



Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Thursday, April 17, 2025, 9:30 AM

The Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee advises the Transportation Advisory Committee in the consideration of pedestrian/bicycle travel, facility design, safety, and education within the regional transportation planning process.

AGENDA

I. Introductions and Certification of Quorum

II. Public Comments

ACTION

III. Approval of Meeting Summaries

Lisa Graiff (Houston Parks Board) will lead the subcommittee through the approval process of the January 16, 2025, subcommittee meeting summary.

IV. Election of Officers

Lisa Graiff (Houston Parks Board) will lead the subcommittee through the nomination process and officer elections.

INFORMATION

V. Safety Briefing – Open Discussion

Brian D. Smith, II (H-GAC) will lead a safety discussion on timely and relevant topics affecting active transportation in the region.

VI. Orientation for New Members

Susan Jaworski (H-GAC) will provide an orientation for new subcommittee members.

VII. Ped/Bike Subcommittee Work Groups Update

Brian D. Smith, II (H-GAC) will provide an introduction and status update of the subcommittee work groups.

VIII. TASA Investment Category Focused Criteria

Brian D. Smith, II (H-GAC) will present the draft Investment Category Focused Criteria for the upcoming Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Call for Projects.

IX. Safe Routes to School

Brian D. Smith, II (H-GAC) will present the draft concept for H-GAC's Safe Routes to School program launch.

X. Planned Ped/Bike Activities in the Region

Lisa Graiff (Houston Parks Board) will lead a discussion to identify completed, ongoing, or upcoming activities by



Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Thursday, April 17, 2025, 9:30 AM

service area partners. Please bring your list of accomplishments, issues, and best practices.

XI. Upcoming Ped/Bike Subcommittee Meeting Dates:

- 7/17, Quarterly Subcommittee Meeting (9:30-11:00a)

XII. Adjourn

PEDESTRIAN-BICYCLIST SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
3555 TIMMONS LANE, 2ND FLOOR VIRTUAL MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025, 9:30 AM

1. Introductions and Certification of Quorum

Quorum was met after the introductions. Lucinda Martinez (H-GAC) led the roll call. It was documented that 16 members were in attendance and quorum was certified.

Representing		Primary Name		Alternate Name
Active Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Martin	<input type="checkbox"/>	Katya Morzhueva
Citizen Advocates	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dexter Handy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Donna Kacmar
Citizen Advocates	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joe Cutrufo	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vacant
Citizen Advocates	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Patricia Kievlan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jennifer Hadayia
Local Governments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Danielle Fain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brian Jackson-Taylor
Local Governments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John McGowan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Nunes
Local Governments	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Shelley Sekula-Gibbs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carry Capers
Local Governments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Melanie Beaman	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sagnik "Kik" Raha
Local Governments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brian D. Smith	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vacant
Local Governments	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vacant
Local Governments	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tyson Arnold	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Winiecke
Local Governments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jessica Cohen	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Carter
Management Districts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jack Hanagriff	<input type="checkbox"/>	Josh Hawes
Management Districts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anibeth Turcios	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rebecca Reyna
Management Districts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Louis Jullien	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lupita Talley
Management Districts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Natali Hurtado	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eileen Egan
Management Districts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sherry Weesner	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michael D. Jackson
Non-Profit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lisa Graiff	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ricky Cardenas
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carolina Lopez-Herrera	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rawetts Baaheth
State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Madeleine Hirsch, P.E.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stephen Gage, AICP
Transit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Thien Cao	<input type="checkbox"/>	Robert Anders
Transit	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yuhayna Mahmud	<input type="checkbox"/>	Aubin Phillips

2. Public Comments

No written public comments were received prior to the meeting, and no one in attendance expressed interest in making a verbal comment.

ACTION

3. Approval of Meeting Summaries

Approval of meeting summary for October 17, 2024 meeting: Lisa Graiff (HPB) led the subcommittee through the approval process.

Corrections:

- Eileen Egan (Near Northwest MD) was in attendance and will be added to the official roll call.

MOTION: Kievlan

SECOND: Winiecke

VOTE: Unanimous

INFORMATION

4. Safety Briefing – Open Discussion

Dexter Handy (Greater Houston Coalition for Complete Streets, Citizens' Transportation Coalition) led the safety briefing discussion with a history of the Lisa Torry Smith Act. The Lisa Torry Smith act, passed in 2021, makes it a criminal offense for drivers to hit pedestrians and bicyclists in the crosswalk. He shared recent statistics on pedestrians and bicyclists killed on Houston streets, recommendations for educating the public to spread awareness of the Act, and pedestrian infrastructure recommendations for planners and engineers on the subcommittee.

5. Biketober 2024 Recap & Mapping Tool Demo

Emanuel Andrews (H-GAC) and Laura Cisneros (Love to Ride) presented ridership information and demographic data from Bike The Gulf's Biketober campaign. The region saw increases in miles and trips, and decreases in registered riders, showing riders were taking longer trips. This year was also the first year there were more transportation trips than non-transportation trips.

Will Caiger (Love to Ride) gave a demonstration of Love to Ride's mapping tool, which produces data on rider comfort and infrastructure issues by incorporating rider feedback on trips. Data is available to users via a heat-map, and more specific data can be made available to local governments and agencies.

6. Local Active Transportation Plans Update

Qun Zhao (H-GAC) presented updates for three local active transportation plans:

The City of Friendswood Trails Master Plan Study is a 12-month study to identify where multimodal trails are most needed within the city limits, provide policy and guidance to develop a community-wide trail network, enhance recreational opportunities, and provide an alternative transportation system. A consultant was selected for the study, and they are finalizing the scope of work with H-GAC. The study is expected to start in February 2025. The City of Friendswood is the local sponsor.

The Buffalo Bayou East Design Concept Study is a 12-month study focusing on improving bike and ped safety and near the bayou, improving community connectivity to the bayou, and developing an active transit-oriented plan centered on the Fifth Ward/Denver Harbor Transit Center. The study kicked off in October 2024. The first steering committee meeting is scheduled for January 29; the first stakeholder group meeting and first round of public engagement are both scheduled for February 2025. The final report will be published October 2025. Buffalo Bayou Partnership is the local sponsor.

The Memorial Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Study is a 12-month study to establish recommendations for improved multimodal infrastructure in the Energy Corridor District, focused on two primary corridors: Memorial Drive (SH 6 to N Eldridge Pkwy) and Grisby Rd (SH 6 to Westlake Park Blvd). The first steering committee meeting and first public meeting are both scheduled for February 2025. Energy Corridor District is the local sponsor.

7. Harris County Precinct 4 Activities Update

Jessica Cohen (Harris County) presented updates on Harris County Precinct 4's active transportation projects. Since taking office two years ago, Commissioner Briones' priorities have been sidewalks, community centers, and parks/trails.

Commissioner Briones spent \$21M last year on her sidewalks program, reducing or eliminating sidewalk gaps in 35 locations, with an average turnaround of 8-weeks from gap identification to construction completion.

Precinct 4's Places for People Call for Projects is held every June and allows for local partnerships for shovel ready projects. 2023's call led to \$83M in partnership contributions and \$88M invested by Harris County Precinct 4. 2024's call led to \$31.1M in partnership contributions and \$17.7M invested by Precinct 4.

