

5A. MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025, 9:30 A.M. MEETING

INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Morad Kabiri, called the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. Chair Kabiri gave a brief overview of the housekeeping rules. After the housekeeping rules, the Chair called on Ms. Jamila Owens, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Assistant Director, to conduct the Roll Call.

A list of Committee representatives and alternates attending the meeting is included with these minutes as Attachment 1. There were 37 members in attendance; 22 are required for a quorum.

The meeting agenda and materials are available on the TAC website at:

[Transportation Advisory Committee Agendas and Minutes | Houston-Galveston Area Council \(H-GAC\)](#)

In addition, the livestream recording is available at: [Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Livestream Archive | Houston-Galveston Area Council \(H-GAC\)](#).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No written public comments were received and no public comments were made from the floor.

ITEM 4. ORIENTATION TO AGENDA AND MPO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR REPORT

The report was presented by Ms. Jamila Owens, the MPO Assistant Director, who provided a brief overview of meeting agenda for October 15th TAC Meeting. Ms. Owens highlighted the following items in the Assistant Director's Report:

- **Federal Certification Review – November 2025**
The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will undergo its scheduled four-year certification review conducted by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. This review ensures compliance with federal planning requirements across our two designated Transportation Management Areas.
- **Peer Exchange with San Diego MPO**
A peer exchange is planned with the San Diego Metropolitan Planning Organization in November. This initiative follows their visit earlier this year and presents an opportunity for our team to gain valuable insights from their practices.
- **Upcoming Board Items for Consideration:**
 - **Consultant Selection** for the Montgomery County Mobility Plan
 - **Acceptance of Rider 7 Grant** to support analysis of mobile source emissions, specifically **Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5**
 - **Tow and Go Program:** Execution of contracts supported by a newly awarded grant to sustain program operations
- **Staffing Update**
Ms. Michelle Oliver, has joined the team as Executive Assistant to Mr. Ron Papsdorf, Chief Transportation Officer.

To hear the MPO Director Report in its entirety, please click on the link [here](#).

ITEM 5A-5D. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Kabiri entertained a motion for Consent Agenda Items; 5A) Meeting Minutes Summary for September 10, 2025, TAC Meeting, 5B) 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments, 5C) Pavement and Bridge Performance Measures and 5D) Congestion Management Process (CMP) Update.

Mr. Jason Smith made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 5A, 5C, and 5D, and remove 5B for discussion.

The Chair entertained the motion to approve; the Committee voted, and the motion carried.

The Chair then opened the floor for discussion on Item 5B. Mr. Jason Smith inquired about the Metro Inter Katy Project, MPO ID 18721, (number 23 on the list in the presentation).

Mr. Jason Smith questioned whether any changes had occurred to the project, whether there was local support, and if a delivery plan exists.

- He suggested that, in the absence of clear progress, the project be deferred to the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) rather than continuously rescheduling it.

Mr. Clark clarified that the amendment was not requested by Metro and deferred to **Mr. Vishu Lingala** for further explanation.

Mr. Lingala explained:

- The project is a **conformity project**, and since it will not be operational before 2030, it must be moved beyond that year for conformity purposes.
- **2033** was selected based on fiscal constraint considerations.
- The project has been in the TIP since **2020–2021**, originating from the **2018 Call for Projects**.

Additional Context Provided:

- The project has been under ongoing discussion with **TxDOT**.
- TxDOT has since developed plans for the **North Houston Highway Improvement Program (NHHIP)**, including managed lanes through the Inner Katy Corridor and elevation improvements at White Oak Bayou.
- A critical component is the **downtown connector**, which currently provides HOV/transit access and will need to be removed and reconstructed.
- The connector's reconstruction is essential for maintaining transit access from the west, north, and northwest sides of Houston.
- Funding needs and timelines are contingent on TxDOT's construction schedule.

Mr. Clark emphasized that the project is active and under regular review, with Metro and TxDOT nearing a plan to present to the Policy Council.

Following the discussion, Mr. Jason Smith proposed a motion to reschedule the METRO project from FY2033 to FY2038, suggesting that FY2038 maybe a more appropriate timeframe for the project to let. The motion was seconded.

Before the Committee proceeded with the vote, Mr. Alan Clark requested to make an additional comment. citing uncertainty about the potential consequences. Mr. Clark recommended further dialogue with TxDOT to assess whether the proposed change aligns with TxDOT's construction schedule and to determine if the shift to FY2038 would be feasible for consideration for TPC approval at the upcoming October TPC meeting.

