

5A. SUMMARY OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Sub-regional Planning Initiatives (SPI)

- Pearland FM 518 Corridor Study: Staff will present the study recommendations to the City Council on June 30.
- Pearland Mobility Plan: The Pearland Mobility Plan was accepted by the City Council on June 6. Public hearings with the Planning & Zoning Commission and City Council to adopt updates to the Thoroughfare Plan are scheduled for July 2025.
- Chambers County Thoroughfare Plan: The Commissioner's Court adopted the Chambers County Thoroughfare Plan on April 22, 2025. H-GAC staff is reviewing the final report.
- Washington Ave Corridor Study: A third public meeting is scheduled to present the refined recommended alternatives to the public. The meeting, postponed from May 29th due to an inclement weather forecast, will take place on June 23 from 6:00 – 7:30PM in St. Theresa's Catholic Church's Fellowship Hall located at 6622 Haskell St, Houston, TX 77007.
- Cemetery Road Corridor Study: H-GAC staff is reviewing the final report and preparing for closeout.
- Friendswood Parkway (Friendswood Lake) Corridor Study: The consultant team is in the process of revising alternatives based on input from H-GAC staff and the City of Friendswood. The alternatives will be presented during the next Focus Group and Public meetings, anticipated for July 2025.
- Friendswood Active Transportation Plan: The first Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled for June 25. During the meeting, the consultant will introduce the project, present the existing conditions assessment, and provide an overview of the public engagement process. The committee will also establish goals and identify potential opportunities to enhance active transportation in Friendswood.
- Buffalo Bayou East Design Concept: The second Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for June 26 to present preliminary recommendations for improvements to key corridor connections and transit-oriented development surrounding the 5th Ward/Denver Harbor Transit Center.
- North Houston Communities Transportation Priorities Plan (NHCTPP): The Request for Proposals closed on June 12. H-GAC staff are in the process of evaluating proposals submitted.

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

- Staff has secured locations in all eight counties for the 2050 RTP public meetings.
- The draft survey for RTP existing conditions and visioning public engagement has been completed.
- Draft H-GAC and Engage websites have been set up for the 2050 RTP (yet to be published).

Safety Planning

- The Transportation Safety Committee meeting was held virtually on May 20. Staff introduced a new member representing Waller County Independent School District.
- Safety Action Plan (formerly Safe Streets for All) updates:

- Staff executed a contract with Kimley-Horn to update the Regional Safety Action Plan (SAP) and develop Local SAPs.
- The SAP project kickoff meeting was held on May 28 at H-GAC's office.
- Staff reviewed the Project Management Plan, and the Public Improvement Plan is underway.
- Staff and Kimley-Horn have met with ten local sponsors/jurisdictions to discuss their respective Safety Task Force and schedule for each kickoff meeting anticipated in July 2025.
- In June, H-GAC staff provided invoice training to the Safety Action Plan Prime consultant and their subconsultant teams working on the project.
- H-GAC and Engage website setup is in progress for the SAPs.
- Staff continue to meet with procurement, communications and data analytics and research teams on the project.
- Staff continue to attend weekly and monthly meetings.

Freight Planning

- The Greater Houston Freight Committee will meet July 17 at 1:30 pm. For more information, please visit the H-GAC Calendar.
- Staff continues to work towards implementing the recommendations from the Regional Goods Movement Plan.

Resiliency Planning

- The PROTECT grant is on-hold by FHWA.

Other Planning Activities

- The Public Participation Plan (PPP) draft is being reviewed and revised.

SHORT RANGE PLANNING

Project Programming

- Staff processed amendments and administrative modifications to TIP projects based on sponsor's requests and quarterly project tracking meetings.
- Staff is completing the update to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) project listing in anticipation for a conformity determination later this year or early next year.
- Staff administered 25 letters of support for their projects in their second round of applications to TxDOT's Transportation Alternatives Program Call for Projects.
- The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Subcommittee met on Wednesday, June 4. The Subcommittee discussed the latest milestone policy working group meeting, the draft Active Transportation Investment Category Focused Criteria, and the Standard Operating Procedure development.
 - The next TIP Subcommittee meeting will be Wednesday, July 2 at 1:30 PM via Microsoft Teams.

