

6D. RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY AS 2026 BIKE MONTH

BACKGROUND

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 institutions, local and county governments, among other community organizations.

For over 30 years, the Commute Solutions program has coordinated and promoted transportation alternatives to reduce peak period trips and vehicle miles traveled, while improving air quality. This work is achieved through partnerships with other organizations that have a shared interest in increasing our region's use of transportation options like carpooling, vanpooling, transit, telework, bicycling, and walking. For many years, the Commute Solutions program has leveraged National Bike Month as an opportunity to highlight the region's bike infrastructure while promoting a healthy mobility option.

CURRENT SITUATION

Commute Solutions staff requests that the Transportation Policy Council recognize May as Bike Month and May 15 as Bike to Work Day in the Houston-Galveston Metropolitan Planning Area. Staff will begin working with the contractor, Love to Ride, who previously conducted a 2-year region-wide bike encouragement pilot. This program reported more than 500,000 vehicle miles not traveled by car—saving over 19k lbs of CO2 during the program's final year. This campaign was built on behavioral science to encourage new riders and incentivize them to ride their bike as a viable alternative to driving alone.

This campaign will kick off in May 2026 as part of the regionwide bike encouragement effort. Staff will coordinate engagement with multiple stakeholders and partners throughout the region, including promoting bike-to-work day on May 15, 2026. This year, the campaign's main objective is to encourage bike riding first, as recreation, then transition riders to consider biking as a viable transportation alternative. Program support will be provided to local government agencies, employers, commuters, and others, including bike education and awareness about safety and information about navigating regional trails and biking facilities.

Throughout the campaign, Commute Solutions staff will continue working with TxDOT's ConnectSmart team to explore ways to leverage their mobile application to share data and connect users to the available resources and mobility options.

ACTION REQUESTED

Request TPC approval of TPC Resolution 2026-09 recognizing May 2026 as Bike Month and Friday, May 15, 2026, as the regional Bike-to-Work Day in the eight-county Houston-Galveston Metropolitan Planning Area.



Resolution

No. 2026-09

AUTHORIZING RECOGNITION OF MAY 2026 AS BIKE MONTH AND MAY 15, 2026 AS BIKE TO WORK DAY IN THE EIGHT-COUNTY HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA

WHEREAS, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Houston-Galveston Metropolitan Planning Area by the Governor of Texas in accordance with federal law, and;

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) is the regional transportation policy body, and;

WHEREAS, the League of American Bicyclists established National Bike Month in 1956 to showcase the transportation and health benefits of bicycling, and;

WHEREAS, the National Bike to Work Week is May 11-17, 2026, and National Bike to Work Day is on Friday, May 15, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA RECOGNIZES MAY 2026 AS BIKE MONTH, MAY 11-17, 2026, AS BIKE TO WORK WEEK, AND FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026 AS BIKE TO WORK DAY IN THE EIGHT-COUNTY HOUSTON-GALVESTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA.

PASSED AND APPROVED, this 24TH day of April, 2026, at the regularly called meeting of the Transportation Policy Council.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



Hon. Justin Beckendorff, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council



Hon. Lesley Briones, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council