

A light blue map of the Houston-Galveston Area Council region, showing county boundaries. The map is centered on the Gulf of Mexico coastline.

Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee

Thursday, January 9, 2025

Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions and Certification of Quorum (9) – James Oliver, Island Transit, Vice Chair
2. Public Comments
3. Action Items:
 - 3.1 Approval of RTC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2024
4. Information Items:
 - 4.1 Coordinated Planning
 - 4.1a Federal Performance Measures Reporting – Chris Whaley, H-GAC
 - 4.2 Other Efforts
 - 4.2a Microtransit Services in the H-GAC Region – Alan Rodenstein, H-GAC
 - 4.2b Regional Zero Emission Vehicle Plan – Vinny Polignano, H-GAC
5. Transit and Human Service Agency Reports (5 minutes or less each)
6. Adjourn

1. Introductions, Roll Call, and Certification of Quorum

2024 Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee

Representing	Primary Name	Organization	Alternate Name	Organization
Local Government	Brian Jackson-Taylor	City of Missouri City	Danielle Fain	City of Missouri City
Local Government	Melanie Beaman	City of Sugar Land	Sagnik Raha	City of Sugar Land
Local Government	Eleni Pappas	City of Houston	Brian D. Smith	City of Houston
Business Interests	David Kim	Urban Land Institute	Michael D. Jackson	Energy Corridor District
Citizens Interests	Philip Salerno	Greater Inwood Super Neighborhood	Huey German-Wilson	Northeast Houston Redevelopment Council
Social Services/HHS	Paula Johnson	City of Houston	Angel Ponce	City of Houston
Social Services/HHS	Ashley Newell	Mounting Horizons, Inc.	Breah Knappe	Actions, Inc. of Brazoria County
Social Services/HHS	Jim Thompson	The Center for Pursuit	Thomas Holstein	Baker Ripley
Social Services/HHS	Miriam Guzman	Community Health Network	Ezreal Garcia	Community Health Network
Transit Agency	Ruthanne Haut	The Woodlands Township	Nicole Mathews	The Woodlands Township
Transit Agency	Perri D'Armond	Fort Bend County	Sarah Coulter	Fort Bend County
Transit Agency	Vernon Chambers	Harris County Transit	Robert Anders	Harris County Transit
Transit Agency	Donald Hughes	METRO	Tatyana Luttschlager	METRO
Transit Agency	DeAndre Guin, Sr.	City of Conroe	Shawn Davis	City of Conroe
Transit Agency	James Oliver	Galveston Island Transit	Jessica Hawkins	Galveston Island Transit
Transit Agency	Jo Marlow	Brazos Transit	Kaitlyn Mock	Brazos Transit
Transit Agency	Ted Ross	Gulf Coast Transit	Marcus Alexander	Gulf Coast Transit
Ex-Officio	Nancy Peron	TxDOT – BMT	Carolina Lopez-Herrera	TxDOT - BMT
Ex-Officio	Travis Madison	TxDOT – HOU	Brenda Bustillos, Ph.D., P.E.	TxDOT - HOU

2. Public Comments

- Please click the small “hand” icon at the bottom of your screen to raise your hand in order to be recognized to speak.

3.1. Action Item - Approval of RTC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2024

(The minutes of the October 10, 2024 meeting minutes are contained in the packet emailed to Subcommittee members)

4.1a. Federal Performance Measures Reporting

Chris Whaley, H-GAC Staff



Federal Performance Measures Reporting



Chris Whaley, H-GAC
January 9, 2025

Regional Collaboration • Transportation Planning • Multimodal Mobility

Performance Measures Evaluation Updates



- Current performance period has ended.
- Tentative proposal is to conduct data collection & target setting for both TAM & PTASP every 2 years instead of alternating years.
- Looking at use of National Transit Database (NTD) data in future reporting & target setting.
- A working group is being considered.
- Group will also consider data collection for other reporting (APER, UPWP, etc.).

