to one project to assign a TXDOT Control-Section-Job number to the Metro US 290 L-Ramp construction project.

This information was presented for information only.

ITEM 5C. PREVIEW OF FUTURE AMENDMENTS TO THE TIP AND RTP

Mr. Dickinson previewed the following draft amendments.

- Update the FY 2017 Urbanized Area Formula, the FY 2017 State of Good Repair and the FY 2017 Bus and Bus Facilities Programs of Projects for The Harris County Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO), and the Harris County Community Services Department with funding amounts approved by the METRO Board of Directors at their January 25, 2018 meeting. These Programs of Projects will be funded with grant support from the United States Department of Transportation Section 5307, Section 5337 and Section 5339 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act).
- Add Fort Bend County Transit FY 2017 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities, Section 5310, project to the TIP with Transportation Developments Credits as local match.
- Replace Section 5339 funding with local funding on Metro's West Bellfort Park & Ride modification project.

These amendments are presented for information only and are subject to change prior to a request for action next month.

ITEM 5D. RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE 2018-2019 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Dickinson reviewed one proposed amendment that would increase Transportation Planning Funding (TPF) amount in Subtask 3.1 for software to be used for economic impact analysis, project cost benefit analysis and regional forecasting.

Secretary Reid motioned for approval of the Resolution amending the 2018-2019 UPWP and seconded by First Vice Chair Clark. The Council voted and approved Resolution No. UPWP 18/19-6 as outlined by Mr. Dickinson.

ITEM 6. HIGH SPEED RAIL PRESENTATION

Mr. Michael Moore, Regional Vice President for the Texas Central Partners, updated the Council on the status of the bullet train project. He also introduced Mr. David Haggy, the Texas Central Partners Regional Vice President for the alignment between Houston and Dallas.

Mr. Moore mentioned recent milestones achieved and highlighted the benefits and anticipated ridership results expected. He also noted the progress achieved so far and results of five years of study supporting the need for the Houston-Dallas connection. The project is anticipated to be completed within the next five years with the use of more than 10,000 construction workers and an additional 1,500 employees. Texas Central Partners is working with the City of Houston, METRO, and other transportation partners regarding connections and seamless travel options.

A brief discussion and answers to questions from the Council regarding this item are available in the TPC meeting livestream archives at: <http://hgac.swagit.com/play/04272018-582>

ITEM 7. PREVIEW OF DRAFT 2019-2022 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Jim Dickinson presented a brief overview of the 2019-2022 TIP. He displayed maps showing the location of the proposed TIP projects over the 8-county region. He added that a list of these proposed projects is available at today's meeting. The only change in the format of this document is the addition of a new chapter to include planning factors required by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act.

The 30-day comment period opened on April 10th and will run through May 9th. H-GAC hosted a public meeting to receive comments on April 17th. No comments were received. The schedule for approval of the 2019-2022 TIP includes review and approval by the Technical Advisory Committee and the TPC at their May meetings.

The draft document is posted on the H-GAC website at <http://www.h-gac.com/taq/tip/2019-2022-tip.aspx>. Additional comments may be submitted until the close of comments on May 9th.

ITEM 8. PREVIEW OF PROPOSED 2040 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Patrick Mandapaka previewed the 2040 RTP amendment and explained that the reason for this amendment is to update the 2040 RTP with the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act's (FAST Act) final planning rules. Staff is currently working on the 2045 RTP which is scheduled to be completed by September 2019. The 2040 RTP requires an amendment to be compliant with new FAST Act regulations between May 27, 2018 and approval of air quality conformity finding of 2045 RTP by FHWA. Mr. Mandapaka outlined the FAST Act requirements for each of the planning factors and performance measures. He added that staff will add a new appendix to the 2040 RTP to include the new FAST Act requirements for new planning factors.

A 30-day public comment period for this amendment began on April 10th. Staff previewed the draft amendment to the 2040 RTP at the April TAC and TPC meetings. TPC approval will be requested in May.

ITEM 9. 2018 DRAFT CALL FOR PROJECTS EVALUATION CRITERIA

Mr. Vishu Lingala updated the Council on the 2018 Draft Call for projects which will begin June 1, 2018 through July 31, 2018. He explained that this project call is part of the 2045 RTP development process. Projects selected at the end of the year from the project call will go into the 2045 RTP and will then be amended into the 2019-2022 TIP. The online pre-application period for this call will be open for 60 days ending at 5:00 p.m. on July 31, 2018. The Policy Council will decide the final project selections for different investment groups.

More information about the call for projects can be found on the Transportation Improvement Program webpage at: <http://www.h-gac.com/taq/tip/call-for-projects/default.aspx>.

ITEM 10. NEW MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

Mr. Alan Clark informed the Council that the time has come for staff to revise the interagency agreement between the MPO, our transit providers, and TxDOT. This MOU does not add any new responsibilities to any of these agencies, but it does reflect their federal and state requirements to mutually support planning activities of our region through the TIP and Plan processes. Thanks to the MOU template provided by TxDOT, it is shorter and less complicated than the existing MOU. Staff will be requesting permission of the Policy Council next month for the MPO to execute the new MOU.

ITEM 11. REPORT ON TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

A. Transportation Planning Activities - Mr. Clark invited questions from members regarding planning activities for April.

Referring to an earlier emailed announcement to the TPC last week, Mr. Clark stated he was pleased to receive federal approval of our current air quality conformity finding. He recognized Quincy

Allen and Andy Mao and thanked them for the supportive work of the TxDOT Houston District staff for their assistance in completing the air quality conformity analysis process.