Precinct 4 is in a partnership with HCTRA for HCTRA's Tollways to Trailways program. Program goals within Precinct 4's boundaries are to reconnect communities across the Westpark Tollway and to create a school district area near Cook Rd, working with ISDs to better connect residential communities to the seven schools in their area.

More information on PCT 4's infrastructure projects can be found on their website:

<https://cp4.harriscountytexas.gov/Infrastructure/Project-Tracker>

8. Planned Ped/Bike Activities in the Region

TIRZ 5 is opening construction bids for Phase II Shephard/Durham (15th St to IH-10). Construction should start near the end of the quarter.

Bike the Woodlands Coalition is holding quarterly bike recycling drives and working with Recycled Cycles of Texas to repair bikes to distribute them to people in need. Last week 415 bicycles were collected. Bike the Woodlands is connecting to local organizations like Bike for Refugees, Compassion United, and local school staffs for assistance in distribution.

Opening construction bids for phase II Shephard/Durham (TIRZ5); 15th to IH-10, construction should start near the end of the quarter.

H-GAC has two studies coming up where Ped/Bike Subcommittee engagement is critical: this summer the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan and Regional Active Transportation Plan engagement is launching.

Houston Parks Board is opening trail segments in Sharpstown and Spring Branch this year. They're also working on multiple studies to incorporate community in the design process. The PCT 4 Alief Trail and Spring Branch Trail are two projects with such studies.

TIRZ 5's Transportation Alternatives grant study is kicking off in March/April. The study will explore transportation alternatives in and around the TIRZ boundaries and the Spring Street Trail.

Greater Northside Management District has a Design Concept Review (DCR) on Jensen Dr (I-69 to Kelly). The study will look at planning and infrastructure improvements for the corridor. There's an upcoming stakeholder meeting January 27, and a public meeting 2/12. The Quitman Street project started construction late last year.

TxDOT opened its Transportation Alternatives set-aside program call for projects January 3. Preliminary applications are due February 21.

9. Upcoming Ped/Bike Subcommittee Meeting Dates

Next Quarterly Ped/Bike Subcommittee Meeting: Thursday, April 17, 2025, 9:30 a.m.

10.

Adjourn:



Pedestrian and Bicycle Subcommittee

April 17th, 2025



Agenda

- I. Introductions and Roll Call / Quorum
- II. Public Comments

Action Items

- III. Approval of meeting summaries
- IV. Election of officers

Information Items

- V. Safety Briefing
- VI. New Member Orientation
- VII. Work Groups Update
- VIII. TASA Investment Category Focused Criteria
- IX. Safe Routes to School
- X. Planned Ped/Bike Activities in the Region
- XI. Upcoming Ped/Bike Subcommittee Meeting Dates
- XII. Adjourn

I: Introductions and Certification of Quorum

Representing	Primary	Organization	Alternate	Organization
Active Transportation	John Martin	Bike the Woodlands Coalition	Danny Wyatt	Harris County Pct. 2
Citizen Advocates	Joe Cutrufo	Bike Houston	Bryan Dotson	Citizen
Citizen Advocates	Dexter Handy	Citizens' Transportation Coalition	Kevin Strickland	Walk & Roll Houston
Citizen Advocates	Patricia Kievlan	Bike the Woodlands Coalition	Daryl Catching	Pearland Bicycles
Local Governments	Itay Porat	City of Houston	Robert Williamson	City of Houston
Local Governments	John McGowan	The Woodlands Township	Chris Nunes	The Woodlands Township
Local Governments	Carry Capers	City of Pearland	Kevin Carter	City of Pearland
Local Governments	Melanie Beaman	City of Sugar Land	Sagnik Raha	City of Sugar Land
Local Governments	Tyson Arnold	City of Galveston	Robert Winiecke	City of Galveston
Local Governments	David Fields	Harris County Pct. 1	Scott Barker	Harris County Engineering
Local Governments	Danielle Fain	City of Missouri City	Jorge Bustamante	Harris County Pct. 2
Local Governments	John Serrano	Harris County Pct. 4	Fatima Wajahat	Harris County Pct. 4
Management Districts	Jack Hanagriff	East End District	Nikki Knight	Greater SE Management District
Management Districts	Irma Sanchez	Westchase Management District	Anibeth Turcios	Greater Northside District
Management Districts	Natali Hurtado	International Management District	Eileen Egan	Near Northwest Management District
Management Districts	Sherry Weesner	Memorial Heights TIRZ 5	Michael D. Jackson	Energy Corridor Management District
Non-Profit	Lisa Graiff	Houston Parks Board	Peter Eccles	LINK Houston
Non-Profit	Andrea French	Scenic Houston	Christina Cabral	Transportation Advisory Group (TAG)
Planning	Madeleine Hirsch	TxDOT- HOU	Dr. Brenda Bustillos	TxDOT-HOU
State	Carolina Lopez-Herrera	TxDOT- BMT	Samantha Harris	TxDOT-BMT
Transit	Yuhayna Mahmud	METRO	Muxian Fang	METRO
Transit	Thien Cao	Harris County Transit	Robert Anders	Harris County Transit

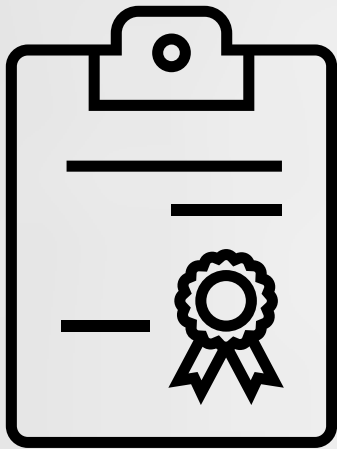
II. Public Comments

- List of Written or Verbal Comments Received Prior to Meeting
- Open to Public Comment



III. Approval of Meeting Summaries

- January 16, 2025 Ped/Bike Subcommittee Meeting Summary



IV. Nomination and Election of Officers

Nominations for Chair:

- *Open*

Nominations for Vice Chair:

- *Open*

Roles and Responsibilities:

- *Lead subcommittee meetings (Vice Chair leads in Chair's absence)*
- *Pre-meeting planning with staff*
- *One-year term, no more than two consecutive years in a single position*



V. Safety Briefing



Brian D. Smith, II (H-GAC)
Pedestrian Bicycle Subcommittee
April 17, 2025

Safety Briefing: *Beyond Blame* (Strong Towns Report)



Strong Towns developed an approach for discovering the causes of crashes beyond individual blame.

- **Crash Analysis Studio** model brings together experts and community members to analyze deadly crashes to find systemic causes.
- Studios have been held in 22 cities so far (including Amarillo and San Antonio).
- Report found **5 universal contributing factors** and gave **6 recommendations** for local leaders.