Working Group Discussion



- Meeting frequency?
- Volunteers for leadership positions?
- Other topics to add?
- Other questions/comments/concerns?

Questions?



Christopher.Whaley@h-gac.com

4.2a. Microtransit Services in the H-GAC Region

Alan Rodenstein, H-GAC Staff



Microtransit Services in the Houston-Galveston Region



Alan Rodenstein, AICP
January 9, 2025

Regional Collaboration • Transportation Planning • Multimodal Mobility

What is Microtransit Service?

- Growing in use as a transit option for urban, suburban and rural areas
- Provides point-to-point trips within a designated service area
- Uses advanced technology and mobile applications to arrange and pair trips
- Involves 2 to 7 passengers at a time



The Growth of Microtransit Service

- Has seen increasing use by providers in Houston-Galveston region
- Can meet a wide range of demands and needs:
 - Works best in areas difficult to serve with fixed-route buses (irregular street networks, low densities, etc.)
 - Can serve first-mile / last-mile functions and feed higher-volume services
- Advances in technology and experience in last decade have allowed it to flourish
- Higher efficiency than traditional demand response (as a rule)
- Not intended to replace higher-volume fixed-route services
 - “Coverage” service, as opposed to “ridership” service

Transit Agencies/Cities with On Demand Microtransit Service

- METRO (curb2curb and Evolve Houston)
- Fort Bend Transit
- Harris County Transit
- Gulf Coast Transit District
- Brazos Transit District
- City of Sugar Land*

* Starting Early 2025

Questions for Microtransit Service Providers

- What were the reasons you choose microtransit in a specific service area?
- What are the most important mobility needs that are addressed by your microtransit service?
- What has the response been by the community and elected officials?
- What are microtransit's limitations and challenges?

4.2b. Regional Zero Emission Vehicle Plan

Vinny Polignano, H-GAC Staff



Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Infrastructure Planning



Vinny Polignano, Planner
RTCS Introduction

01/09/25

Regional Collaboration • Transportation Planning • Multimodal Mobility

Agenda

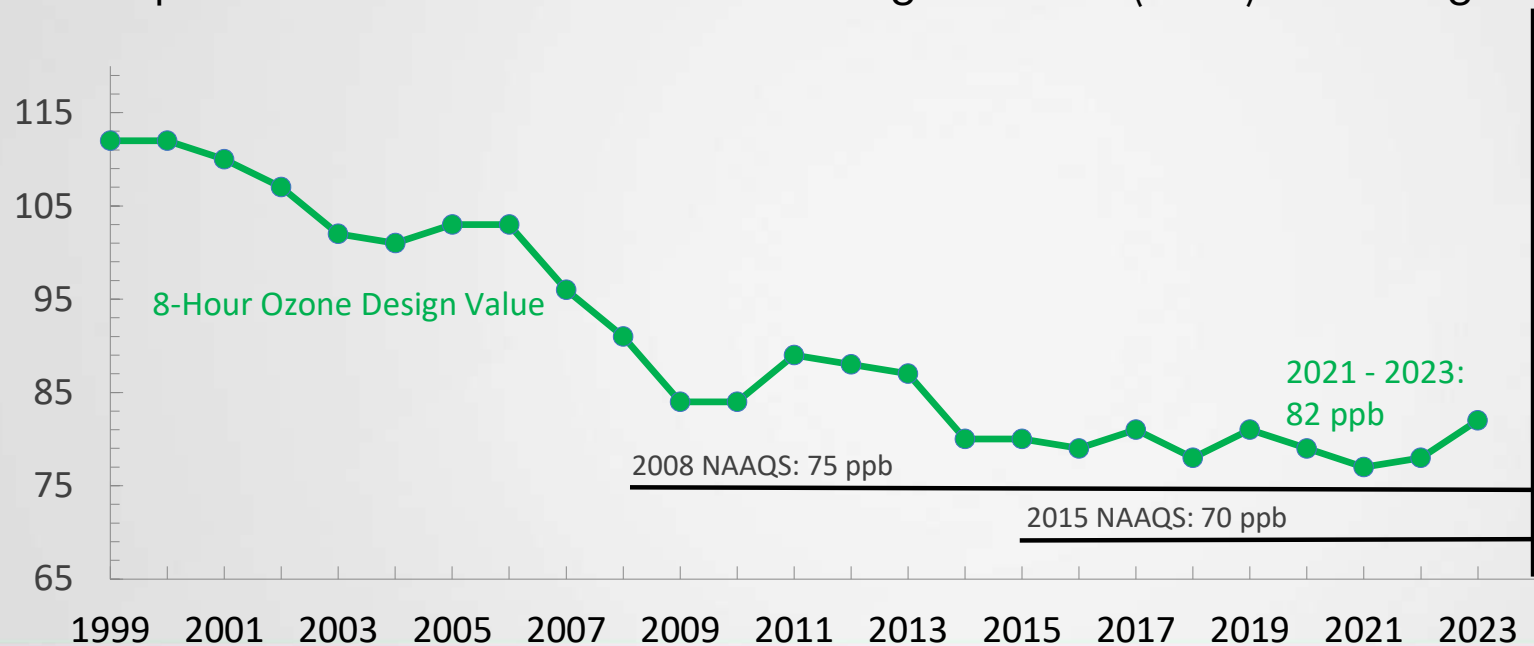
- Background
 - Regional Air Quality
 - ZEVs in Texas
- Content
- Contact Information