Pedestrian and Bicyclist Planning

- The Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee held a special meeting May 29th to workshop the Active Transportation Investment Category Criteria. The subcommittee approved a revised version of the criteria for forwarding to the TIP Subcommittee, Transportation Advisory Council, and Transportation Policy Council for consideration.
- Safe Routes to School: Staff attend Harris County Public Health's quarterly SRTS meetings to foster collaboration and gauge local need for SRTS programming.
- Memorial Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Study - A second public meeting was held on June 11th from 4:00-7:00PM at 757 N Eldridge Parkway, Houston, TX 77079 to present alternatives to the public. Over 40 members of the public attended.
- Staff met with finance staff to discuss strategies to reimburse instructors for adult bicycle safety courses as part of the Regional Safety Campaign. Instructors will likely be set up as vendors.
- Staff continue to coordinate with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute to install permanent bicycle and pedestrian counters. The scope of work is being finalized, and once this is complete, the contracting process will begin.

Tracking and Monitoring

- Staff conducted Quarterly meetings with local government agencies regarding projects included in the 4-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- Staff prepared meeting minutes for each quarterly meeting conducted.
- Staff assessed readiness of over \$1B of projects included in Transportation Policy Council's (TPC) 4-Year TIP and cross compared with projects included in TxDOT's Division Financial 4-Year List.
- Staff coordinated internal meeting to discuss cross comparison of TPC's TIP List and TxDOT's Division Financial 4-Year List.
- Staff coordinated TxDOT HOU and Beaumont District meeting with H-GAC to discuss cross comparison of TPC's TIP List and TxDOT's Division Financial 4-Year List.
- Staff conducted two Project Development/Delivery Milestone Policy Workgroup Meetings.
- Staff presented at 1 Project Development/Delivery Milestone Policy Workgroup Meeting.
- Staff prepared Draft Request for Qualifications for Consultant to Assist H-GAC and TxDOT in discussions regarding how the new Project Development/Delivery Group can assist Local Governments with the federal project development process.
- Staff completed the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Project Development/Delivery Group
- Staff met with H-GAC's website team to initiate the "public facing" Project Readiness Screening Tool which will (based on responses to 12 smart form questions) develop "scenario" outputs (such as Categorical Exclusion with United States Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit 14, no Public Meeting needed, no archeology expected, utility agreements/relocations needed, no right-of way needed and no railroad coordination needed) as well as associated schedules per "scenario"

TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC OUTREACH

Regional Planning Outreach

- Memorial Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Study - A second public meeting was held on June 11th from 4:00-7:00PM at 757 N Eldridge Parkway, Houston, TX 77079 to present alternatives to the public. Over 40 members of the public attended.

- Washington Ave Corridor Study: A third public meeting is scheduled to present the refined recommended alternatives to the public. The meeting will take place on June 23rd from 6:00 – 7:30PM in St. Theresa’s Catholic Church’s Fellowship Hall located at 6622 Haskell St, Houston, TX 77007.
- Dayton Transit Study - The second phase of public meetings begins on Tuesday, June 24, from 5:30–7:00 PM at the Dayton Community Center, and an online meeting on Thursday, June 26, from 2:30-3:30p.m.
- Transportation Conformity - Anticipating public engagement between July and September 2025. Public meetings will occur from mid-August to October.
- FY2026–FY2028 DBE Triennial Goal - Virtual consultation workshops were held on Tuesday, June 10 at 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., followed by a virtual public meeting on Tuesday, June 17 from 5:30–7 p.m. A public notice announcing the proposed goal ran in the Houston Chronicle in June.
- Regional Transportation Plan -The public survey and webpage launch on Monday, June 23, and the first round of public meetings begins on Thursday, July 10. Public engagement, including paid promotions and advertisements for the survey and public meetings, launches Tuesday, July 1.

Safety Outreach

- Freight Safety Campaign - Staff conducted peer exchange with NCTCOG to determine baseline targets for advertising.