In response, Mr. Jason Smith amended his motion to allow item 5B to proceed while placing a hold on list item 23 (MPO ID 18721), thereby accommodating Mr. Clark's request and enabling the TPC to take action at the October meeting.

Mr. Smith made a final motion withdrawing the amended motion and moved to approve item 5B with no recommendation for line item 23 (MPO ID 18721). Mr. Alan Clark made a second motion. The Committee voted, and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

ITEM 6. CONFORMITY AND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION (RTP) 2045 PROJECT LISTING

Mr. Stephen Keen and Mr. Andrew DeCandis presented on Conformity and Regional Transportation (RTP) 2045 Project Listing. The metropolitan planning area is classified as “severe” for the 2008 8-hour ozone standard and as “serious” for the 2015 8-hour ozone standard under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). These nonattainment designations require H-GAC to ensure that the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and any amendments to these documents are consistent with the region’s air quality goals via the transportation conformity process.

As new, regionally significant projects are added to an RTP or TIP, regardless of funding source, the revised regional transportation network must be reviewed before these projects can move forward. Through this process, the revised network and resultant air quality emissions are reviewed to ensure that they conform to federally approved motor vehicle emissions budgets. Once the final transportation conformity analysis is reviewed and approved at the regional level, it is transmitted to agency partners at the state and federal level for additional review and eventual concurrence. Once partners approve the final analysis, the added projects may move forward.

A Public Meeting was held on September 17, and Staff received two questions regarding the:

- Nature of the emissions data presented in the conformity documentation and location of previous years data.
- Availability of modeling data for previous years.

The Public Comment Period was open from September 10, 2025, to October 10, 2025. There was one comment received.

- Port Houston reached out about project submission scheduling concerns.

The conformity documentation can be found at the following link: <https://www.h-gac.com/transportation-conformity/2025>.

Staff prepared a new conformity determination to support project list updates for the 2045 RTP. Staff were seeking TAC recommendation for TPC approval.

Ms. Catherine McCreight made a motion to approve. Ms. Perri D’Armond made a second motion. The Committee voted, and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

ITEM 7. TAC BYLAWS DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Jason Smith, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, made a motion to defer this item until the November meeting, because the draft was not distributed in time for members to review. Mr. Wael Tabara made a second motion. The Committee voted, and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

ITEM 8. PLANNING ACTIVITIES

A. Future 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments

Mr. Stephen Keen provided a brief update on 2025-2028 TIP Future Amendments to the Committee. To hear this update, please click on the link below.
For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website [here](#).

B. Houston FIFA World Cup 2026 Transportation Scenario Planning and Modeling Update

Mr. Jochen Floesser gave a brief introduction and then introduced Mr. Koushik Arunachalam to give the full update on the Houston FIFA World Cup 2026 Transportation Planning and Modeling Update.

To hear this update, please click on the link below.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website [here](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Regional Transportation Plan Subcommittee Meeting	October 8	1:30 p.m.	Virtual
Regional Transit Coordination (RTC) Subcommittee Meeting	October 9	9:30 a.m.	Virtual
Pedestrian Bicyclist (Ped-Bike) Subcommittee Meeting	October 16	9:30 a.m.	Virtual
Greater Houston Freight Committee (GHFC) Meeting	October 16	8:00 a.m.	Tour
Transportation Policy Council (TPC) Meeting	October 24	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office
Regional Air Quality Program Advisory Committee (RAQPAQ) Meeting	October 30	10:00 a.m.	Virtual
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Subcommittee Meeting	November 5	9:30 a.m.	Virtual
Transportation Systems and Management Operations (TSMO) Subcommittee Meeting	November 6	2:00 p.m.	Virtual
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting	November 12	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office
Regional Transportation Plan Subcommittee Meeting	November 12	1:30 p.m.	Virtual
Area Emission Reduction Credit Organization (AERCO) Board Meeting	November 12	2:00 p.m.	Hybrid

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Morad Kabiri adjourned the meeting of the TAC at 10:42 a.m.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website [here](#).

Attachment 1

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDANCE OCTOBER 15, 2025, AT 9:30 A.M.

