

5A. SUMMARY OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Sub-regional Planning Initiatives (SPI)

- Washington Ave Corridor Study: H-GAC staff provided comments on the first draft of the final report to the consultant and are waiting to receive the second draft of the final report.
- Friendswood Parkway Corridor Study: The alternatives and recommendations were presented to the Steering Committee on October 7.
- Friendswood Active Transportation Plan: The first stakeholder group meeting and walk audit were held on September 4, 2025. The second Steering Committee Meeting was held on October 1, 2025. The first Public Meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 9, 2025. An interactive mapping exercise is available on the project website at [Friendswood Active Transportation Plan | Engage HGAC](#).
- Buffalo Bayou East Design Concept: The third Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2025.
- North Houston Communities Transportation Priorities Plan (NHCTPP): The Board approved the contract for consultant services on August 19, 2025. The contract is undergoing the internal audit process and a kickoff meeting is anticipated for November 2025.
- Montgomery County Mobility Plan: The contract for consultant services will be presented for Board approval on October 21, 2025.
- Needville Mobility Plan: The Request for Proposals was advertised on September 10, 2025, and will close on October 23, 2025. Evaluation of the proposals will begin on October 27, 2025.
- Liberty County Thoroughfare Plan: The first workshop with the County, cities, and TxDOT to gather data about existing conditions is scheduled for October 23, 2025.

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

- Freight and Tourism survey for the Regional Transportation Plan closed on September 30, 2025.
- Summary of preliminary Freight and Tourism survey results was presented to the Regional Transportation Plan Subcommittee on October 8th.
- Staff is researching and gathering public and regional policies with the assistance of the RTP Subcommittee.
- Coordination with DAR to analyze and produce data and mapping for Land Use existing condition and future forecasting modeling.
- Staff are conducting research on RTP best practices and other strategic models.
- Analysis of data to develop vision, goals, and objectives is ongoing and near finalization to present to RTP Subcommittee in November.
- Regional Transportation Plan 2050 Request for Proposals (RFP) has been approved and made public.
- RFP applications for the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan closed on October 9, 2025. The evaluation period begins October 14th and ends October 21st.

Safety Planning

- On Saturday, September 27, staff attended Senator Carol Alvarado's State of the District town hall meeting. GCRD Safety Action Plan flyers were distributed to meeting attendees.

- Staff are coordinating Safety Task Force meeting #2 with GCRD for November.
- Staff are reviewing the revised Project Management Plan (PMP), Public Involvement Plan (PIP), and schedule.
- Staff are coordinating a policy and programs benchmarking workshop.
- The first Public Meetings are in development and anticipated for December.
- Staff met with Communications staff to brainstorm a public engagement budget for the project's media needs.
- Staff received all outstanding SAP supporting documents and deliverables. June - August invoices are approved.

Freight Planning

- Staff are revising the RFP-related scope for the new railroad crossing program.
- Staff are finalizing the Greater Houston Freight Committee (GHFC) tour for the October committee meeting.

Pedestrian and Bicyclist Planning

- Staff are reviewing the first full draft of the Memorial Drive Bike and Ped Study.
- Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Call for Projects – Regional Multimodal Planning staff met internally with Data Analytics and Research staff to validate data needed for evaluating submissions. Staff are finalizing program documents in preparation for opening the call for projects (~November) and having routine meetings with TxDOT to ensure our timeline doesn't conflict with the state TA call.
- Regional Safe Routes to School (SRTS) – Staff effort is focused on determining funding amounts for SRTS non-infrastructure projects and plans, with the intention of piloting an ISD-wide plan, a campus-level plan, and engagement activities. Staff are also meeting with local stakeholders to determine the region's need for SRTS programming and current work being done. Recent meetings were with Fit Houston, Harris County Commissioner Precinct 4, and attending the routine Harris Co Public Health SRTS call.
- Staff attended the Fort Bend County Pedestrian Safety Forum.
- The quarterly Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee meeting was held Thursday, October 16th.

Resiliency Planning

- H-GAC executed the PROTECT Grant agreement last month. Staff are moving forward and initiating the Procurement process to hire a consultant for the Regional Resiliency Plan.

TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC OUTREACH

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Outreach

A final stakeholder interest email is planned for distribution the week of October 13, pending final approvals.