Background – Air Quality Issues

Houston-Galveston-Brazoria B Nonattainment Status

- 8 counties (2008 ozone) and 6 counties (2015 ozone)
- Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) designations are forthcoming
- Transportation accounts for 63% of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) in the region



ZEV as an Air Quality Opportunity

- Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEV) help improve regional air quality
 - ZEV vehicles have zero tailpipe emissions
 - Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs)
 - Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles (FCEVs)
- 25% of Texas EVs are registered in the Houston region (84,000/336,000)
 - Highest percent increase of TX Metros from December 2023 (41%)
- Abundant hydrogen production and industrial expertise in the region
 - HyVelocity (industry-led partnership) & H2LA (DOE/GTI Energy I-10 Alt. Fuel corridor)
- To adequately account for the expansion of ZEV in the region, H-GAC as the region's MPO is developing guiding documentation

Scope of Study

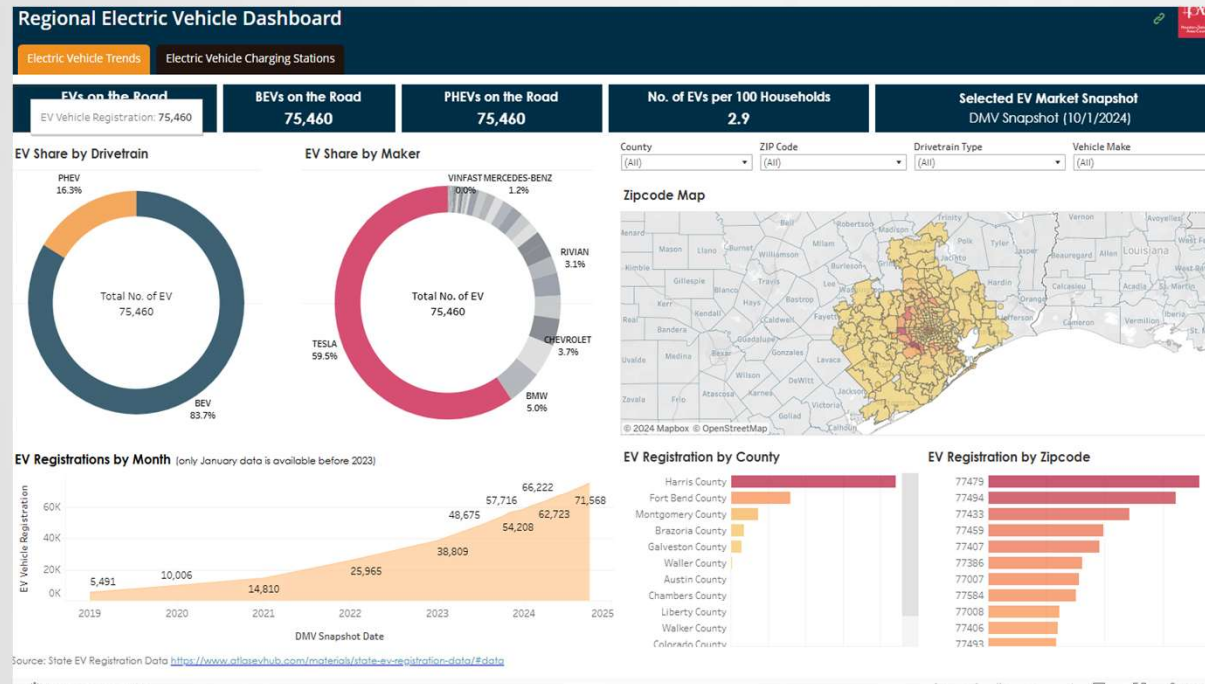


- BEVs/FCEVs background information/101
- National trends (registrations, industry advancements, costs, investments)
- State trends - ZEV uptake, manufacturing, state incentives
- Regional conditions
 - AQ challenges, demographics/population, terrain/weather, electric capacity, etc.
- Analysis - existing/planned siting, freight/passenger/transit feasibility, infrastructure placement, Alternative Fueling Corridors, etc.

Content drafting/creation

Revamped H-GAC EV [dashboard](https://h-gac.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=55c7ef9ae11a42fdb803f3de906f994)

(<https://h-gac.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=55c7ef9ae11a42fdb803f3de906f994>)



Communications



- ZEV Webpage
