

Southeast Harris County Subregional Study
Public Meeting #1
Via ZOOM
April 15, 2021
6:00PM
Meeting Summary

Attendance – see attached attendance report.

Submitted questions – see attached question report.

The meeting started at 6:00PM

1. Introductions

Mike Burns provided a summary for the purpose of the meeting and the study effort. This included identifying the study team and the Steering Committee.

2. Project Overview

Michael Feeney of Kimley Horn described the study area, the TxDOT PEL studies abutting the study area, and summarized the project schedule.

3. Vision and Goals

Michael Feeney described the vision and goals for the study, including the measures used to evaluate recommendation alignment with study goals.

4. Existing Conditions

Michael Feeney summarized the mapping completed to date for the roadway network, bike and pedestrian facilities, transit facilities, freight networks, evacuation routes, and environmental features.

5. Priority Network

Payton Arens of Kimley Horn described the selection process for the priority network of roadways to be the focus of the study. This included congestion and safety attributes used to prioritize the study area corridors and intersections.

6. Public Commenting Demonstration

Katherine Vo provided an overview of the online public engagement tool to collect survey data and how to utilize the interactive commenting map where users could drop pins on areas that are of concern and should be evaluated during the study process.

7. Q&A – Audience Participation

Mike Burns initiated the question and answer portion of the meeting.

Q (Anonymous – Chat): Do you have data from Harvey and other storms that show which road sections are regularly flooded?

A (Allie Isbell): Thanks for your question. We recently completed a resilience study for the entire 8-county MPO region, which took into account roadway elevation and flood levels from Harvey and other storms. Results from this analysis will be reviewed and included in recommendation prioritization and analysis. We also have an online tool displaying the results from this study: <https://datalab.h-gac.com/resilience/>

Q (Pat Gonzalez – Caring for Pasadena Communities - Live): We've been trying for many years to get transit into Pasadena area. Current proposal shows transit in only certain parts. Will we

see more transit in other areas of the City that need it (students, elderly, etc.), if not with this project, in the future?

A (Mike Burns): It is in the scope of the project.

A (Feeney): We will be looking at current conditions and for comments from public. We will evaluate these options throughout the study. If we hear many strong recommendations about transit, we will likely look at some recommendations.

Q (Pat Van Houte - Chat): What measures do you anticipate taking after you study?

A (Mike Burns): We will provide communities with recommendations; implementation strategies will come with the recommendations so they can be implemented in the communities.

Response (Pat Van Houte): Interested in bus service; there was service previously from Harris County Transit but it was stopped. Looked to get bus service back, but it was a \$1M option and wasn't a good option. City voted down METRO service previously. Will H-GAC provide bus service? Will you be doing intersection improvements?

A (Mike Burns): Purpose of the study is to provide recommendations to be implemented. If we hear more interest in a particular item, we will provide resources to look into potential solutions that are generally supported by the community. Implementations will need funding. Potential

A (Mike Feeney): We would look at a range of transit solutions, see how much it would be to fund it, and look for potential funding solutions. In the end, we will make recommendations and policymakers will ultimately need to take action to implement it.

Q (Raul Camarillo): You mentioned intersection safety and fatalities. Does that data only represent vehicular accidents or does it include pedestrians that have been killed? Saw residents get run over (Preston a few weeks ago).

A (Payton Arens): Pedestrian data is included in the crash data and special consideration is given to pedestrian-related crashes, as they account for more fatalities. Intersection design would go into making it safer for pedestrians.

Response (Raul Camarillo): We will get to see which ones are pedestrian-related?

A (Payton Arens): We will include that in the final report and H-GAC also has a data dashboard where you can see it.

A (Feeney): Use the BTT tool to use the map to show your areas of concern.

Q (Anonymous – Chat): Do you examine 311 data to identify intersections where the public has submitted the most requests for investigation or improvement?

A (Allie Isbell): You are referring to the COH 311 tool to report concerns; this is handled through the COH and part of the study are within the COH, so we will look into that.

Q (Pat Van Houte – Chat): I want a click and print, then pass it out to people.

A (Allie Isbell): We don't have a specific pamphlet, but we have the video and a flyer. You can also email, call, and send a message through the website.

A (Mike Burns): The instructional video is on the website. You should also take the survey.

A (Allie Isbell): Send us your email and we can send you the flyer. We can also add it to the website for others to download.

Carlene: I wanted to mention that you can change the language on the website from English to Spanish. This also includes the survey – there is a Spanish version on the website.

Raul Camarillo – comment in chat: WE need public transportation in Pasadena for our community! Thank you for crash data link! Thank you have a great evening!

The meeting ended at 6:47PM