- Social Media: Phase II outreach is actively ongoing. Since June 27, we've published 26 organic social media posts, along with coverage of two public meetings and on-site content capture (photos, reels, carousels, and short videos) at all events. One additional post is pending to close out the series. Pending debrief meeting to share social analytics.

Regional Planning Outreach

Friendswood Parkway Corridor Study:

The second public meeting for the Friendswood Parkway Corridor Study is scheduled for October 28, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, and will be held virtually. Outreach eblasts are currently awaiting approval for distribution.

- Social Media: For October, one social media post has been published to promote the October 28 virtual public meeting, with one additional reminder post scheduled prior to the event.

Air Quality Outreach

- Social Media: The 2025 Air Quality Summit successfully concluded with approximately 100 attendees. The Communications Team provided full photography and social media coverage throughout the event. Leading up to the summit, seven promotional social media posts were published between June 24 and September 10, followed by a recap post on October 3. The Air Quality team will schedule a post-event debrief to review email marketing performance, social media analytics, and overall event outcomes. (Date pending.)
- Social Media: Since August 19, a total of 12 social media posts have been published featuring a mix of graphics, photos, and reels, including event coverage for the Fort Bend public meeting. Social promotion is still ongoing in support of the Clean Air, Healthy Communities Survey, which closes at the end of October. Paid advertisements are being managed by our consultants, who maintain access to our social media accounts through October. A final debrief and analytics summary will be shared after the campaign concludes.
- The monthly Climate Corner series continues to align with the themes featured in Regional Focus. Each post uses varied media: videos, GIFs, graphics, and photos, to maintain engagement and connect environmental topics to regional priorities.

Traffic Incident Management Outreach

- Social Media: Since March, we've produced social media posts and custom flyers to promote each responder training, accompanied by event-specific graphics. Efforts continue in coordination with the Traffic Incident Management program to sustain visibility and registration support.
- Tow and Go: Social media posts are ongoing

Hurricane Evacuation Outreach

- Social Media: From July 8 to present, a total of seven posts have been shared promoting hurricane readiness across the region, including a feature video highlighting the Hurricane Preparedness Toolkit. One final post is planned to wrap up the season. Monthly analytics have been shared on a monthly basis with the program manager

Travel Demand Management (Commute Solutions) Outreach

Media buys are running through December 2025. The Free Fare Friday campaign ads ran during August and September and are now complete.

- Social Media: Since January, a total of 22 posts have been published promoting various Commute Solutions initiatives. Analytics are shared monthly with the program team. Current efforts focus on Biketober promotions, with ongoing posts highlighting local cycling events and clean commuting benefits.

- **Earned Media:** Earned media is unpaid publicity, or news coverage, generated through H-GAC's outreach. Advertising Value Equivalent (AVE) estimates the dollar value of this coverage by comparing it to the cost of equivalent paid ads. In addition, reach shows how many unique people are exposed to the coverage, helping us gauge both the scale and impact of our media exposure.

Commute Solutions' Free Fare Friday/Breathe Easy Campaign:

Report Link: <https://app.meltwater.com/report/public/GfyKR6jFZiEriYXjzC7dqLdh>

Password: FreeFar3F1day_25

SHORT TERM PLANNING

PROJECT DELIVERY – TRACKING AND MONITORING

PROJECT PROGRAMMING

- TIP Subcommittee approved the first Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for project descriptions in the efforts to reduce STIP projects delays.
- The Transportation Project Database evaluation team has concluded interviews. A contractor will be chosen based on evaluations and brought to BOD for approval.
- The RTP project listing has been finalized and is ready to move forward with the conformity determination documents to our federal partners.

