

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AUGUST AS  
COMMUTE SOLUTIONS MONTH**

**Background**

Commute Solutions is a partnership of the Houston-Galveston Area Council, Texas Department of Transportation, Brazos Transit District, City of Galveston Island Transit, Colorado Valley Transit District, Conroe Connection, Fort Bend County Transit, The Gulf Coast Center – Connect Transit, Harris County Transit, Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, The Woodlands Township, and the region’s Transportation Management Organizations. Commute Solutions supports carpooling, vanpooling, regional mass transit, teleworking and other transportation-related options and services.

The Commute Solutions program provides a “one-stop” alternative transportation resource in the Houston-Galveston area for both commuters and businesses. The overall goal is to reduce peak period commuter trips and vehicle miles traveled (VMT), improve traffic mobility, and improve regional air quality by reducing ozone-forming vehicle emissions. One example of these efforts is the Regional Vanpool Program, now known as METRO STAR. METRO currently has 548 vans and 5,468 daily van riders with reductions of over 4.1 million VMT per month. In 2018, the METRO STAR Vanpool program reduced NOx emissions by 9 tons, and reduced vehicle miles traveled by over 53 million.

Commute Solutions services, including the METRO STAR Vanpool Program, are available to persons who live or work in the eight-county metropolitan region.

**Current Situation**

In celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Commute Solutions Program, the Commute Solutions partners in the eight-county Transportation Management Area recognizes August 2019 as Commute Solutions Month. H-GAC, along with some of the region’s transit service providers, will host several public outreach events at park and ride facilities to show our appreciation to commuters for their current participation in carpooling and vanpooling and riding the bus or rail. Many of these events will include interviews with commuters as they board the buses and vanpools at the park and ride and transit centers. Also, H-GAC and its Commute Solutions partners will collaborate with several property managers and employers in downtown Houston, the Texas Medical Center, Greenway Plaza and the City of Conroe to co-sponsor transportation fairs to encourage employees and other commuters to try commute alternatives services with increased public awareness, incentives and promotions. These media interviews and public outreach events will educate commuters, employees and the general public about commuting options and encourage them to consider using commute alternatives on an ongoing basis.

**Action Requested**

Request TPC approval of resolution No. 2019-21 recognizing August as Commute Solutions Month.



# Resolution

NO. 2019-21

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE REGIONAL COMMUTE SOLUTIONS PROGRAM AND RECOGNIZING AUGUST 2019 AS COMMUTE SOLUTIONS MONTH.**

WHEREAS, the goal of the Commute Solutions Program is to reduce traffic congestion and improve regional air quality by encouraging transportation options that reduce vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled; and

WHEREAS, the Commute Solutions Program will provide commuters with information about carpooling, vanpooling, regional mass transit, teleworking and other transportation alternatives; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council supports the goals of the Commute Solutions Program and H-GAC's involvement in partnership with other area agencies to promote transportation alternatives; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Transportation Policy Council of the Houston-Galveston Area Council that:

1. The Transportation Policy Council hereby recognizes August 2019 as Commute Solutions Month and expresses its support for the Commute Solutions Program during its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.
2. This resolution is effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 26th day of July 2019, at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Transportation Policy Council.

APPROVED:

Hon. Kenneth Clark, Chairman  
Transportation Policy Council

ATTEST:

Hon. Tom Reid, Secretary  
Transportation Policy Council