

5A. MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025, 9:30 A.M. MEETING

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Morad Kabiri, called the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Chair Kabiri gave an overview of the housekeeping rules to the Committee. The Chair then called on Ms. Allie Isbell to do the Roll Call.

A list of Committee representatives and alternates attending the meeting is included with these minutes as Attachment 1. There were 31 members in attendance; 22 are required for a quorum.

The meeting agenda and materials are available on the TAC website at:  
<http://www.h-gac.com/transportation-advisory-committee/meeting-agendas-and-minutes.aspx>.

In addition, the livestream recording is available at: <http://www.h-gac.com/transportation-advisory-committee/meeting-livestream-archive.aspx>.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no *written* public comments received, and no public comments were made from the floor.

**ITEM 4A.1 ORIENTATION TO AGENDA AND MPO DIRECTOR REPORT**

Ms. Jamila Owens, Assistant Director of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), gave a brief overview of the Orientation to Agenda and later the MPO Director's Report. She and Ms. Allie Isbell, Assistant Director of the MPO, thanked the Committee for their support, while they both facilitated the TAC Meetings in the interim of the search for the Chief Transportation Officer. The Chief Transportation Officer was scheduled to begin on June 30<sup>th</sup>. To hear the MPO Director Report in its entirety, please click on the link [here](#).

**ITEM 5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Chair, Morad Kabiri entertained a motion for Consent Agenda Item; 5A) Meeting Minutes Summary for May 14, 2025, TAC Meeting.

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Jason Smith. A second motion for approval was made by Mr. Ken Fickes. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

**ITEM 4A.2 – ORIENTATION TO AGENDA AND MPO DIRECTOR REPORT - 2050 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE**

After the approval of the TAC Meeting Minutes, the Chair called on Mr. Brandon Mosley to give the presentation on the 2050 RTP Update. To hear this update, please click on the link [here](#).

**ITEM 6. 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS**

Mr. Stephen Keen presented the 2025-2028 TIP Amendments. The 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a four-year capital improvements program for transportation projects. Under federal rules, all federally assisted projects must be included in the TIP to be eligible for funding. In addition, federal rules require that regionally significant local projects must also be included in the TIP.

The 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a long-range plan that prioritizes spending on regional transportation projects including short and long-range strategies to ensure the transportation network is safe and efficient. Updated every four years, the RTP outlines a fiscally constrained transportation investment program that is based on the unique needs and characteristics of the MPO region.

Amendments to the TIP and RTP are brought to the Transportation Policy Council for consideration monthly and amended in accordance with the H-GAC Public Participation Plan.

A summary of the proposed revisions to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program were included:

- Program the construction phase of Montgomery County's SH 99 frontage road turn lane project (MPO ID 19352) in FY 2026 in TxDOT's Statewide Safety Program with \$3.3M of federal Surface Transportation Block Grant funds and local matching funds. The project was selected in the Project Selection Process and previously programmed with \$750K of state Pass-Through Finance funds for the engineering phase.

Staff was seeking TAC recommendation for TPC approval of Resolution 2025-17.

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Jason Smith. A second motion for approval was made by Ms. Marlene Gafrick. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

#### **ITEM 7. FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)**

Dr. Neely Kim presented on the 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP is developed by the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and documents metropolitan transportation planning activities performed with federal transportation funds as well as other regionally significant projects. The UPWP documents the metropolitan planning requirements, planning priorities facing the H-GAC metropolitan area, transportation planning activities, and the related tasks to be accomplished during the two-year planning period; October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2027.

The UPWP serves as the MPO's budget and scope of work outlining activities conducted by internal staff, as well as consultant support needed for specific tasks. The UPWP is approved by the Transportation Policy Council and includes budgets for staff salaries, consultant contracts, software, computer equipment, professional development, business travel, and other related expenses to accomplish the tasks included in the UPWP.

The 2026-2027 UPWP was drafted by H-GAC MPO staff for submission to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for review and approval. The public comment period for this document was from May 15, 2025, to June 15, 2025. Two Virtual Public Meetings were held on May 15th at 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. During the public comment period, no comments were received.

Ms. Kim presented the task highlights and task associated transportation planning fund budgets that are new or those that were not completed in the 2025 UPWP and are to be continued into the FY 2026-2027. Staff was seeking TAC recommendation for TPC approval of Resolution No. UPWP 2026/27-00.

The 2026-2027 UPWP is available at <https://www.h-gac.com/unified-planning-work-program>.

After this presentation, the Chair opened the floor for questions. The Committee had a robust discussion on this item and Staff provided feedback with recommendations of possibly creating an activity report for the Committee and to discuss this with the new incoming Chief Transportation Officer. To hear this discussion in its entirety, please click on the link below.

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Jason Smith. A second motion for approval was made by Ms. Catherine McCreight. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

### **ITEM 8. HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CAMPAIGN**

Ms. Francis Rodriguez presented on the Hurricane Preparedness Campaign. The Houston-Galveston Area Council, in collaboration with our state and local partners, has been working together in preparation for Hurricane Season June 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025. The Hurricane Preparedness Campaign is an outreach campaign designed to increase awareness about hurricane evacuation planning, especially for those most at risk due to the threat of storm surges.

