

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

DATE: Friday March 22, 2019
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: Houston-Galveston Area Council, 3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor, Room B, Houston,
Texas 77027

Chairman Ken Clark called the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) to order at 9:35 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 Clark invited introductions from Council members and staff.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following persons addressed the Council regarding Agenda Item 6—Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) recommendation for approval of the 2018 Call for Projects.

1. Dominic Mazoch – Mr. Mazoch addressed the Council regarding computer modeling as it pertains to transportation patterns during inclement weather. He suggested that H-GAC should work with Universities that do the modeling and engage young students in considering more than just one or two models.
2. Gregg Nady – On behalf of the Heights Super Neighborhood, Mr. Nady addressed the Council to encourage TPC support of the Active Transportation hike and bike improvements. He thanked TxDOT and H-GAC for their transparency of the website materials and accessibility to the public.
3. Paul Hofmann, City of Bellaire City Manager – Mr. Hofman addressed the Council regarding the Call for Projects draft ranking. He mentioned one specific project regarding flood mitigation which might work for the City of Bellaire should another hurricane cause flooding conditions. He thanked H-GAC for recommending this project for funding in the 2018 Call for Projects.
4. Michael Leech, City of Bellaire Public Works Director – Mr. Leech addressed the Council regarding the Call for Projects grant proposal dealing with vehicle trips through Bellaire. He mentioned that this project is not recommended for funding in the 2018 Call for Projects.

5. Ann Lents, Volunteer Chair for the Memorial Heights Redevelopment Authority – Ms. Lents addressed the Council regarding support of the major investment Shepherd/Durham project. She feels this is the most shovel ready project, requires very little right of way, and can begin final design tomorrow. She expressed surprise that so little of local grant dollars are allocated to local roads.
6. Honorable Dave Martin, City of Houston – Council Member Martin addressed the Council regarding support of the North Park Construction project. This project is recommended for funding with no opposition and numerous letters of recommendation. Council Member Martin expressed its importance as a hurricane evacuation route plan and also noted improvements already underway by the City of Houston to elevate the road to two feet above the flood plan. He asked that this project be adopted as presented.
7. Veronica Chapa Gorczynski, President, East End Management District – Ms. Gorczynski addressed the Council regarding the Eastwood Terminal project. She expressed concern that this project was not recommended for funding. She requested that the TPC reconsider including this project in the 2018 Call for Projects. If funding is unavailable at this time, she requested that staff be directed to evaluate remaining eligible sources of funding. She also requested that there be a published wait list to allow other projects to move forward.
8. Truman Edminster, Harris County MUD 500 – Mr. Edminster addressed the Council regarding the Greenhouse Road/Skinner Road/Underpass project. He felt that this project qualified under both the Managed and Expanded categories but requested that it be moved to the Expanded category. It just so happens that a 450 ft section that happens to be an underpass is the only missing section of this 16-mile roadway. Because some of the details were not made clear for cost benefit ratio allocation, Mr. Edminster requested that the TPC reconsider this project. Mr. Edminster commended the H-GAC staff for all the hard work they have put into this process.
9. Harrison Humphreys, Air Alliance Houston – Mr. Humphreys addressed the Council regarding the 2018 Call for Projects. He expressed concerns about the project selection process, particularly where it concerns projects that improve public health and air quality. Air Alliance strongly recommends that the scoring system used to evaluate the project proposals for inclusion in the TIP and RTP should be significantly reworked and consideration should be given to environmental justice communities and the effects of pollution and air quality.

ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 22, 2019 MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY

Secretary Reid motioned for approval of the February 22, 2019 meeting Minutes and Mayor Joe Zimmerman seconded the motion. The Council voted and approved the Minutes.

ITEM 5A. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE 2019-2022 TIP AND THE 2040 RTP

Mr. Jim Dickinson briefed the Council on three amendments for Transportation Policy Council approval this month:

- Program the City of Conroe’s locally funded Transit Fleet Maintenance Facility into the TIP. The City is drafting a ‘Letter of No Prejudice’ for the Federal Transit Administration to protect expenditures made prior to a contract award.
- Program additional funding on the City of Webster’s NASA Road 1 Bypass project to cover cost overruns associated with right-of way acquisition and revised construction and engineering estimates. The City of Webster is requesting a one-year delay of the project letting to FY 2021.
- Advance the Port of Houston Authority’s Port Road 6-lane widening project from the Ten-Year Plan into FY 2020 of the TIP and program with Texas Mobility Funds allocated via the 2017 ‘Rider-45’ to the General Appropriations Act.