NOTES:

1. Attendance is marked with "X" in the corresponding column for the Primary Member and/or Alternate Member.
2. Where both the Primary Member and Alternate Member is marked with an asterisk (*) after the "X" to indicate that this person does not count toward quorum or votes for this meeting.

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Present</u>
<i>Chair</i>				
Morad Kabiri, P.E.	X	Smaller Cities	Jildardo Arias	
<i>1st Vice Chair</i>				
Perri D'Armond	X	Transit	Pamela Lebrane	
<i>2nd Vice Chair</i>				
Brian Alcott	X	Toll Roads	Amar Mohite	
Brenda Bustillos, Ph.D., P.E.	X	Active Transportation	Lisa Graiff	
Yuhayna Mahmud		Active Transportation	Luis Guajardo, AICP	X
James Brown		Airports	Bill Zrioka	
Amy Skicki	X	Business Interests	Scott Harper	
Marlisa Briggs	X	Business Interests	Kris Larson, LPM, AICP	
Irma Sanchez	X	Citizen Interests	Dexter Handy	X*
			Sherry Weesner, P.E., CPM	X*
Alan Steinberg, Ph.D.	X	Citizen Interests	Sue Theiss	X*
Andrea French	X	Environmental	Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, M.D.	X*
Scott Nichols	X	Environmental	Alan Clark	X
Clint Harbert, AICP		METRO	Carolina Lopez-Herrera	X
Lisa Collins, P.E.		TxDOT – Beaumont Dist.	Catherine McCreight	X
Grady Mapes, P.E.		TxDOT – Houston Dist.	Jeffrey English, AICP	X
Catherine McCreight		Planning	(Vacant)	
David Wurdlow	X	Planning	Christina Cabral	X*
Marlene Gafrick	X	Planning	Candice Armenoff	
Callie Barnes	X	Port Houston	Rob Lowe	
Dean Corgey		Ports	Hon. Lori Klein Quinn	X*
Hon. Dan Davis	X	Regional Planning	Brian Winningham	
Andy Rodgers	X	Smaller Cities	Byron Hebert	
(Vacant)		Smaller Cities	David Gornet	
Robert Castaneda		Toll Roads	Todd Stephens	
Ruthanne Haut	X	Transit	Vernon Chambers	X
Ken Fickes, CCTM	X	Transit	Karen McKinnon, P.E.	
Wael Tabara, P.E.	X	Brazoria County	Cory Taylor, P.E.	
Zachery Vogler, P.E.	X	Chambers County		

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Present</u>
Stacy Slawinski, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Fort Bend County	Rick J. Staigle, P.E.	<u> </u>
Michael Shannon, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Galveston County	Nancy Baher	<u> </u>
Patrick Mandapaka, Ph.D., AICP	<u>X</u>	Harris County	Kristian Heighway	<u> </u>
Hon. Jay Knight	<u>X</u>	Liberty County	Hon. Greg Arthur	<u> </u>
Jason Smith	<u>X</u>	Montgomery County	Thomas Woolley	<u> </u>
Ross McCall, P.E.	<u> </u>	Waller County	Luke Fortkamp, P.E.	<u> </u>
Brant Gary	<u>X</u>	City of Baytown	Martin Scribner	<u> </u>
Greg Hall, Jr.	<u>X</u>	City of Conroe	Chuck Purvis	<u> </u>
Robert Winiecke, P.E., CFM	<u> </u>	City of Galveston	Brandon Cook	<u> </u>
Fabio Capillo	<u>X</u>	City of Houston	Johana Clark, P.E., PTOE, ENV SP	<u> </u>
Christopher Sims	<u>X</u>	City of League City	Cara Davis	<u> </u>
(Vacant)	<u> </u>	City of Missouri City	Joi Johnson	<u>X</u>
Sarah Benavides, P.E.	<u> </u>	City of Pasadena	Mark Gardemal, P.E.	<u> </u>
Lorenzo Wingate	<u>X</u>	City of Pearland	Fabiola de Carvalho, CFM, AMP, MIAM	<u> </u>
Melanie Beaman	<u> </u>	City of Sugarland	(Vacant)	<u> </u>
Kim Golden, P.E.	<u> </u>	City of Texas City	Jack Haralson, P.E.	<u> </u>
	<u>44</u>	Total Voting Membership		
	<u>37</u>	Total Voting Membership Present		
	<u>22</u>	Required Quorum		