 - A central webpage on h-gac.com to house interim deliverables, existing tools/materials (i.e. revamped EV dashboard)
 - Solicit feedback (interactive map, surveys)
- One-page factsheets
 - Can better acquaint folks with H-GAC doing this work, provide vetted information ahead of a final deliverable
 - Charging (levels, plugs)
 - Fire safety, battery lifecycle, etc.
 - What else might be useful to your groups? What are you frequently asked?
- Public & stakeholder involvement

Contact Information



- Vinny Polignano, Planner
 - vincent.polignano@h-gac.com
 - 713-499-6662
- Pharr Andrews, Principal Planner
 - pharr.andrews@h-gac.com
- Andrew DeCandis, Air Quality Manager
 - andrew.decandis@h-gac.com

5. Transit and Human Service Agency Reports

(Please limit to five minutes or less per agency)

H-GAC Updates

- Regional Bus Study
- 2024 Q4 Regional Ridership Survey
- Emergency Ride Home
- Transit Information Study...

Transit Information Study

- Improve the quality and effectiveness of transit information in the region
- Examine existing regional practices, national peers, and best practices
- All 9 transit agencies can benefit from active participation
 - Quarterly meetings and engagement with the consulting team led by Toole Design Group
- Stakeholder Working Group will include a range of stakeholders
- Funding extended to all 13 counties through an RCTP/5304 Planning Grant

In Memoriam



"The Bus Lady" Janis Scott

Regional Collaboration • Transportation Planning • Multimodal Mobility

2025 Meeting Dates

- April 10, 2025
- July 10, 2025
- October 9, 2025

All meetings begin at 9:30 AM

Meeting Adjourned

RTC Subcommittee Staff Contacts:

Thomas Gray, Principal Planner, Thomas.Gray@h-gac.com

Alan Rodenstein, Senior Planner, Alan.Rodenstein@h-gac.com

Jamila Owens, Manager, Jamila.Owens@h-gac.com