AIR QUALITY

Air Quality Planning

- Planning for the September 24, 2025, Regional Air Quality Summit at Baylor College of Medicine is moving forward. The agenda is set, speaker invites are out, and meal planning is underway. Staff is also working to include actionable takeaways for attendees. The event website and registration are live, with save-the-dates going out later this month.
- H-GAC’s Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) activities continue this month. Staff is collaborating with Outreach Strategists, LLC to draft a Public Participation Plan that builds on current regional climate planning efforts. Opportunity menus for local workplans have been created, and five regional meetings are being scheduled to engage stakeholders across all 13 counties. Branding and outreach materials for the CPRG campaign are also in progress.
- TCEQ’s Rider 7 project is funding that is available to near nonattainment areas to support projects that may assist with the development of the State Implementation Plan (SIP). This month, staff worked to complete the contracting process with the hope for the subcontractor to begin work as soon as possible. The deadline for the completion of this project is December 2025.
- Staff have initiated regional conformity activities to support the 2025-2028 TIP and the updated 2045 RTP project listing by conducting a conformity kick-off meeting with conformity consultation partners. Staff are working to finalize the Pre-Analysis Consensus Plan (PACP), and plan to recirculate the PACP with all edits incorporated to confirm all information is correct before modeling.

- Staff have begun working on an air quality data hub, which will compile different air quality resources and efforts across the region.
- Zero-Emission Vehicle Planning efforts are ongoing. The preliminary Study is in review by leadership. Following any requested revisions, our communications team is prepared to offer typesetting and guidance on high-impact graphics. A webpage and one-page explainer documents are finalized and will be published alongside the study. Staff are having internal discussions to finalize elements and tasks for the ZEV Regional Plan. Scope of Work development will follow as well as the activation of our procurement team. Staff continue to field requests for new elements and visualizations on our agency's EV dashboard. In response to the stakeholder request staff have added new metrics to show the proportion of EVs to internal combustion engine vehicles.

Clean Vehicles Grant Programs:

- Staff are in the process of closing six grant subagreements with organizations that have met or exceeded their contractual usage obligations.
- An audit of partial grant repayments for the Clean Vehicles Program (CVP) and Heavy-Duty Diesel Replacement Program (HDDRP) has been completed. Partial grant repayments are required when an organization fails to meet the contracted minimum usage commitment within the specified monitoring period.
- An audit of loan payments for the closed Drayage Loan Program (DLP) is underway. Although the program is officially closed, it continues to receive payments for active loans.
- Staff are preparing to release one vehicle title for a truck that has completed loan repayment through the DLP and fulfilled associated grant requirements. A second title release is imminent. Following these releases, two active loans will remain.
- One applicant has withdrawn their application for a truck in the CVP. Staff conducted a virtual meeting with a consultant representing a potential applicant and anticipate receiving an application from a reputable company for three Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) truck replacements.
- The review committee has finalized the evaluation process for the Global Positioning System (GPS) Request for Proposal (RFP). The three highest-ranking applicants will be considered at the June Policy Board meeting.

Clean Cities Coalition:

- The Department of Energy (DOE) is currently reevaluating the goals and priorities of the Clean Cities and Communities Partnership program. Consequently, over 75 coalitions nationwide are experiencing uncertainty regarding the specific actions required by the new contracts. However, coalitions are encouraged to fulfill their responsibilities under the existing or most recent contracts to maintain momentum and continue a broader range of activities.
- Staff convened with representatives from other coalitions in the South Central region, along with our Clean Cities and Communities regional coordinator, to discuss the status of pending contracts, changes in goals and priorities, and to receive updates on activities across the region.
- An internal review and after-action discussion of the Annual Report were conducted by staff. Preliminary calculations indicate that the coalition has documented the highest savings in gallons of gasoline equivalent (GGE) and greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions since the inception of the Annual Report.
- Staff delivered a presentation titled "Clean Cities and Communities 101" at a TAC subcommittee meeting.

