

13. 2050 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

BACKGROUND

The 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a long-range strategic plan that guides transportation policies, programs, and investment decisions across the region for the next 20 years and beyond. As a core document of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the RTP directs federal, state, and local funding toward transportation improvements that advance the region's adopted vision. Federal statute requires the RTP to be updated every four (4) years. The current RTP was adopted in 2024 and will expire on November 1, 2027.

The development of the 2050 RTP includes a comprehensive planning process designed to meet federal requirements. Key elements of this process include public engagement; adoption of a regional vision, goals, objectives, and performance measures; analysis of existing and projected future conditions; a Call for Projects; development of a fiscally constrained project list; and completion of an air quality conformity analysis.

CURRENT SITUATION

Federal regulations require that all regionally significant transportation projects be included in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) project list, regardless of the funding source. Projects that shall seek future federal funding are added to this list through the "Call for Projects" process. In collaboration with the Regional Transportation Planning Subcommittee (RTPSC), the project team is conducting the Call for Projects for the 2050 RTP.

Applications will be submitted through an online submission portal (<https://datalab.h-gac.com/call/>). The Call for Projects application period will remain open for eight weeks concluding in July. The application is structured to allow applicants to complete the form using readily available data and provides narrative spaces for additional information that will be used to prioritize projects and/or slot projects appropriately through the RTP horizon year.

Staff will be hosting the second session for Virtual Office Hours on July 8, 2026 from 2pm to 4pm to address questions regarding types of projects to be submitted, how to handle projects included in the current RTP, and how to use the online submission portal.

The initial phase of the 2050 RTP development process included data collection and public outreach covering existing conditions and developing the vision, goals, and objectives for the RTP. The next steps of the development of the RTP include evaluating submitted projects, reviewing projects that may carryover from the existing RTP, and seeking feedback from the public. H-GAC staff will conduct the final round of hybrid (in-person and virtual) open house style public meetings starting on July 7, 2026, in Waller County. A flyer with the public meeting dates and locations is attached.

ACTION REQUESTED

Information Only.