The campaign consists of several strategies structured to reach a wide audience and will include radio ads, digital ads, and social media content in both English and Spanish languages. Advertisements will direct individuals to H-GAC's hurricane evacuation information on the H-GAC website, where users can find evacuation maps, and guides for seniors and special populations. To hear further details on this presentation, please click below.

This item was for information only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

### **ITEM 9. COMMUTE SOLUTIONS MONTH**

Ms. Robyn Egbert provided a presentation on Commute Solutions Month. Commute Solutions is the region's travel demand management program that provides marketing, education, and outreach about transportation options in the region that can help reduce congestion and improve air quality. The Commute Solutions program is administered by the Metropolitan Planning Organization in partnership with the Houston-Galveston Area Council, Texas Department of Transportation, regional transportation agencies, area employers, higher education, local and county governments, and other community organizations.

September is the anniversary month of the Commute Solutions program. Last year, in honor of the program's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Federal Highway Administration and the Texas Department of Transportation gave the Commute Solutions program the "green light" to pilot an Ozone Action Campaign. The Campaign provided marketing to encourage people to make choices that can reduce ground level ozone during the peak ozone season.

Historically, September has been one of the worst months for air quality in our region. During the pilot in September 2024, transit ridership at participating agencies increased, and continued into the following months, helping to reduce congestion and lower pollution during this critical time. To hear more about this presentation, please click on the link below.

This item was for information only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

### **10. TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE SET ASIDE PROGRAM (TASA) UPDATE**

Mr. Brian D Smith, II, presented on the Transportation Alternative Set Aside Program (TASA). H-GAC conducts a Project Selection Process for selecting transportation projects to be programmed into the Transportation Improvement Program, the 10-Year-Plan, and the Regional Transportation Plan. This process identifies eight investment categories that translate H-GAC's goals, priorities, and requirements into discrete groupings. Project sponsors can select one or more categories for potential projects to be considered for selection.

H-GAC's upcoming Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Call for Projects will adhere to the project selection process framework. Active Transportation (AT) is one of eight investment categories identified in H-GAC's Transportation Project Selection Process. AT Investment Category Criteria are drafted through coordination between H-GAC staff and members of the Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee. Upon approval by the Transportation Policy Council, the AT Investment Category criteria will be used to evaluate potential projects for

the upcoming TASA call. On May 29, 2025, the Pedestrian-Bicyclist subcommittee held a workshop to refine AT investment category criteria drafted by H-GAC staff. Refined criteria were approved by the subcommittee and are now presented to the Transportation Improvement Program Subcommittee, Transportation Advisory Committee and Transportation Policy Council for review and approval. Concurrently, H-GAC staff is developing the TASA Call for Projects program guidelines and application materials. To hear this presentation, please click on the link below.

This item was for information only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website [here](#).

### **11. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS) UPDATE**

Mr. Brian D. Smith, II, gave an update on the Safe Routes to School (SRTS). Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a national and international movement to increase physical activity, improve health, reduce traffic congestion, and address air quality by getting more students walking and rolling to school and in daily life. SRTS follows a “Six E’s” framework—education, engineering, evaluation, encouragement, engagement, and equity—to create projects and programs to expand mobility options for children and parents.

Creating a regional SRTS program is identified in the goals of H-GAC’s current 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), as well as in the draft 2026-2027 UPWP. H-GAC’s SRTS program will accomplish three (3) objectives:

1. Conduct a literature review and best practices study of SRTS, including recommendations for the MPO’s role in moving SRTS forward in the region.
2. Provide planning support for implementation of SRTS best practices in the region.
3. Provide technical support for regional, local area, corridor, and site specific SRTS plans.

H-GAC’s SRTS program will leverage funding and policy opportunities to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety, expand mobility options, encourage alternative transportation use, and promote public health in the catchment areas of schools across the region. To hear further details on this presentation, please click on the link below.

This item was for information only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website [here](#).

### **12. FY2026-2028 DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) TRIENNIAL GOAL**

Dr. Neely Kim presented on the FY2026-2028 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal. The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Transportation Department receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) through the Federal Highway Authority (FHWA), the Federal Transit Authority (FTA), and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Recipients of these federal funds are required to set an overall triennial goal for participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in their DOT-assisted contracts in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26: “Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) in Department of Transportation Programs.” The triennial goal is established to ensure that DBE firms have reasonable opportunity to participate in DOT-assisted contracts.

The Houston-Galveston Area Council Transportation Department has determined that the current DBE goal of 26% should be adopted for the 2026-2028 fiscal years. This is based on various data collected on DBEs in the H-GAC region. As part of the DBE triennial goal process, the Transportation DBE program held a DBE workshop and public meetings for feedback. A 30-day public comment period was conducted from June 17, 2025, and ended July 17, 2025. All comments were taken into consideration for the final completion of the DBE triennial goal and report.

This item was for information only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website [here](#).

### **ITEM 13. PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

A. Future 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

Mr. Stephen Keen provided a brief update on 2025-2028 TIP Future Amendments to the Committee. To hear this update, please click on the link below.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website [here](#).