- A co-director met with fellow Texas coalition directors to plan the next three statewide webinar meetings and to discuss additional activities that could enhance alternative fuel usage within the state.
- Staff have disseminated information to school districts regarding available grant funding for alternative fuel school bus replacements.
- Staff met jointly with two stakeholders, each with a hydrogen grant containing a workforce element. Staff are helping to organize a combined hydrogen workforce engagement activity that will satisfy each stakeholder's grant obligation.
- Staff are actively seeking two guest presenters for the upcoming Stakeholder Meeting.

MPO PROGRAMS

Incident Management/Tow and Go

- Staff held the regularly monthly Tow and Go Ops meeting to look at incidents marked for review, updates to the RIMS system, and answer any staff questions.
- Staff attended the monthly Traffic Incident Management Meeting hosted by TxDOT at Houston TranStar.
- Staff continues to work with the Data Research and Analytics team in the development of the Incident Management Dashboard.
- Staff in partnership with TxDOT held the Traffic Incident Management Train-the-Trainer training and certified 15 incident responders.
- H-GAC staff continues to work with TxDOT in developing the next federal funding agreement.
- H-GAC continues to promote the Tow and Go Program on all H-GAC social media platforms.

Transit Planning

- H-GAC staff gave Texas Southern University staff a refresher on the invoice training ahead of the deadline for submission of May invoices.
- H-GAC staff meet with members of the Gulf Coast Rail District on June 10, 2025, to discuss that status and next steps for the US 90A Transit Corridor Study. Staff is currently gathering updated information about developments planned in the study area from the Fort Bend County Engineering Department.
- H-GAC staff received permission to negotiate with the highest-ranked Regional Bus Study RFP respondent from the H-GAC Board of Directors at their May 20, 2025, meeting, and is currently in the contract negotiation process with that respondent (Cambridge Systematics, Inc.).
- Staff continues to coordinate with METRO and other regional transit providers on the regional fare effort.
- The next meeting of the Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee is July 10, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.
- The Dayton Transit Study Steering Committee met on June 18 to discuss Alternatives and Recommendations for the study.
- The Dayton Transit Study Public Meetings will be held June 24 at Dayton Community Center and June 26 online to discuss alternatives and recommendations for the study.
- The Regional Transit Information Study acceptance of the Federal Transit Administration /TxDOT grant will be at the July 15 H-GAC Board of Directors meeting.

- The Regional Public Transportation Coordination Plan acceptance of the Federal Transit Administration /TxDOT grant will be at the July 15 H-GAC Board of Directors meeting.
- The CMAQ agreement with the City of Sugar Land was extended to February 28, 2026, to align with its first year of service operation.

Safety Outreach

- Teen Driver Education: The Pre-Award Audit Review has been completed and submitted to internal audit. Received Pre-Award review memo from internal audit. The contract information form has been completed and uploaded into Agiloft, pending approval.
- Youth Traffic Safety: RFP was open for solicitation on open gov. Solicitation closed on May 15, 2025. Staff received five submissions. Evaluations have been completed. The board of directors is set for July 2025.
- Regional Safety Campaign: Met with Procurement regarding steps for the regional safety campaign. A justification letter was submitted to TxDOT for review and approval. We are currently seeking approval from TxDOT for the influencer campaign and for the Ride, Don't Drive Campaign. Once we get approval from TxDOT. We will enter into a Contract Service Agreement.
- Staff continue to attend weekly and monthly meetings. Road and Rail Safety Workshops, TPC, TIP, MPO Programs, RTP Subcommittees and Houston Traffic Safety Coalitions.

Hurricane Evacuation

- H-GAC staff and the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), Texas Department of Transportation, Galveston County Office of Emergency Management, and others met to discuss hurricane evacuation planning and look at current traffic control points.
- Staff are collaborating with DPS to update all traffic control points in Brazoria and Galveston counties.
- Staff worked with the Communications team to develop draft press releases in preparation for hurricane season.

Intelligent Transportation Systems and TSMO Planning

- The ITS Architecture update has been completed, and the website has been updated.