Safety Briefing: *Beyond Blame* (Strong Towns Report)



Contributing Factors:

- High-speed road design in urban areas
- Inadequate design for walkers and bicyclists
- Dangerous intersection design
- Visibility and lighting issues
- Deviation from designer intent

Recommendations:

- Make safety a core organizational responsibility
- Establish a Crash Response Team
- Establish a Crash Analysis Studio
- Use temporary traffic control devices to respond quickly
- Update local street standards to prioritize safety
- Conduct bike and walk audits for all projects

<https://www.strongtowns.org/crashmodel>



VI. Ped/Bike Subcommittee Orientation

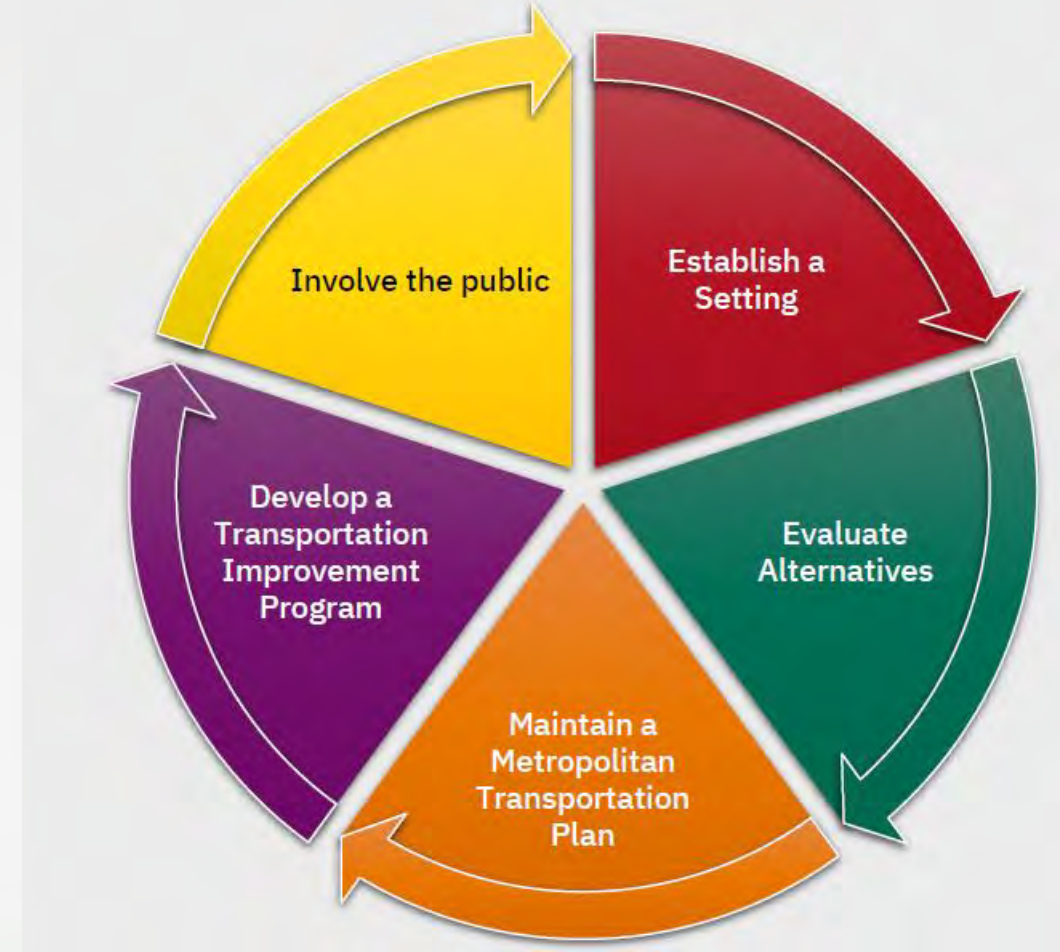


Susan Jaworski (H-GAC)
Pedestrian Bicycle Subcommittee
April 17, 2025

What is an MPO?



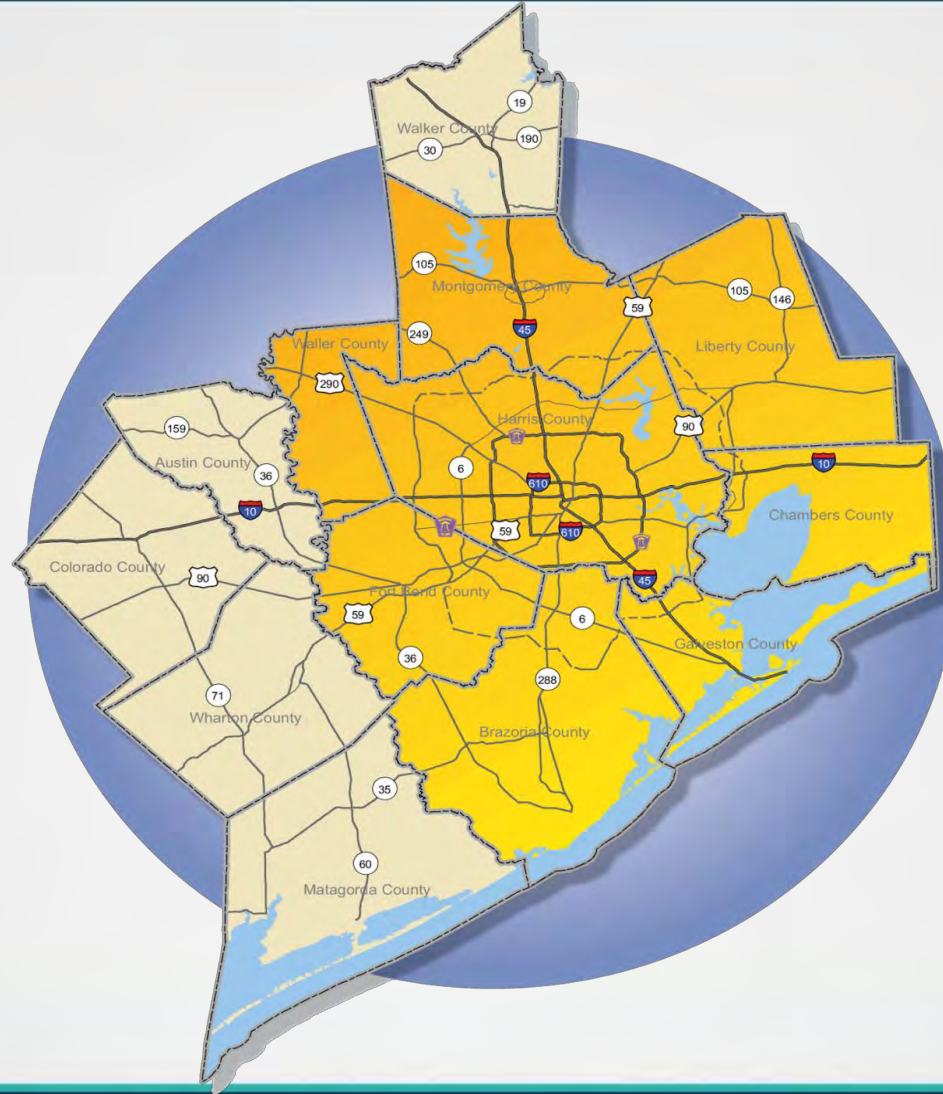
- **What is a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)?**
- The **policy board** of an agency created and designated to carry out the metropolitan transportation planning process for urbanized areas with populations greater than 50,000 and designated by local officials and the Governor of the State.