B. Administrative 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments

Mr. Stephen Keen provided a brief update on 2025-2028 TIP Administrative Amendments to the Committee. To hear this update, please click on the link below.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website [here](#).

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Transportation Policy Council (TPC) Meeting	June 27	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Subcommittee Meeting	July 2	1:30 p.m.	Virtual
Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Subcommittee Meeting	July 9	1:30 p.m.	Virtual
Regional Transit Coordination (RTC) Subcommittee Meeting	July 10	9:30 a.m.	Virtual
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting	July 16	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office
Clean Cities Stakeholder Meeting	July 16	12:00 p.m.	Virtual
Pedestrian Bicyclist (Ped-Bike) Subcommittee Meeting	July 17	9:30 a.m.	Virtual
Greater Houston Freight Committee Meeting	July 17	1:30 p.m.	Virtual
Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee (RAQPAC) Meeting	July 31	10:00 a.m.	Virtual

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Morad Kabiri adjourned the meeting of the TAC at 11:10 a.m.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website [here](#).

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First Vice Chair  
Transportation Advisory Committee

## Attachment 1

### TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDANCE JUNE 18, 2025, AT 9:30 A.M.

NOTES:

1. Attendance is marked with "X" in the corresponding column for the Primary Member and/or Alternate Member.
2. Where both the Primary Member and Alternate Member is marked with an asterisk (\*) after the "X" to indicate that this person does not count toward quorum or votes for this meeting.

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Present</u>
<i>Chair</i>				
Morad Kabiri, P.E.	X	Smaller Cities	Jildardo Arias	
<i>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair</i>				
Perri D'Armond	X	Transit	Pamela Lebrane	
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair</i>				
Brian Alcott	X	Toll Roads	Amar Mohite	
Brenda Bustillos, Ph.D., P.E.		Active Transportation	Lisa Graiff	X
Yuhayna Mahmud		Active Transportation	Luis Guajardo, AICP	X
James Brown		Airports	Bill Zrioka	
Amy Skicki	X	Business Interests	Scott Harper	
Marlisa Briggs	X	Business Interests	Kris Larson, LPM, AICP	
Irma Sanchez		Citizen Interests	Dexter Handy	
Alan Steinberg, Ph.D.	X	Citizen Interests	Sherry Weesner, P.E., CPM	X*
Andrea French		Environmental	Sue Theiss	X
Scott Nichols	X	Environmental	Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, M.D.	
Clint Harbert, AICP		METRO	Alan Clark	
Lisa Collins, P.E.		TxDOT – Beaumont Dist.	Nancy Peron, P.E., PMP	
Grady Mapes, P.E.		TxDOT – Houston Dist.	Catherine McCreight	X
Catherine McCreight		Planning	Jeffrey English, AICP	X
David Wurdlow	X	Planning	(Vacant)	
Marlene Gafrick	X	Planning	Christina Cabral	X*
Rohit Saxena		Port of Houston	Candice Armenoff	X
Dean Corgey		Ports	Rob Lowe	
Hon. Dan Davis	X	Regional Planning	Hon. Lori Klein Quinn	X*
Andy Rodgers	X	Smaller Cities	Brian Winningham	
Kathie Reyer		Smaller Cities	Byron Hebert	
Robert Castaneda		Toll Roads	David Gornet	
Ruthanne Haut	X	Transit	Todd Stephens	
Ken Fickes, CCTM	X	Transit	Vernon Chambers	X*
Wael Tabara, P.E.	X	Brazoria County	Karen McKinnon, P.E.	
Zachery Vogler	X	Chambers County	Cory Taylor, P.E.	

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Present</u>
Stacy Slawinski, P.E.	X	Fort Bend County	Rick J. Staigle, P.E.	
Michael Shannon, P.E.	X	Galveston County	Nancy Baher	
Patrick Mandapaka, Ph.D., AICP	X	Harris County	Kristian Heighway	
Hon. Jay Knight	X	Liberty County	Hon. Greg Arthur	
Jason Smith	X	Montgomery County	Thomas Woolley	
Ross McCall, P.E.		Waller County	Luke Fortkamp, P.E.	
Brant Gary	X	City of Baytown	Martin Scribner	
Greg Hall, Jr.	X	City of Conroe	Chuck Purvis	
Robert Winiecke, P.E., CFM	X	City of Galveston	Brandon Cook	
Fabio Capillo		City of Houston	Johana Clark, P.E., PTOE, ENV SP	X
Christopher Sims		City of League City	Cara Davis	
(Vacant)		City of Missouri City	Joi Johnson	X
Sarah Benavides, P.E.		City of Pasadena	Mark Gardemal, P.E.	
Lorenzo Wingate		City of Pearland	Fabiola de Carvalho, CFM, AMP, MIAM	
Melanie Beaman	X	City of Sugarland	(Vacant)	
Kim Golden, P.E.		City of Texas City	Jack Haralson, P.E.	
	44	Total Voting Membership		
	31	Total Voting Membership Present		
	22	Required Quorum		