Title VI/Language Access

- Staff continue to explore non-traditional opportunities for public involvement by stakeholders from different communities in the MPO planning region. Local summer events include Juneteenth observations and the Wazobia funfair.

Congestion Management Process

- The Interim Draft 2025 Congestion Management Process Update is anticipated to be completed for review by late June/early July that will be used to update the 2021 report.
- The 2026 Congestion Management Process update will be prepared in collaboration with a Consultant, and the procurement process is underway.
- The Congestion Management Analysis form is being tested for online rollout next month.

Travel Demand Management (Commute Solutions)

- Staff continued to engage in outreach within the Gulf Coast region. This past month, the team tabled events, provided presentations to sub-committees, and attended large networking events.
- Commute Solutions team is in the pre-contract award phase with a vendor for the Emergency Ride Home program.
- Commute Solutions is seeking approval from TxDOT for Bike encouragement software.
- Commute Solutions opened an RFP on OpenGov.com for website redesign and migration.
- During the month of May, the Commute Solutions program received over 4 million digital ad impressions, with 1 + million of those in Spanish, and over 8.5K website views. The program continues to build awareness across the region.
- Staff continues to work with employers and other interested parties to educate them about the Commute Solutions program and the benefits of the implementation of a travel demand management program.
- Commute Solutions is planning for the Free Fare Friday campaign with the H-GAC communications team for September 2025.

TRAVEL DEMAND MODELING & FORECASTING

- Staff continues to provide travel demand and forecasting modeling supports to support the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP), and other traffic and travel related data developments within the Metropolitan Planning Area that supports sub-regional and corridor studies. These include modeling support for TxDOT and non-TxDOT projects such as:
 - I-10 Ramp Reversal Study (TxDOT): Delivered the model outputs for no-build and build scenarios for analysis years 2023 and 2030 on April 24. A follow-up request for an additional 2030 scenario is in progress. Ongoing
 - Westpark Tollway Study (TxDOT): Sent out the Alt-3 reversible managed lane scenario output for 2023 on April 22. A request for an additional 2045 scenario has been received and is currently being processed. Ongoing
 - Friendswood Corridor Study (HGAC): Provided additional no-build and build scenario model runs for 2040 and 2045 along Friendswood Parkway. Loaded network and turning movement outputs were sent on April 23. We are continuing to follow up on this request. Ongoing
 - BCTRA & FBCTRA T&R Studies: Supported preparation for sub-regional modeling as part of the study. On hold.
 - SH 288 Study: (county project). 2023, 2025, 2030, 2035, 2040 & 2045 model runs with demographic data developed by consultants. on-going.
 - Traffic Project for Mont Belvieu: Calibrated the TDM for the 2023 base year and provided a 2030 model run using the calibrated network with the I-10 ramp reversal scenario (between SH 99 and FM 565). Ongoing.
 - Westpark Toll Road Corridor Study: (HCTRA Project). Working on Alt 3 reversible High Occupancy Toll (HOT). Ongoing
 - Fairmont Parkway Improvements – Segment 4-Driftwood Drive to 14th Street: (Harris County project). Provided 2030 loaded network and will run build scenario when it becomes available. Ongoing.