AIR QUALITY

Air Quality Planning

- **Air Quality Summit:** On September 24, 2025, H-GAC hosted the Inaugural Air Quality Summit in partnership with the FIFA World Cup Sustainability Committee and Baylor Medical Center, bringing together over 100 participants from government, industry, academia, advocacy, and community organizations. The event advanced regional collaboration on clean air strategies and promoted the Clean Air Healthy Communities initiative. Highlights included dynamic plenary and breakout sessions on air quality trends, health impacts, and climate resilience, with engaging presentations from regional and national leaders. Key themes emphasized cross-sector collaboration, community engagement, and data-driven decision-making. The Summit sparked new partnerships, strengthened existing ones, and generated strong feedback from participants. Next steps include sharing event media, gathering post-event feedback, and incorporating insights into the Regional Clean Air Action Plan, and planning for the 2026 Summit.
- **Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG):** The CPRG program is moving into its final and most active phase as we kick off the Clean Air Regional Engagement (CARE) Working Group this month. We've completed all planned in-person outreach across the region and are now shifting our focus to media engagement to encourage residents to complete the survey and share feedback that will inform the Regional Clean Air Action Plan. In parallel, the team is starting to draft the final document, which is due to EPA on December 1. We are also securing time on existing board and committee agendas to continue the conversation around clean air and healthy communities as we finalize priorities and strategies for inclusion in the plan.
- **Staff** have completed work on an initial Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Study. This study has been reviewed and approved internally and is currently undergoing final edits and typesetting. Staff anticipates that the final study will be released prior to the end of October.

Clean Vehicles Grant Programs:

- Staff are preparing to hold the Q4 2025 Area Emission Reduction Credit Organization (AERCO) Board of Directors meeting on November 13, 2025. To support this upcoming meeting, staff are reviewing program balances and activities from the last quarter which will be used to brief Board members.
- Staff engaged a new GPS provider, GoFleet, which is installing units on 56 vehicles to continue mileage monitoring for grantees under the H-GAC Clean Vehicle Program.
- Staff finalized GPS mileage data for Clean Vehicles program participants for Q3 2025 and are preparing quarterly mileage reports for subrecipients.
- Staff closed out two Clean Vehicles Program sub-agreements. Both recipients met or exceeded their contracted NOx-reduction targets and successfully completed their participation in the project.
- Staff assisted a prospective Clean Vehicles Program applicant in scoping an alternative-fuel vehicle replacement project. Based on initially provided information, this project is likely eligible to receive program funds. The partner project manager is now seeking internal approval before submitting an application.



Houston-Galveston Clean Cities Coalition:

- Events and initiatives:
 - Staff are coordinating with Houston METRO, Evolve Houston, and Apollo Global Management for the Oct. 15 Houston-Galveston Clean Cities Stakeholders Meeting. Agenda includes METRO's Environmental Management Plan, H-GAC's Zero Emission Vehicles Plan, and a briefing on open funding opportunities. The hybrid event will conclude with an offsite tour of an RNG fueling facility, a fueling demonstration, and an Evolve Houston presentation on autonomous vehicles. Staff is promoting the hybrid event and soliciting registrations.
 - Staff are working with the Port of Houston Authority, Center for Houston's Future, and Texas Hydrogen Alliance to develop a hydrogen workforce event. This activity was postponed to Q1 2026 to allow proper planning. The event will aim to introduce students, graduates, and job seekers to hydrogen career pathways while aligning co-host objectives.
 - Staff convened hydrogen specialists to support a stakeholder's hydrogen infrastructure grant effort, connect with regional peers, and compile a status update on projects. Next step: assess overlap with other regional groups, refine goals, and determine a suitable long-term home for the Action Tank.
- Coalition Operations:
 - Notified interested fleet managers about current alternative-fuel funding opportunities.
 - Collected regional station prices for DOE's quarterly fueling report.
- Meetings Attended:
 - Texas Clean Cities Coalition Directors' Call
 - Texas Hydrogen Association –
 - ERCOT and SB 6
 - Membership Meeting
 - Hydrogen Week Webinars (3)
 - Voluntary Clean Cities Coalition Directors' Call – Southwest Region
 - Houston Electric Vehicle Association

MPO PROGRAMS

Incident Management/Tow and Go

- Tow and Go conducted 3,281 no cost tows in September.
- H-GAC staff held and attended multiple meetings including the monthly Tow and Go operations meeting, the City of Houston wrecker vendor meeting, and the Traffic Incident Management meeting.
- Staff planned a Traffic Incident Management (TIMs) Training for October 13, 2025. We secured the location, trainer, and promoted the training to incident responders across the region.
- We received our next batch of funding from TxDOT 0912-00-688. This funding agreement total is \$53.2M and expires in August 2028.