Judge Matt Sebesta motioned for approval of amendments to the 2019-2022 TIP and 2040 RTP, and Mr. David Douglas seconded the motion. The Council voted and approved Resolution 2019-08.

ITEM 5B. ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENTS TO THE TIP AND RTP

Mr. Dickinson reviewed Administrative modifications to eight projects:

- Update the project description for the FY 2017 Gulf Coast Center Lake Jackson/Angleton Capital Expenditures FTA 5307 grant to include construction activities
- Delay the City of Pearland Mykawa Road widening from FY 2020 to FY 2021
- Delay the City of Pearland McHard Road extension from FY 2019 to FY 2020
- Delay the City of Pearland Smith Ranch Road widening from FY 2019 to FY 2020.
- Delay the City of Houston FM 526 shared-use path construction from FY 2019 to FY 2020.
- Change the federal funding source from Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) to Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) on the Midtown Management District Wheeler Street Pedestrian/Transit Improvements to ensure the eligibility of work elements. Change the authorized phase from ‘Construction’ to ‘Transfer’.
- Change the federal funding source from Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) to Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) on the Midtown Management District Brazos Street Pedestrian/Transit Improvements to ensure the eligibility of work elements. Change the authorized phase from ‘Construction’ to ‘Transfer’.
- Change the funding source from Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) to Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) on the Near Northwest Management District West Little York Road Pedestrian/Bike Improvements to ensure the eligibility of work elements.

These Administrative Amendments were presented for information only and did not require action by the Council.

ITEM 5C. FUTURE AMENDMENTS TO THE TIP AND RTP

Mr. Dickinson informed the Council that there are two proposed amendments for preview this month:

- Program a US 290 sound wall construction project with District Discretionary funding into the TIP.

- Program additional federal funding on the Westchase Management District’s Walnut Bend Street reconstruction project to cover cost overruns incurred with updated estimates for paving, signalization and street lighting.

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

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

Ms. Neely Kim of the H-GAC staff reviewed three amendments to the 2018-2019 UPWP which are outlined in the green sheet handouts at today’s meeting. The amendments consisted of addition of planning projects which were approved by the TPC last month. These are the Southeast Harris County Subregional Study, Regional Goods Movement Plan, and safety intersection studies. Other amendments included addition of funds to Tasks III and IV, and a decrease of funds in Task V.

Mr. Rick Beverlin motioned for approval of amendments to the 2018-2019 UPWP, and Mayor Zimmerman seconded the motion. The Council voted and approved Resolution No. UPWP 18/19-10.

ITEM 6. RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL OF TAC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2018 CALL FOR PROJECTS

Chairman Clark called for a motion for approval of the TAC recommendations to adopt the 2018 Call for Projects. A motion was made and seconded for approval of the Resolution adopting the 2018 Call for Projects.

Mr. Alan Clark expressed his thanks to the TAC for their work on the Call for Projects and their recommendation to the TPC. He then briefed the Council with updated information on forecasted availability of Federal funding over the next 10 years, funding set-asides, how the projects are evaluated and scored, and the project recommendations. In addition to the ranked project listing, Mr. Clark discussed several TAC recommendations for project funding including that for the Hempstead Highway roadway widening/frontage roads (not recommended for funding), Pelican Island Bridge (recommended for funding) and the Eastwood Transit Center (recommended for funding conditionally). He described the TAC recommendation for increasing available funding for the Call for Projects to fully fund any partially funded project and add additional funds for the Eastwood Transit Center so that no projects currently funded need be displaced.

Much discussion, comments, and questions from the Council followed.

Mr. Gary Trietsch requested to amend the motion to add the Greenhouse Road project to the recommended list of projects and add any additional funding needed to the Call for Projects so that no projects currently funded need be displaced. The amended motion was seconded by Council Member Robinson.

Chairman Clark called for a vote on the amended motion. The Council voted and approved the amended motion.

Chairman Clark called for a vote on the original motion to approve the list of TAC recommended projects for the 2018 Call for Projects.

The Council voted and approved Resolution No. 2019-09 approving the TAC recommendations for the 2018 Call for Projects. There were two opposing votes from Commissioner Billy Combs (Chambers County) and Council Member Robert Hoskins (City of Baytown).

The presentation and discussion under this item are included in the meeting archives at: <https://hgac.swagit.com/play/03222019-782>.

ITEM 7. REPORT ON TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

- A. Transportation Planning Activities – Mr. Clark invited questions from members regarding planning activities for March.
- B. H-GAC Board of Directors – Items submitted to the H-GAC Board of Directors in March are summarized in this item.

ITEM 8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next TAC Meeting will be Wednesday, April 17, 2019, at 9:30 a.m., at the H-GAC offices, Rm B on the 2nd Floor.