Metropolitan Planning Area

MPO Counties

- Brazoria
- Fort Bend
- Waller
- Montgomery
- Liberty
- Chambers
- Galveston
- Harris

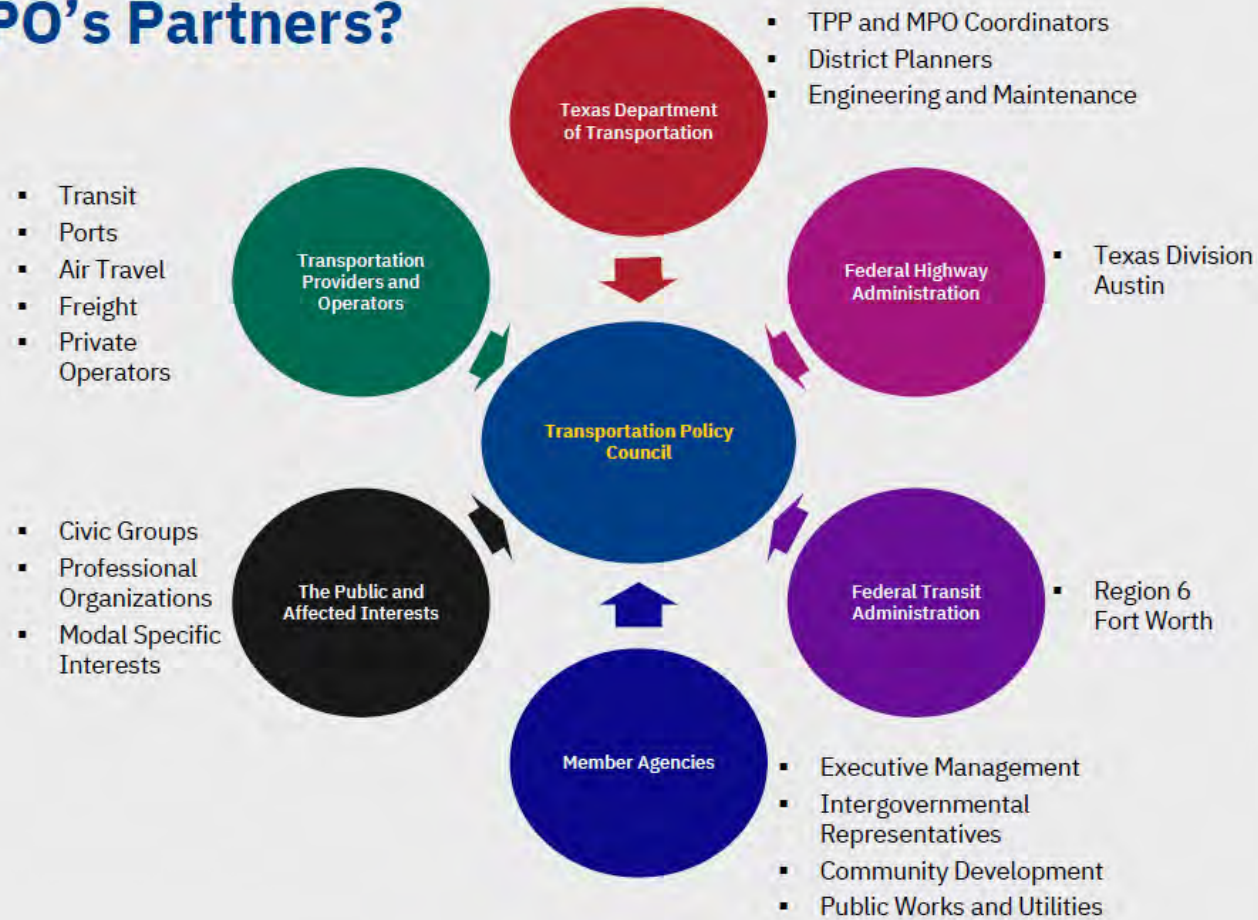


Additional COG Counties

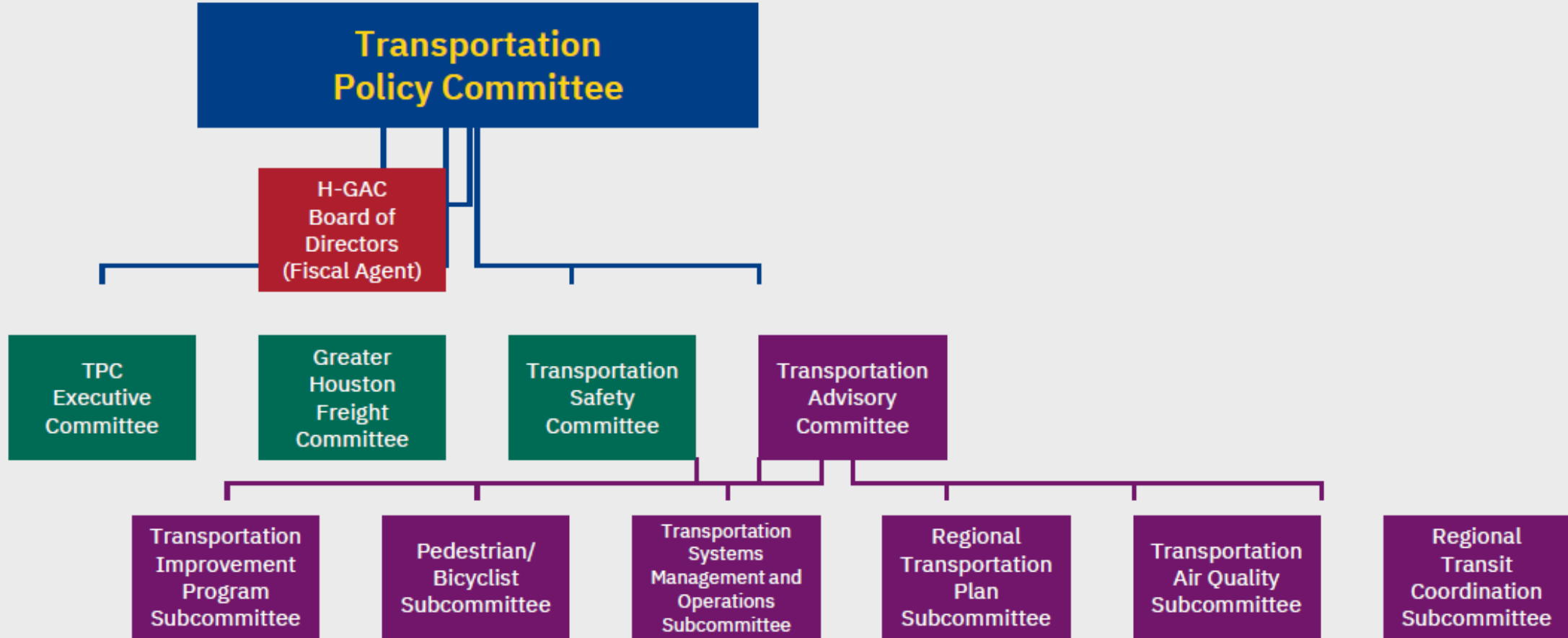
- Austin
- Colorado
- Matagorda
- Walker
- Wharton

Who are MPO partners?

Who are an MPO's Partners?



MPO Advisory Committee Structure



H-GAC Committee Structure. Provided by Staff February 2025.

