9. UPDATE ON THE SOUTHEAST HARRIS COUNTY SUBREGIONAL STUDY

Background

The Southeast Harris County Subregional Study is examining existing transportation conditions and recommending multimodal improvements that will improve efficiency and safety of the transportation system for all users within the study area. H-GAC staff is coordinating with a consultant team to study portions of five (5) cities within the area, including Houston, South Houston, Pasadena, Deer Park, and La Porte. The measurable goals of this study align with the goals of the Regional Transportation Plan for safety, condition, mobility, the economy, and the environment.

The initial phase of this 18-month study began with a kickoff meeting on October 1, 2020. Subsequently, there have been four (4) Steering Committee meetings, an initial set of four (4) Stakeholder meetings with school, public safety, business, and municipal representatives, and an initial public meeting, conducted virtually, to share information and collect public input on specific concerns. Coordination has also included TxDOT's project team overseeing the SH 225/610E Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study, which abuts this study area.

Current Situation

Using existing condition data and input provided through public outreach using the engage.h-gac.com website, initial recommendations have been developed. Staff and the consulting team are coordinating a review of these recommendations with individual members of the Steering Committee. Recommendations include:

1. Roadway safety, including pavement markings, lighting, and median enhancements
2. Intersection capacity, including signal timing and lane configuration
3. Mobility options, including shared use paths and public transportation options
4. Accessibility upgrades, including sidewalk ramps and pedestrian crossing signals

The review of these initial recommendations is on-going with Steering Committee members and will be scheduled with Stakeholders through November. H-GAC staff will then provide information on the future multimodal conditions with these improvements using travel demand modeling tools. Additional outreach and a public meeting will follow this effort to gather final feedback in early 2022 before the project end date on May 31, 2022.

Action Requested

Information only.