

REPORT ON TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

A. H-GAC LONG RANGE PLANNING

- Staff continued to refine application materials for the 2018 Call for Projects and presented them to the TIP/RTP Subcommittee and TAC in June and July. Staff also received comments on the 2018 Call for Projects and those were incorporated into the final call for projects rules and evaluation criteria as applicable.
 - Staff reviewed public comments received during the 2045 RTP public meetings which were held at various locations within the region. For more information on 2045 RTP public outreach opportunities please visit <http://2045rtp.com/>.
1. Subregional Planning Initiatives (SPI)
 - Waller County Transportation Plan: Staff and the study team reviewed public comments received the public meetings in April. Modifications to the study recommendations have been made based on the comments. Staff prepared meeting materials for the Stakeholder meetings on July 19. Staff is providing a status update on the study at Waller County Commissioners Court on July 25. The final recommendations will be presented to the public in August 2018.
 - SH 146 Subregional Plan has been completed. Staff presented the document to Baytown City Council on June 14 and to Mont Belvieu City Council on June 25 for plan acceptance. Staff is presenting the final report to Chambers County Commissioners Court on July 24.
 2. Safety/Operations Planning
 - Incident Management Strategic Plan: The Tow and Go Program began towing activities at no cost to the stranded patron. A consultant prepared public outreach materials and campaign for the towing program.
 - Safety: Staff received confirmation of funding for FY19 Selective Traffic Enforcement Program and conducted kick off meeting with program participants. Staff presented the draft Regional Safety Plan to the Regional Safety Council and the Technical Advisory Committee. Staff planned a public meeting n the Regional Safety Plan to be conducted on July 25.
 3. Freight Planning
 - Staff conducted meetings with stakeholders on the Ports Area Mobility Study. A Steering Committee meeting was conducted for the study on July 19.
 4. Hurricane Evacuation Planning
 - Staff provide an update on hurricane evacuation planning activities to the Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee on June 11, 2018. Staff attended the Hurricane Preparedness Workshop Meeting in Pearland on July 11, 2018.

B. H-GAC SHORT RANGE PLANNING

1. 2019-2022 TIP Development Update

- The 2019-2022 TIP document was approved by TAC and TPC in May. Staff is working to upload the recently approved projects into the State's online system for inclusion in the STIP. The final document can be found online at <http://www.h-gac.com/taq/tip> .
- H-GAC continues to work with EcoInteractive Inc. to supply and support a replacement project database and information management system. Staff is working to finalize all the reporting and data requirements for the new system. Staff anticipates training for agency partners in the fall of 2018.

2. Transit Planning Update

- Coordination for the development of a Regional Online Interactive Transportation Resource Database is in process. A demonstration is planned for July 19, 2018 with the Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee with a request for assistance to update information and to complete missing data items.
- Coordination is continuing for the development of General Transit Feed Specifications (GTFS) input files for the Regional Transit Trip Planner using the Google Transit Platform. Preview testing, refinements and debugging are in process for Harris County Transit as well as updates based on recent service changes for Island Transit. Staff participated in a GTFS Builder Webinar July 12, 2018, for future consideration.
- Staff continues to analyze detailed travel demand modeling results of the High Capacity Transit Task Force "Vision" Network.

C. PUBLIC OUTREACH

1. Transportation Planning Activities

- Public outreach program manager presented a webinar on public involvement best practices to the AMPO Public Involvement Working Group on June 11.
- Public outreach program manager presented the 2045 RTP public outreach summary to the Technical Advisory Committee on June 13.
- Public outreach staff participated in a briefing update to receive information and talking points about the Tow and Go program that officially launched on July 9.
- Public outreach staff identified a date for the Regional Safety Plan public meeting on July 25 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at H-GAC, 2nd Floor, Conference Room B.

2. Commute Solutions Activities

- Commute Solutions staff developed an outreach plan to promote Commute Solutions month with a focus on the METRO Star Vanpool program.
- Commute Solutions staff prepared a resolution to recognize August as Commute Solutions month for the H-GAC Board of Directors and the Transportation Policy Council.

- Commute Solutions staff will present "Tackling Traffic with Commute Solutions" for the Brown Bag Lunch Series on Monday, July 16 at 12:00 p.m. on second floor, Conference Room B at H-GAC .