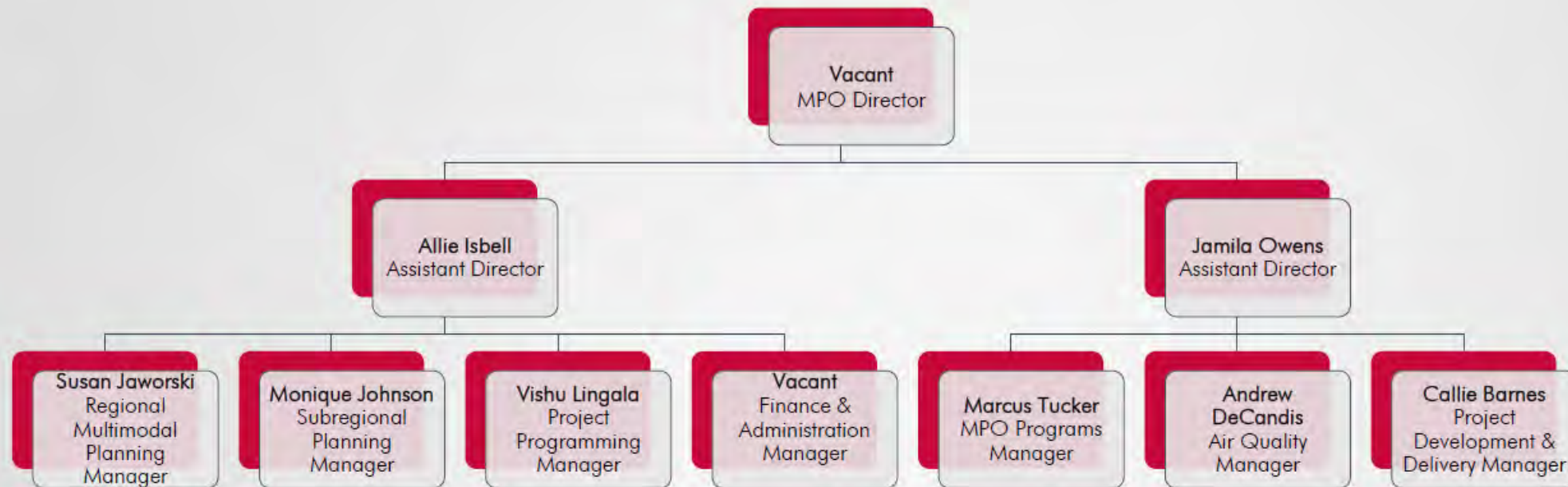
Role of MPO Staff

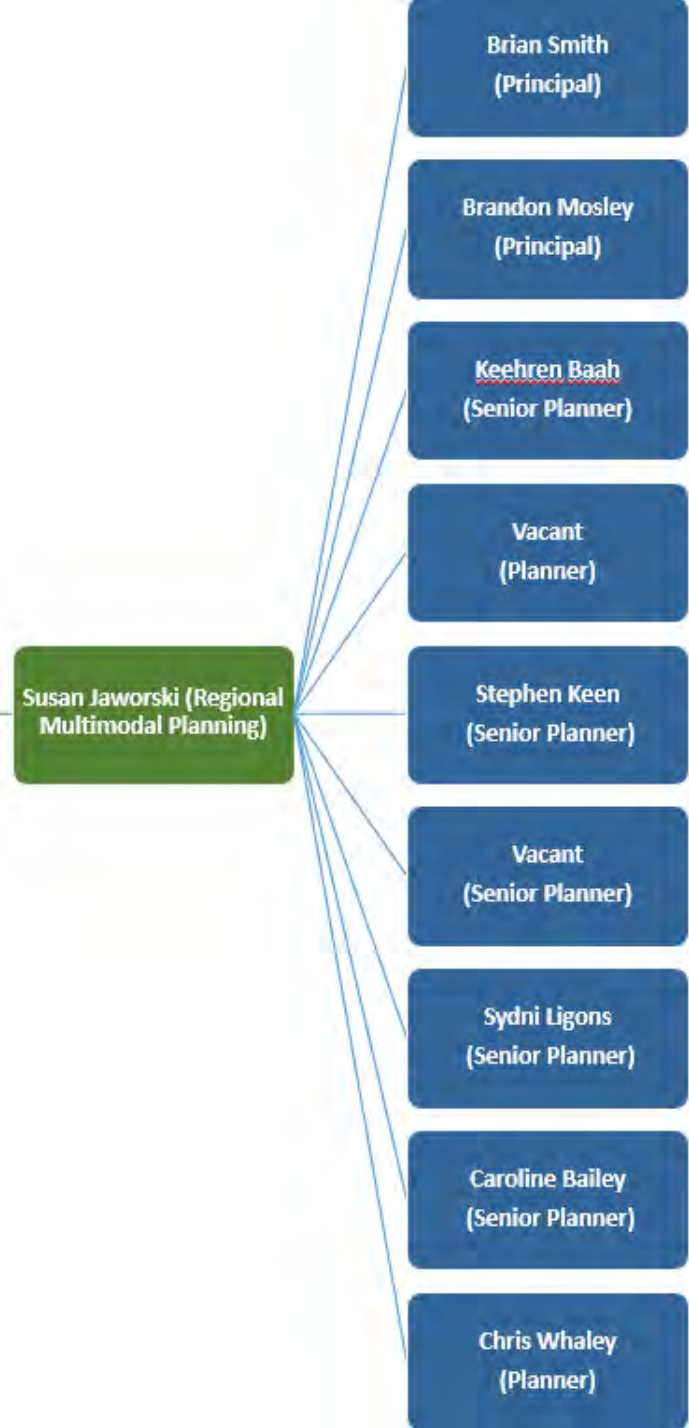
- Support TPC and TPC committees
 - Agenda and meeting logistics
 - Communication of TPC actions
 - Minutes and other records
- Prepare Transportation Plans
- Execute Air Quality Programs
- Provide Information & Technical Analyses
- Facilitate Public Participation



Who are the MPO staff?

- Generally, manage day-to-day functions.
- Consists of an MPO director and staff.
- Prepare technical assessments and evaluations provided to the board and committees as appropriate.





Who are the Ped/Bike related MPO staff?

- Brian Smith II, Principal Planner
 - Email: Brian.Smith@h-gac.com
 - Phone: 832-681-2670
- Chris Whaley, Planner
 - Email: Christopher.Whaley@h-gac.com
 - Phone: 713-993-2439
- Susan Jaworski, Regional Multimodal Planning Manager
 - Email: Susan.Jaworski@h-gac.com
 - Phone: 832-681-2675

Role of Pedestrian/Bicyclist Subcommittee Members

- Advises TAC on Policy Issues Related to Safety
- Advises TAC on Transportation Plans and Project Priorities
 - Consideration of pedestrian/bicycle travel, facility design, safety, and education within the regional transportation planning process
 - Reviews and recommends updates to the Regional Active Transportation Plan
 - Reviews proposals and assists in the selection of Local Active Transportation studies
 - Other region wide active transportation related projects, plans, and programs
- Bylaws help provide direction

PEDESTRIAN-BICYCLIST SUBCOMMITTEE

Purpose

The Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee's purpose is to accomplishing the following tasks: review and approve the Active Transportation Plan, guide and review the FHWA Connectivity Measures Pilot, guide the Regional Safety Campaign, guide reinvigation of counter program, guide the creation of and review the ATP Toolbox, and develop naming conventions for sidewalk layer.