Mr. Clark added that the public outreach staff have been traveling throughout the region over the past two months to conduct public meeting “listening sessions” to receive feedback on the 2045 RTP. He thanked all members who attended those meetings for their support. Staff will prepare a summary of all the public meetings and comments received for the next meeting of the TPC in May.

B. H-GAC Board of Directors – Items submitted to the H-GAC Board of Directors in April are summarized in this item.

ITEM 12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next TAC meeting – May 16, 2018, at 9:30 a.m., Rm B
- Next TPC meeting – May 25, 2018, at 9:30 a.m., Rm B

ITEM 13. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Sebesta adjourned the meeting of the TPC at 10:50 a.m.

Hon. Tom Reid, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

**TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC)
FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA
April 27, 2018**

ROLL

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Baytown, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Robert Hoskins Council Member, District 5 <u> </u> Honorable Charles Johnson – Alternate	City of Baytown
Conroe, City of	<u> </u> Thomas Woolley Interim Director of Engineering <u> </u> Chris Bogert – Alternate	City of Conroe
Galveston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Craig Brown Council Member <u> x </u> Rick Beverlin - Alternate	City of Galveston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable David W. Robinson – 2 nd VC Council Member, At-Large 2 <u> </u> Honorable Karla Cisneros - Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<u> </u> Vacant Council Member <u> X </u> Honorable Amanda Edwards - Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Jeffrey Weatherford, P.E. Director, Public Works & Engineering <u> x </u> Maureen Crocker – Alternate	City of Houston
League City, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Larry Millican Council Member, Position 3 <u> </u> John Baumgartner – Alternate	City of League City
Missouri City, City of	<u> X </u> Scott Elmer, P.E. Assistant City Manager <u> </u> Shashi Kumar, P.E. – Alternate	City of Missouri City
Pasadena, City of	<u> </u> Honorable Cary Bass Council Member <u> </u> James Rodriguez – Alternate	City of Pasadena

**TPC Agenda Item 4
Attachment 1**

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Pearland, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Tom Reid Mayor - Secretary <u> x </u> Jon Branson –Alternate	City of Pearland
Sugar Land, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Joe Zimmerman Mayor <u> </u> Hon. Carol McCutcheon – Alternate	City of Sugar Land
Texas City, City of	<u> </u> Phil Roberts Mayor Pro Tem <u> </u> Doug Kneupper, P.E. - Alternate	City of Texas City
City of Bellaire	<u> X </u> Honorable Pat McLaughlan Council Member, City of Bellaire <u> </u> Honorable Natalie Picha - Alternate	Smaller Cities, Harris County
Brazoria County	<u> X </u> Honorable Matt Sebesta County Judge - Chairman <u> </u> Honorable David Linder – Alternate	Brazoria County
Chambers County	<u> </u> Honorable Rusty Senac Commissioner <u> </u> Jimmy E. Gore - Alternate	Chambers County
Fort Bend County	<u> X </u> Honorable James Patterson County Commissioner, Pct 4 <u> x </u> Paulette Shelton – Alternate	Fort Bend County
Galveston County	<u> X </u> Honorable Kenneth Clark Commissioner – 1st Vice Chair <u> </u> Judge Mark Henry – Alternate	Galveston County
Harris County	<u> X </u> Honorable Ed Emmett County Judge <u> </u> Honorable Jack Morman – Alternate	Harris County
Harris County	<u> X </u> Honorable Steve Radack County Commissioner, Pct 3 <u> </u> Gary Trietsch, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Liberty County	<u> X </u> David Douglas Engineering Director <u> </u> Honorable Greg Arthur - Alternate	Liberty County

**TPC Agenda Item 4
Attachment 1**

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Montgomery County	_____ Honorable Charlie Riley County Commissioner, Pct 2 _____ Honorable Craig Doyal – Alternate	Montgomery County
Waller County	<u> X </u> Hon. Justin Beckendorff County Commissioner _____ Yancy Scott, P.E. - Alternate	Waller County
Houston Metropolitan Transit Authority	_____ Carrin Patman METRO Chair <u> X </u> Thomas Lambert - Alternate	METRO
Houston-Galveston Area Council At Large	<u> X </u> Jack Steele Executive Director <u> x </u> Chuck Wemple – Alternate	H-GAC
TxDOT	<u> X </u> Quincy Allen, P.E. District Engineer <u> x </u> Eliza Paul, P.E. – Alternate	TxDOT Houston District
TxDOT	<u> X </u> Tucker Ferguson, P.E. District Engineer _____ Adam Jack, P.E. – Alternate	TxDOT Beaumont District
Port of Houston Authority	_____ Honorable Janiece Longoria Commissioner/POH Chair _____ Phyllis Saathoff – Alternate	Other Transportation Interests
Gulf Coast Rail District	<u> X </u> Bert Keller Chairman/GCD _____ Carol Lewis, TSU – Alternate	Gulf Coast Rail District
	<u> 28 </u> Total Voting Membership	
	<u> 22 </u> Voting Membership Present	
	<u> 14 </u> Required Quorum	

**TPC Agenda Item 4
Attachment 1**

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>NON-VOTING MEMBERS</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Freight Rail Interests	<u> X </u> Brenda Mainwaring Vice President, Public Affairs	Union Pacific Railroad
Freight Rail Interests	<u> X </u> Hugh McCulley	BNSF Railway
Texas State Legislator	<u> X </u> Hon. Ed Thompson	8-County Region
Texas State Legislator	<u> </u> Hon. Sylvia Garcia	8-County Region
Wharton County	<u> X </u> Hon. Phillip Spenrath County Judge	Wharton County
TxDOT Yoakum District	<u> X </u> Paul Reitz, P.E. District Engineer	TxDOT Yoakum District