Transit Planning

- Dayton Transit Study Executive Summary and Final Report will be presented to Dayton City Council for receipt of report. Following the presentation, The Final Report will be published, and the project will be completed as of October 30, 2025.
- Staff is reviewing the final deliverables from the consultant on the US90A project.
- Staff continued to hold regular check-in meetings with the consultants on the Regional Transit Information Study (RTIS), and department staff assisted with end of fiscal year invoicing efforts. Staff continued to work on preparing the scope of work for consultant support on the 5-Year Coordinated Plan (RPTCP) and continued to develop the first set of chapters needed well ahead of January 31, 2026, due date for the first deliverable.

Safety Outreach

Teen Drivers Education and Outreach Program:

- Outreach Strategists continued with research and began school outreach regarding teen crashes. They continue to improve their strategy to best engage with schools.
- Outreach Strategist completed Project Management Plan and Public Involvement Plan and has shared it on to SharePoint.
- Held biweekly program check ins on September 4, 2025, and September 18, 2025.

Youth Traffic Safety Education and Outreach Program:

- Request for concurrence was approved for Texas Children's Hospital.
- Pre-Award forms were sent to Texas Children's Hospital for review and are still pending.

Regional Safety Campaign:

- A justification letter was sent to TxDOT for the Ride, Don't Drive Campaign, and the procurement process for the Influencer Campaign. The request is still pending approval from TxDOT.
- Discussed project kickoff for the Regional Thanksgiving Safety Campaign with H-GAC communications team to launch a campaign for the month of November for things you are thankful for and why it is important to drive safely. H-GAC communications will provide a script of a story board for the campaign for TxDOT approval.

Hurricane Evacuation

- The Houston Chronicle interviewed H-GAC staff to discuss our role in hurricane evacuation planning.
- H-GAC staff was interviewed live on Texas Southern University's radio station (KTSU) to discuss the importance of hurricane preparation and the 20-year anniversary of Hurricane Rita.
- The Together Against the Weather website is undergoing a revamp for the 2026 hurricane season. The site will be reorganized, the content will be revised, and the logo will be updated.

Intelligent Transportation Systems and TSMO Planning

- No updates at this time.

Title VI/Language Access

- No updates at this time

Congestion Management Process

- The 2025 Draft Interim CMP Update has been endorsed by the TIP and RTP subcommittees. Recommendation by TAC and approval by TPC are anticipated this month. Upon approval we will publish the Final Report.
- The 2026 CMP Update has been scored by the Evaluation Committees and recommendation will be received for approval by the Board of Directors on November 18. The project is expected to begin in early 2026
- The CMP online Dashboard is under development.

Travel Demand Management | Commute Solutions

Staff continues to work with Downtown Houston + to strategize and coordinate how we can support employers and commuters during the FIFA World Cup tournament in June – July 2026.

- Staff met with the Houston Host committee to better understand how Commute Solutions can support FIFA initiatives throughout the city.
- Staff attended BayTran Southeast Luncheon with H-GAC's Chief Transportation Officer Ron Papsdorf, detailing how our MPO is helping the region's transportation and H-GAC's current initiatives.
- Commute Solutions staff attended the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations conference to connect with industry leaders and gain insight into MPO best practices.
- Commute Solutions hosted a peer exchange with Jon Foley, expert in TDM planning for mega events, including the World Cup and London Olympics.
- Commute Solutions received the final update from AECOM on the TDM Strategy Tool which will aid in outreach efforts, specifically with employers.
- Commute Solutions held their second iteration of the Free Fare Friday campaign through the Ozone Action Pilot to encourage commuters to try transit to promote mode shift
- Website traffic continues to grow, with over 13k new visitors to the website, and over 6.6 million digital ad impressions across several media channels. Of the 6.6 million, 1.2 million were delivered in Spanish.
- AECOM delivered the TDM tool to the Commute Solutions team to further promote them as TDM leaders in the region and provide tailored TDM strategies to employers.