Meeting Schedule

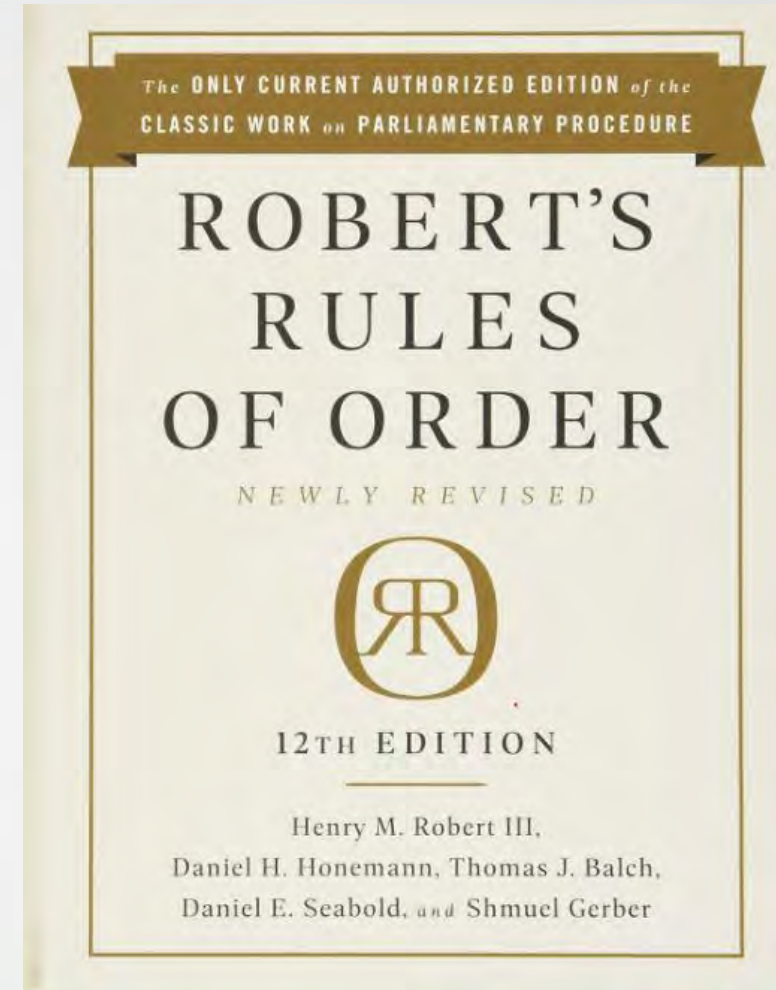
Meetings are held quarterly, or more frequently as needed.

Membership

Committee members are stakeholders involved with pedestrian and bicyclist issues. This shall include advocacy, safety, user groups, local, county representatives of economic development, developers or management districts, state agencies, engineers, land use planners, community organizations, and interested citizens. A maximum of twenty-two (22) voting members shall comprise the Subcommittee, which shall include any TAC representative.

Ped/Bike Subcommittee Bylaws

- 22 voting members
 - 44 member roster
- Members serve two-year terms
- 1 Chair and 1 Vice-Chair
- 50% attendance for quorum
- Primary members vote when present
 - Alternate members vote only when primary is not present
 - Primary and alternate members coordinate to ensure one member attend meeting
- Robert's Rules of Order
- Minutes recorded by H-GAC staff and disseminated for review before next meeting



Useful Links

- Transportation Advisory Committee

[Transportation Advisory Committee | Houston-Galveston Area Council \(H-GAC\)](#)

- H-GAC Active Transportation Website

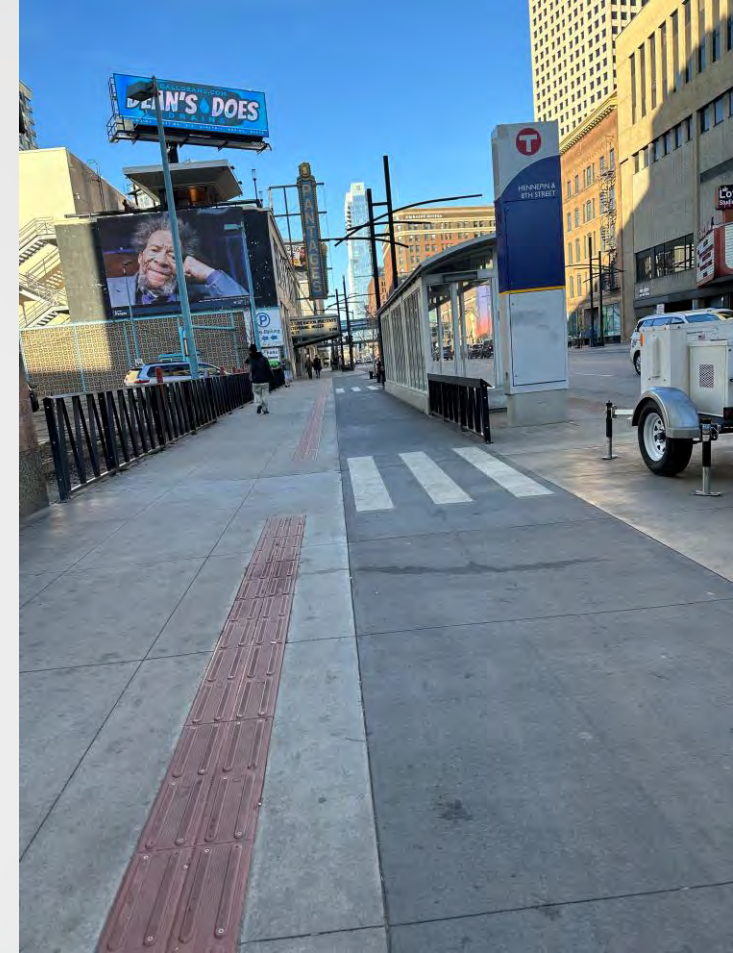
[Pedestrian-Bicyclist Program | Houston-Galveston Area Council \(H-GAC\)](#)

- Bike/Ped Subcommittee

[Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee | Houston-Galveston Area Council \(H-GAC\)](#)

- Bike/Ped Counter Program

[Mobile Pedestrian and Bicycle Counter Equipment Request | Houston-Galveston Area Council \(H-GAC\)](#)





VII. Ped/Bike Subcommittee Work Groups Update



Brian D. Smith, II (H-GAC)
Pedestrian Bicycle Subcommittee
April 17, 2025

Ped/Bike Subcommittee Work Groups



- GIS Network Update Work Group
- Travel Demand Forecast Modeling Work Group
- Project Prioritization Work Group

Ped/Bike Subcommittee Work Groups



GIS Network Update Work Group

Purpose: update the regional ped/bike networks in GIS for both technical and public users.

Goals:

- Develop a standardized GIS attribute table and nomenclature.
- Develop a standardized qualitative/comfort/functional use criteria for ped/bike infrastructure.
- Develop a standardized schedule for routine updates.

Ped/Bike Subcommittee Work Groups

GIS Network Update Work Group

Progress:

- Completed Bike Network typology definitions
- Completed attributes for existing/short-term bike projects
- Receiving bike network updates from local jurisdictions

Work Plan:

- Update the sidewalk network layer
- Develop a standardized qualitative/comfort/functional use criteria for ped/bike infrastructure
- Create a reasonable update schedule



Ped/Bike Subcommittee Work Groups



Travel Demand Forecast Work Group

Purpose: develop a new (or modify an existing) demand forecast model that will accurately project active transportation travel.