- Regional Transportation Program & Conformity:
 - Travel Demand Modeling Network development – QA/QC current 2045 update project listing for Transportation Planning Council (TPC) approval - working with inhouse Transportation Improvement program (TIP) staff and TxDOT for listing and network consistency. Ongoing
 - Staff continue to work with TTI to develop air quality model inputs for conformity analysis. Ongoing
 - Code Travel Demand Modeling network segments according to the Project listing for upcoming Modeling runs. Ongoing
 - Staff are also involved in the development of the air quality dashboard, review of the CMAQ emission reduction calculations in the pipeline ongoing.
 - Pre-Analysis Consensus Plan (PACP): Staff have been working with the conformity team to address comments received from our external partners. Ongoing
 - Updated/Modified/Added RTP GIS files that include Roadway, TSM, Transit, Active Management with projects from the 2045 update listing. Ongoing
 - Staff continue to collaborate with TTI to develop the air quality budget for future conformity using MOVES 5. Ongoing
 - Staff has completed the scope of work for the SEE tool update and is continuing to work on its procurement to support conformity. Ongoing
 - Staff continue to provide data and modeling support for the Regional Transportation Plan 2050. Ongoing
- Finalized Hurricane Zip Zone and Evacuation Route maps for May distribution
- Performance Measure Comparisons: Analysis and evaluation of the change in pavement condition percentages. Perform analysis and prepare maps showing both Pavement and Bridge Condition ratings for 2023. Tables are produced indicating actuals and target % goals.
- The bridge condition comparison is ongoing.
- Travel Demand Modeling Updates:
 - Staff completed Airport Sub-Model development, reviewed project deliverables, and conducted sensitivity tests.
 - Staff continues to coordinate with Cambridge Systematics and team of sub-contractors in the Travel Demand Model Update and Maintenance tasks in the areas of:
 - Model validation/calibration - exploring the Travel Demand Model outputs and comparison with count data for validation/calibration purposes.
 - Model validation/calibration - incorporating weaving movement into the existing travel demand modeling to accurately account for delays at weaving locations in the network.
 - Regional household survey data - investigating the new trends in the regional survey data for model validation and calibration purposes
 - Updated and tested the model Turn Prohibited input file for the latest network.
 - Prepared external station traffic counts and shared with CS.

- Staff continues to work with consultants in the H-GAC Travel Demand Modeling development and transition to the Agent platform, review of the Agent and OpenPaths model documentation, building and testing Agent model integration in OpenPaths, and the completion of the Time of Day (TOD) development with weighted H-GAC and TxDOT counts.
- World Cup 2026 Modeling:
 - Staff continue to coordinate with the H-GAC procurement team for consultant procurement for the support of the forthcoming World Cup (FIFA) competition coming to the Houston area in 2026. Ongoing
 - Staff continues to develop the weekend travel demand model for the World Cup project. 70% completed
 - Staff has developed a sub-regional mesoscopic simulation model for the World Cup project. Completed
 - Conducted an Airport Sub-model test run for the World Cup scenario. completed
 - Discussed World Cup model development with the team and regional stakeholders.
- Staff continues to coordinate with the TxDOT TP&P and procured consultant for the:
 - Commercial Vehicle and Galveston County Special Generator survey in the H-GAC region. Ongoing
- Coordinate with H-GAC Outreach team for the development of awareness videos and messages for commercial vehicles and special generator surveys.
- Continue to work with the H-GAC Internal Audit team for the review and vetting of the H-GAC's Board selected consultant for the Major Universities Surveys.
- Staff continues to coordinate effort with interested partners on the development of the scopes of work for the forthcoming Regional Transportation Models & Tools which includes two major tasks; Advance Transportation Scenario Planning Tools and Big Data Acquisition.

Socioeconomic Data, Modeling and Applications

- Development tracking databases – RFP is posted in OpenGov in May– proposal due on 6/19.
- Staff processed 2025 Quarter1 Residential plats from the 8-County MPO region in May.
- Staff started processing 2024 County Appraisal data. 10% complete as of May
- For the Air Quality program staff is developing an interactive Esri based real-time air quality dashboard that integrates data from EPA, Purple Air, and Clarity. 10% complete as of May.
- Staff is developing Job-to-Job flows dashboard. The Job-to-Job Flow Data (J2J) from the US Census Bureau offers insights into labor mobility in the Houston MSA, helping refine regional growth forecasts by tracking worker movement across industries. 75% complete as of May.
- Staff is developing Regional Incident Management Dashboard for the Tow and Go Program. 75% complete as of May.

- Staff is developing 2025 Mobility Report Dashboard with the Federal performance measures. 90% complete as of May.
- Staff is working on the Regional Growth report comparing socioeconomic changes in the MPO region as compared to other Major Metropolitan areas across the Nation. 30% complete as of May.
- Staff is processing the recently released Census Transportation Planning Products (CTPP) data. 75% complete as of May.