D. CLEAN VEHICLES/DRAYAGE PROGRAMS PLANNING ACTIVITIES

1. Clean Vehicles Program

- Staff responded to incoming phone calls and email requests for program information.
- Staff reached out to prospects, applicants and grant sub-recipients regarding CMAQ grants.
- Staff updated forms to improve usability for applicants and grant sub-recipients.
- Staff compiled a mailing list of Clean Vehicles contacts to invite to the November 14 Clean Cities Technologies Conference. The invitations were issued by Air Quality Program staff.
- Staff emailed a follow-up invitation to all grant sub-recipients with active projects.
- Staff phoned a few grant sub-recipients whose email invitations bounced, and then reissued their conference invitations.
- Staff worked on developing an online compliance reporting tool for active projects.

2. Drayage Program

- Staff responded to incoming phone calls and email requests for program information.
- Staff reached out to prospects, applicants and grant sub-recipients regarding drayage loans and CMAQ grants.
- Staff updated forms to improve usability for applicants and grant sub-recipients in English and Spanish.
- CMAQ funds totaling \$301,903.59 were disbursed to replace three vehicles whose contractor loan amounts had been paid previously.
- Staff compiled a mailing list of Drayage Program contacts to invite to the November 14 Clean Cities Technologies Conference. The invitations were subsequently issued by Air Quality Program staff.

E. GENERAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING ACTIVITIES

- After coordinating with regional stakeholders through the Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee (RAQPAC), the H-GAC Board of Directors meeting and transmitted comments and suggestions related to the State Beneficiary Plan Agreement for the VW Settlement Consent Decree to TCEQ. Recommended comments are as follows:
 - Allow regional governments such as Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Councils of Government (COGs), and Clean Cities Coalitions to administer the dispersal of funds on a regional basis through third-party contracts.
 - For third-party contracts, allow use of Settlement funds for administration and outreach.
 - Support funding the widest possible breadth of mitigation actions as supported under the final national VW Settlement consent decree.
 - Focus dispersing Settlement funding within nonattainment and near-nonattainment areas.
 - Allow local governments to receive 100 percent of VW Settlement funds without requiring additional cost share as allowed in the federal consent decree at least in areas adversely impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

- Allow vehicles and equipment destroyed in recent natural disasters to be eligible for replacement with cleaner lower emission technologies.
- TCEQ should consider participating in the EPA State Clean Diesel Grant Program.

As of this writing, TCEQ has not yet released a draft State Beneficiary Plan Agreement. Once this document is released, it is anticipated that the public will have the opportunity to comment on the plan before it is finalized.

- TTI continues to work on a new cooperative research study involving H-GAC, the Port of Houston, and the U.S. EPA. The study is utilizing H-GACs GPS data on their participating Drayage Program trucks, the Port's gate data, and has installed EPA-provided equipment on some of these trucks, as well as other freight vehicles operating in the region, to analyze the impacts of speed, idling and congestion on emissions that are being generated in and around the Port of Houston and warehouse areas. Data collection has been completed and data analysis is ongoing. It is anticipated that this work will be completed, and a final report will be issued during Q3 2018.
- Work is complete on the development of the annual Air Quality Initiatives report regarding regional air quality improvement programs administered in 2017 with the assistance of H-GAC. This document was reviewed and approved at the June TAC meeting. It is anticipated that this report will be presented to TPC at a future meeting.
- In conjunction with RAQPAC, staff is developing the 2018 PM2.5 Advance Path Forward report. This is being developed with the assistance of RAQPAC members and other regional stakeholders. It is anticipated that this updated report will be completed and submitted to EPA in Q3 or Q4 of this year.
- Staff continues to work on the second phase of an interactive alternative fuel map which allows for alternative fuel users to locate alternative fueling sites and to suggest needed sites. The updated version has been moved to a new platform which allows the map to be used on mobile devices and make use of a modern look and feel. It is also anticipated that additional layers will be added to the map. Use the Interactive Alternate Fuels Finder app online at <http://iaff.h-gac.com/>.
- Staff is continuing development of an alternative infrastructure plan for the H-GAC region. This project is in the initial stages and expected to progress over the next several months.
- Staff has completed development of an inventory of buses and other mass transit vehicles within the region. This inventory included school-related transit vehicles.

F. TRAVEL DEMAND FORECASTING

- Staff continues to provide travel demand modeling technical supports and assistances to support H-GAC's member agencies and their transportation planning studies.
- Modeling support continues for air quality projects including management of technical studies conducted both by the staff and consultants.
- Staff continues the development of an advance Activities Based Model (ABM). The ABM will be complete and in use by the end of 2016.
- Staff continues to develop a dynamic travel demand model for use in corridor analyses.