Goals:

- Research best practices.
- Compile data that will eventually feed into the model (bike/ped network GIS layer, household surveys, O/D surveys, etc.).
- Develop list of surveys needed, focusing on active transportation.

Ped/Bike Subcommittee Work Groups



Travel Demand Forecast Work Group

Progress:

- Drafted survey scope of work, mobile count scope of work
- Began transition to H-GAC Data Analytics team

Work Plan:

- H-GAC Data Analytics will take lead
- Scope of work revisions and updates to surveys
- Model development

Ped/Bike Subcommittee Work Groups



Project Prioritization Work Group

Purpose: develop a standard methodology for evaluating and prioritizing active transportation projects

Goals:

- Develop and recommend qualitative factors for TIP Call for Projects selection criteria.
- Recommend revisions for the Benefits Cost Analysis to better reflect active transportation projects.

Ped/Bike Subcommittee Work Groups



Project Prioritization Work Group

Progress:

- Submitted revised planning factors as recommendations to TIP Subcommittee for last TIP Call for Projects selection
- Submitted revised Emissions Benefits template to better reflect active transportation projects; to TIP Subcommittee

Work Plan:

- Currently on hold until completion of TIP Call for Projects
- Revise and expand Planning Factors to allow for a universal template for active transportation project prioritization/selection
- Revise and expand the BCA to allow for a universal template covering active transportation projects
- Opportunity to contribute to TASA Call for Projects

Ped/Bike Subcommittee Work Groups

Call for Members

- Open to anyone within or associated with a Subcommittee member
- Duties
 - Attend meetings as necessary (Microsoft Teams)
 - Contribute to collaborative products (SharePoint)
- Email brian.smith@h-gac.com with interest





VIII. TASA Investment Category Focused Criteria



Brian D. Smith, II (H-GAC)
Pedestrian Bicycle Subcommittee
April 17, 2025

Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Criteria



Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program

- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) allocates a percentage of Surface Transportation Block Grant dollars for transportation alternatives (23 U.S.C. §133(h))
 - Ped/Bike facilities
 - Recreational trails
 - Safe Routes to School
- MPOs with a population over 200,000 implement their own program with a competitive project selection process (43 TAC §11.403)
 - H-GAC: \$60M available for TASA this cycle
- Project Evaluation Criteria
 - Subset of H-GAC's Transportation Improvement Plan project selection
 - Active Transportation is 1 of 6 TIP Investment Categories

Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Criteria



Criteria	Score
Investment Category Focused Criteria	
Project is recommended in an existing plan or study	5
Project improves or provides new connectivity to community and economic destinations	15
Project addresses existing high-crash spots for pedestrians/cyclists	10
Project removes physical barriers to walking/bicycling	10
Project fills a critical gap in the existing bike/ped network	10
Project readiness	5
TOTAL	55
Benefits to Other Investment Categories	
How proposed project will benefit high growth area needs	5
How proposed project will improve traffic conditions for transit users	5
How proposed project will improve daily traffic operations	5
TOTAL	15
Planning Factors	
Safety	7
Resiliency	5
Access/Connectivity	5
Impact on Vulnerable Populations	5
Impact on Cultural/Natural	5
Innovation	3
TOTAL	30
TOTAL	100

Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Criteria



Investment Category Focused Criteria	Points Up To
Project recommended in an existing plan or study	
Yes / No (with reference to plan)	5
Project improves or provides connectivity to destinations	
Narrative explaining how proposed project provides access to community destinations (parks, libraries, clinics)	5
Narrative explaining how proposed project provides access to economic destinations (jobs, employment centers, businesses)	5
Narrative explaining how proposed project provides access to schools	5
Project addresses existing high-crash spots for pedestrians/cyclists	
Project along corridors with bike/ped fatality and serious injury crash rate higher than regional average	10
Project along corridors with bike/ped fatality and serious injury crash rate at regional average	7
Project along corridors with bike/ped fatality and serious injury crash rate lower than regional average	3
Project removes physical barriers to walking/bicycling	
Narrative explaining how proposed project reduces physical barriers (bridges without bikeways, railroad crossings, freeways and limited access roads, bayous, geographic barriers, etc.) to walking and/or bicycling	10
Project fills a critical gap in the existing bike/ped network	
Narrative explaining a critical gap in the existing bike/ped infrastructure network and how the proposed project closes that gap	10
Project readiness	
Narrative explaining applicant's ability to obligate funds and initiate construction quickly (within three years)	5

Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Criteria



Benefits to Other Categories	Points Up To
Project benefits high growth area needs	
Proposed project provides access to development of residential, retail, or other land uses - OR -	5
Proposed project will alleviate future congestion due to potential economic development	5
Project improves traffic conditions for transit users	
Proposed project is located on or connects to a transit route (local, express, signature, commuter	5
Project improves daily traffic operations	
Narrative explaining how proposed project reduces conflict points between motor vehicles and vulnerable road users (peds and bikes) (i.e. intersection improvements, crossings, grade separation)	5

Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Criteria



Planning Factors	Score
Safety-Existing Conditions	
Projects with fatality and serious injury crash rate is higher than regional average	3
Projects with fatality and serious injury crash rate is same as regional average	1
Projects with fatality and serious injury crash rate is lower than regional average	0
Proposed Improvements: Narrative explaining how proposed project reduces expected fatality and serious injury crashes (narrative must include specific improvements (work types) included in the scope that reduce expected fatality and serious injury crashes)	4
Safety-Crash Reduction Narrative Scoring	
If all work types together reduce total potential crashes by (Consolidated crash reduction factor) > 50%	4
If all work types together reduce total potential crashes by (Consolidated crash reduction factor) = 30-50%	3
If all work types together reduce total potential crashes by (Consolidated crash reduction factor) = 10-30%	2
If all work types together reduce total potential crashes by (Consolidated crash reduction factor) < 10%	1
Resiliency-Existing Conditions	
High vulnerability to flooding score on regional resiliency tool	1
High criticality score on regional resiliency	1
Proposed Improvements: Narrative explaining how proposed project reduces high vulnerability to flooding (Narrative must include specific improvements included in the scope)	3
Resiliency-Flooding Vulnerability Reduction Scoring	
Proposed project scope includes drainage above and beyond minimum federal standard	3
Proposed project includes drainage to a minimum federal standard	1

Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Criteria



Planning Factors	Score
Access/Connectivity	
# of low-income and minority households within a ¼ mile of proposed project	2
Proposed project improves or provides new connectivity to medical facilities (Medical facility exists within a ¼ mile of the project)	1
Proposed project improves or provides new connectivity to schools/colleges/universities (within ¼ mile)	1
Proposed project improves or provides new connectivity to social services facility	1
Impact on Vulnerable Population	
# of vulnerable populations within a ¼ mile of proposed project (if population is zero, full points are provided because no mitigation or avoidance of impacts is required)	5
Narrative explaining how proposed project provides benefits (safety, bike/ped facilities, improves connectivity to transit stops) to vulnerable populations	3
Narrative explaining how proposed project avoids or mitigates adverse effects to vulnerable populations	2
Impact on Natural/Cultural Resources	
Narrative explaining how proposed project avoids or mitigates adverse impacts to natural (flood plains, wetlands) and cultural (historic and archeological sites) resources	3
Reductions in NOx (nitrogen oxides), VOCs (volatile organic compounds)	2
Innovation	
Implementation of new infrastructure or technologies intended to enhance accessibility, mobility, multimodalism, resiliency, or reliability, or traffic operations. Installation of new technology such as autonomous/connected vehicle technology	3

