

APPENDIX G
Public Involvement Process

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
Public Comment Period and Public Meetings
Transportation Conformity Determination for the 2045 RTP Update Project List Update
and Amendments to the 2025-2028 TIP

- **Public Comment Period:**
 - Wednesday, September 10, 2025, to Friday, October 10, 2025
- **Hybrid Public Meeting:**
 - Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 6:00pm.
 - Locations:
 - In Person:
Houston-Galveston Area Council - Second Floor Conference Rooms
3555 Timmons Ln.
Houston, TX 77027
 - Online:
Through Zoom

Written Comments:

- ~ Transportation Public Information, H-GAC, P.O. Box 22777, Houston, TX 77227-2777
- ~ Emailed to: transportation.conformity@h-gac.com

More information: <https://www.h-gac.com/transportation-conformity/2025>

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, H-GAC will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending H-GAC functions. Requests from persons needing special accommodations should be received by H-GAC staff 24 hours prior to a function. The public meetings will be conducted in English, and requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least two working days prior to a function. Please call 713-993-2471 for assistance.

Public Meeting Summary

The hybrid public meeting for the 2045 RTP Update Project List Update and Amendments to the 2025-2028 TIP as well as the supporting Transportation Conformity process was held on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 6:00pm. Interpreters for Spanish, Vietnamese, and American Sign Language were available during the meeting for both in-person and online attendees. There were 2 attendees. The meeting had the following format:

- Welcome by Mr. Andrew DeCandis
- 2045 RTP Update Project List Update Presentation by Mr. Stephen Keen.
- Air Quality Conformity presentation by Mr. Andrew DeCandis
- Q&A

During the presentation, Mr. Keen and Mr. DeCandis used a slide deck that included information about the following topics:

- Details about the amendments to the 2045 RTP Update
- Information about the type of projects included in the amendment, and the type not included.
- A focus on the definition of regionally significant projects.
- Summary of the Clean Air Act, its history, and its requirements.
- A history of regional air quality within the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria Ozone Nonattainment Region.

- What is Transportation Conformity? - A review of the transportation conformity process, procedures, and requirements
- The analysis years selected for this Transportation Conformity analysis:
 - 2023 attainment year for the 2015 8-hr Ozone standard
 - 2026 attainment year for the 2008 8-hr Ozone standard
 - 2030, 2040 intermediate years because according to the conformity rule, the conformity calculation cannot be more than 10-yrs. apart and
 - 2045 which is the horizon year of the transportation plan
- Conformity analysis results for each analysis year compared to required motor vehicle emission budgets
- The timeline for remaining activities of this conformity analysis
- Location of the website where conformity materials can be found and commented upon: <http://www.h-gac.com/transportation-conformity/2025>
- The meeting recording can be found here: https://youtu.be/WQN4V_OtvqE

Meeting participants asked two questions during the September 17, 2025, public meeting:

- **Question from a private citizen:** What is the nature of the emissions data presented in the conformity documentation? Where can people find air quality data for previous years.
H-GAC Response: The conformity determination and the reported data relies on modeled emissions estimates developed for future years. Measured data for past years can be retrieved from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for further review. This data can be found here: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/agency/data/aq-data.html>
- **Question from a private citizen:** was modeling done for previous years?
H-GAC Response: As part of this process, we did run numbers for 2023, which are available as part of the documentation. The model results from previous conformity determinations are available for viewing via H-GAC's transportation conformity website.

Public Comment Period Summary

In response to the public comment period, H-GAC staff received one public comment that was received from Port Houston:

Comment:

Port Houston has several projects to add to the 2050 RTP, particularly ITS and new turn lanes projects. Port Houston would like the opportunity to add these projects to the conformity model for the 2050 RTP review/approval.

H-GAC Response:

This project list update and related conformity process was conducted based on the projects approved through the Project Development Process and the Project Selection Process. As part of the upcoming 2050 RTP development process, H-GAC will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to add additional projects for review and approval at that time.