TRAVEL DEMAND MODELING & FORECASTING

Travel Demand Modeling Updates:

Staff continues to provide travel demand and forecasting modeling to support the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP), the FIFA 2026 World Cup Transportation Scenario Planning and other traffic and travel related data developments within the H-GAC MPO region that supports sub-regional and corridor studies. These include modeling support for TxDOT and non-TxDOT projects such as:

TxDOT PROJECTS SUPPORT:

- HOU IH-10 Traffic Forecast
- I-10 Proposed Ramp Study
- FM149 Extension Study
- TxDOT 5-Year Statewide AADT Traffic Count
- SH 225 at Beltway 8 DCs Traffic Projection

CITY OF HOUSTON SUPPORT:

- Leeland Avenue Two-way Conversion

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE (TTI) SUPPORT:

- Travel Demand Model Runs for MOVES5

CITY OF CONROE SUPPORT:

- Model data for 2023 and 2040; loaded networks, demographic data, trip length summary

CITY OF MANVEL SUPPORT:

- Model data for 2023 and 2040; loaded networks, demographic data, trip length summary
- Harris County Precinct 4 SUPPORT:
- Model data for 2040 and 2045 to support the Houston Parks Board project.

METRO TRANSIT SUPPORT:

- Spring and Kuykendahl Park Ridership Study

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SUPPORT:

- FM 2432 Traffic Data

COMFORMITY SUPPORT:

- DM network link listing to support conformity documentation, review and public comment.
- Conducted model test runs and QA/QC using the latest version from the consultant; processed traffic counts for model calibration and validation to support TDM Updates for next conformity.
- Conformity QA assistance in proofing the conformity documents
- Post-Conformity Training Presentation

H-GAC TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT SUPPORTS:

- Regional Thoroughfare update for 2025

- RTP GIS project files for current RTP 2045 update
- Generated H-GAC report on crash severities across all eight counties in the region to support RTP
- TIP amendments for September TAC and TPC presentation
- RTP Project maps by county
- Air Quality Summit Support
- Air Quality Dashboard and updating H-GAC's emissions reductions calculators with information from other tools like TRIMMS and Commute Solutions
- Processed medium and heavy truck trip tables from different sources as inputs for the visualizer tool for the Port of Houston.

FIFA 2026 SOCCER World CUP SCENARIO PLANNING SUPPORT:

- Staff continue to coordinate with consultants and the stakeholders for identification of available resources and level of participation, and data availability. Stakeholders include FIFA Host Committee, Transtar, Metro, NRG Park, IAH & HOU Airports, etc.
- Staff continue to update web applications that support dashboards for world cup traffic management scenario planning.

REGIONAL TRAVEL SURVEY

Regional Travel Survey supports:

- Staff continue to coordinate with TxDOT and consultants to support on-going regional surveys such as the commercial, special generator and the major universities and community colleges surveys.

Socioeconomic Data, Modeling and Applications

- Staff developed the draft Regional Growth Report, which analyzes socioeconomic trends across the MPO region and compares them with other major U.S. metropolitan areas. The final report is scheduled for publication in October 2025.
- Staff processed and validated 2024 certified appraisal data for all eight counties, including updates to land use classifications and standardized output formatting. The task was 85% complete as of September.
- Staff continued updating model-building inputs using new data from master-planned communities, plat records, and development activities such as the Fort Bend Tollway expansion. The effort was 75% complete as of September.
- For the Air Quality Program, staff is developing an interactive Esri-based real-time dashboard integrating data from EPA, PurpleAir, and Clarity. The project was 95% complete as of September.
- Staff prepared a brief report on international migration trends in the Houston metropolitan area and the potential impacts of recent federal immigration policy reforms during the first half of 2025.
- Staff continues supporting the transfer of consultant-developed web applications—such as Commute Solutions and Subregional Planning Tools—to H-GAC's internal environment.
- Staff continues to collect and process Census and socioeconomic data from federal, state, and local agencies.
- Staff met with Montgomery County Precinct 4 Commissioner and staff to share H-GAC's regional growth forecast, current TIP and RTP transportation projects, and interactive planning tools.
- The travel demand and socioeconomic modeling teams participated in a peer exchange with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority focused on land use and travel demand modeling.

- Staff met with transportation consultants working on Montgomery County Precinct 2 mobility projects to discuss the regional growth forecast and planned residential developments in the area.
- Staff provided socioeconomic and transportation data to the Transportation Advocacy Group (TAG) team.