Transportation Alternatives

Criteria	Score
Investment Category Focused Criteria	
Project is recommended in an existing plan or study	5
Project improves or provides new connectivity to community and economic destinations	15
Project addresses existing high-crash spots for pedestrians/cyclists	10
Project removes physical barriers to walking/bicycling	10
Project fills a critical gap in the existing bike/ped network	10
Project readiness	5
TOTAL	55
Benefits to Other Investment Categories	
How proposed project will benefit high growth area needs	5
How proposed project will improve traffic conditions for transit users	5
How proposed project will improve daily traffic operations	5
TOTAL	15
Planning Factors	
Safety	7
Resiliency	5
Access/Connectivity	5
Impact on Vulnerable Populations	5
Impact on Cultural/Natural	5
Innovation	3
TOTAL	30
TOTAL	100

2018 Criteria	Score
Safety	
Ped/Bike crash within ¼ mile of proposed facility + proposed facility is “high-comfort” per NACTO guidelines	20
Ped/Bike crash within ½ mile+ “high-comfort”	10
No documented crashes within ½ mile + “high-comfort”	5
Barrier Elimination-Project constructs a facility that eliminates a barrier	
Waterway, railroad, or road with classification of arterial or higher	15
Collector road or other barrier	10
Transit-Project directly connects to transit	
Within 1/10 mile	15
Within ¼ mile	10
Within ½ mile	5
Environmental Justice / Title IV Populations-Minority, Low-Income, Senior, Limited Education, Zero-auto HHs, Female head of HH, Limited English Proficiency	
4-7 criteria met	10
2-3 criteria met	5
1 criteria met	3
Major Employment Connectivity	
Points determined by (x) jobs within (x) miles	5-10
School connectivity	
2+ K-8 schools within ¼ mile	10
1 K-8 school within ¼ mile	5
Planning Coordination	
Located within H-GAC Special District, Livable Center, or comparable multi-jurisdictional or local plan/study	5
Funding leverage	
Sponsor committed more than 30% local match	5
Sponsor committed 21 -30% local match	3
High-Comfort facility	10
TOTAL	100

Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Criteria



Discussion/Feedback:

- Recommendations for scoring adjustments
- Recommendations for data to incorporate into rubric
- Vote: Concept Approval/Formal recommendation to TIP Subcommittee/TAC/TPC

Next Steps:

- Present to TIP Subcommittee/TAC/TPC
- Produce evaluation rubric for staff
- Launch TASA Call for Projects (Summer)



IX. Safe Routes to School



Brian D. Smith, II (H-GAC)
Pedestrian Bicycle Subcommittee
April 17, 2025

Regional Safe Routes to School

Program Overview

Creating a regional Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program is identified in the goals of H-GAC's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

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



Regional Safe Routes to School

Literature Review

Literature review covered the 23 other Texas MPOs and 4 out of state to research best practices in implementing SRTS at the regional level. Three recommendations came from the review:

- Separate SRTS planning projects from TA to its own call for projects.
- Incentivize SRTS infrastructure in upcoming TASA Call for Projects.
- Inventory existing SRTS programs in the area and stakeholder interest in starting more.



Regional Safe Routes to School

Next Steps (Fall 2025)

- Stakeholder engagement
- Local SRTS program inventory
- SRTS Non-Infrastructure Call for Projects
 - Policy development
 - Data collection
 - Pilot programs
 - Events and trainings





X. Planned Ped/Bike Activities in the Region



Lisa Graiff (Houston Parks Board)
Pedestrian Bicycle Subcommittee
April 17, 2025



CONNECTING BUFFALO BAYOU EAST

The Houston-Galveston Area Council, in collaboration with the Buffalo Bayou Partnership, is leading **Connecting Buffalo Bayou East**, a concept design study to build upon Buffalo Bayou East's redevelopment projects currently being designed and constructed. The study will focus on connecting neighborhoods north and south of the bayou to these projects, to each other, and to destinations such as Japhet Creek and Tony Marron Park. The study will:

- Provide implementation recommendations to extend and enhance pedestrian and bike infrastructure
- Advance the vision of a connected network of parks, shared use paths, and public spaces
- Highlight opportunities to enhance community connectivity, services, and amenities in the 5th Ward / Denver Harbor neighborhood near the intersection of Lyons Avenue and Lockwood Drive

PEOPLE • PLACES • PATHWAYS

For More Information

Visit: <https://engage.h-gac.com/buffalo-bayou-east-design-concept>



Or Contact:

Qun Zhao, Project Manager, H-GAC

Phone: 832-681-2580

Email: qun.zhao@h-gac.com



Buffalo Bayou
Partnership



Public Meeting No. 1

Date: Thursday, 4/17/2025 Time: 6 to 8 PM

Location: DeLUXE Theater, 3303 Lyons Ave, Houston 77020

Let Your Voice be Heard

The study is a collaborative effort, and we welcome your participation!

Join with your neighbors to develop community-driven recommendations at our public meetings or by sharing your ideas online (see QR code below).

Project Objectives



Identify Actionable Projects

Build upon existing plans and projects currently in design and construction to advance preliminary concepts and identify new actionable projects for implementation.



Improve Connectivity

Create safe, accessible pedestrian and bike pathways to link key areas across Buffalo Bayou East.



Enhance Safety and Mobility

Ensure critical corridors support walking and biking with well-planned infrastructure.



Support Cultural and Economic Vitality

Enhance accessibility and opportunities for community economic and social well-being.



Integrate Nature and Recreation

Incorporate natural and recreational elements into path network and local streets.

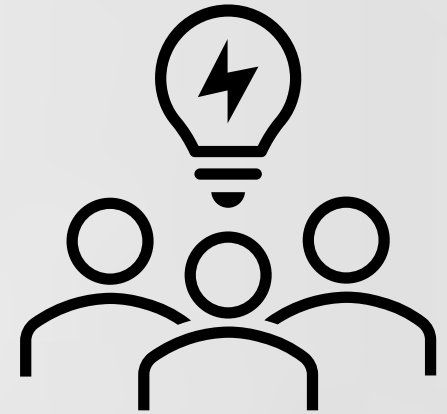
Connecting Buffalo Bayou East

Connecting Buffalo Bayou East Public Meeting

- Public meeting to gather input on building connections from neighborhoods to Buffalo Bayou East redevelopment projects
- Highlight opportunities to connect to 5th Ward/Denver Harbor Transit Center
- April 17, 6pm
- DeLUXE Theater, 3303 Lyons Ave, Houston, 77020
- POC: Qun Zhao, qun.zhao@h-gac.com
- <https://engage.h-gac.com/buffalo-bayou-east-design-concept>

XI. Upcoming Meetings

- Next Quarterly Ped/Bike Subcommittee Meeting
 - Thursday, July 17th at 9:30 a.m. – Hybrid Event



XII. Adjourn