The next TPC meeting will be Friday, April 5, 2019, at 9:30 a.m., at the Texas Department of Transportation Houston District Auditorium, 7600 Washington Blvd, Houston TX 77056.

NOTE: This meeting REPLACES the previously scheduled April 26th TPC meeting.

The March Brown Bag Lunch Series presentation will be held on Monday, March 25, 2019 from Noon to 1:00 p.m. at the H-GAC offices, 2nd Floor Rm B, featuring Mr. Sam Lott -- “Integrating AV Technology with High Capacity Transit.” This presentation is scheduled to be livestreamed.

ITEM 9. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Clark adjourned the meeting of the TPC at 11:32 a.m.

Hon. Tom Reid, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC)
FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA
March 22, 2019

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> </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 Council Member – 1 st - Vice Chair <u> </u> Hon. Martha Castex-Tatum- Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Amanda Edwards Council Member <u> </u> Karla Cisneros - Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Jeffrey Weatherford, P.E. Director, Public Works & Engineering <u> </u> Maureen Crocker – Alternate	City of Houston
League City, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Larry Millican Council Member, Position 3 <u> </u> Hon. Hank Dugie - Alternate	City of League City
Missouri City, City of	<u> X </u> Shashi Kumar, P.E.. Director of Public Works <u> </u> Clifford Brouhard – Alternate	City of Missouri City
Pasadena, City of	<u> </u> Honorable Cary Bass Council Member <u> </u> James Rodriguez – Alternate	City of Pasadena

Attachment 1

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>	
Pearland, City of	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Honorable Tom Reid Mayor - Secretary Jon Branson –Alternate	City of Pearland
Sugar Land, City of	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Honorable Joe Zimmerman Mayor Hon. Jennifer Lane – Alternate	City of Sugar Land
Texas City, City of	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Phil Roberts Mayor Pro Tem Doug Kneupper, P.E. - Alternate	City of Texas City
City of Bellaire	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Honorable Trisha Pollard Council Member, City of Bellaire Honorable Natalie Picha - Alternate	Smaller Cities, Harris County
Brazoria County	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Honorable Matt Sebesta County Judge – Past Chair Honorable David Linder – Alternate	Brazoria County
Chambers County	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Billy Combs Commissioner Cory Taylor, P.E. - Alternate	Chambers County
Fort Bend County	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Honorable Grady Prestage County Commissioner, Pct 2 VACANT – Alternate	Fort Bend County
Galveston County	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Kenneth Clark County Commissioner - Chairman Judge Mark Henry – Alternate	Galveston County
Harris County	_____ _____ _____	Honorable Lina Hidalgo County Judge Commissioner A. Garcia – Alternate	Harris County
Harris County	_____ _____ <u> X </u>	Honorable Steve Radack County Commissioner, Pct 3 Gary Trietsch, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Liberty County	<u> X </u> _____ _____	David Douglas Engineering Director Judge Jay Knight - Alternate	Liberty County

Attachment 1

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Montgomery County	<u> X </u> Charlie Riley County Commissioner, Pct 2 <u> </u> Judge Mark Keough – Alternate	Montgomery County
Waller County	<u> X </u> Justin Beckendorff County Commissioner – 2nd VC <u> </u> Yancy Scott, P.E. - Alternate	Waller County
Houston Metropolitan Transit Authority	<u> X </u> Carrin Patman METRO Chair <u> x </u> Thomas Lambert - Alternate	METRO
Houston-Galveston Area Council At Large	<u> X </u> Chuck Wemple Executive Director <u> x </u> Jeff Taebel – 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 <u> </u> Adam Jack, P.E. – Alternate	TxDOT Beaumont District
Port of Houston Authority	<u> </u> Phyllis Saathoff Executive Director, Port Freeport <u> </u> Roger Guenther, POH – Alternate	Other Transportation Interests
Gulf Coast Rail District	<u> </u> Bert Keller Chairman, GCRD <u> X </u> Carol Lewis, TSU – Alternate	Gulf Coast Rail District
	<u> 28 </u> Total Voting Membership	
	<u> 24 </u> Voting Membership Present	
	<u> 14 </u> Required Quorum	

Attachment 1

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>NON-VOTING MEMBERS</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Texas State Senate	_____ Hon. Carol Alvarado	8-County Region
Freight Rail Interests	_____ Brenda Mainwaring	Union Pacific Railroad
Freight Rail Interests	_____ Hugh McCulley	BNSF Railway
Texas State Legislator	_____ Hon. Dennis Paul	8-County Region
Texas State Legislator	<u> X </u> Hon. Ed Thompson	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