

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN UPDATE

**BACKGROUND**

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The Public Participation Plan serves as a guide for Houston-Galveston Area Council's transportation public involvement process. It is part of a regional effort to ensure a continuing, comprehensive, and coordinated process among stakeholders to provide opportunities for broad-based participation in the development and review of regional transportation plans and programs.

The Public Participation Plan provides the public with an understanding of the transportation planning process and the core functions of the Metropolitan Planning Organization, which also includes developing the Regional Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, the Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan, and the Unified Planning Work Program.

The Public Participation Plan must be updated on a regular basis in accordance with federal and state regulations and was last updated in 2019.

**CURRENT SITUATION**

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Staff have updated the Public Participation Plan. The update includes principles and goals for public engagement, as well as updated public participation strategies to reflect virtual methods for engagement.

A minimum public comment period of 45 days will be provided before the revised Public Participation Plan is adopted by Houston-Galveston Area Council. Copies of the approved participation plan shall be provided to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for informational purposes and shall be posted on the Internet to the maximum extent practicable. A copy of the Public Participation Plan for public review can be found at <https://www.h-gac.com/transportation-public-outreach>. Comments can be sent to Caroline Bailey at [Caroline.Bailey@h-gac.com](mailto:Caroline.Bailey@h-gac.com) before or on April 6, 2026.

**ACTION REQUESTED**

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Discussion only.