

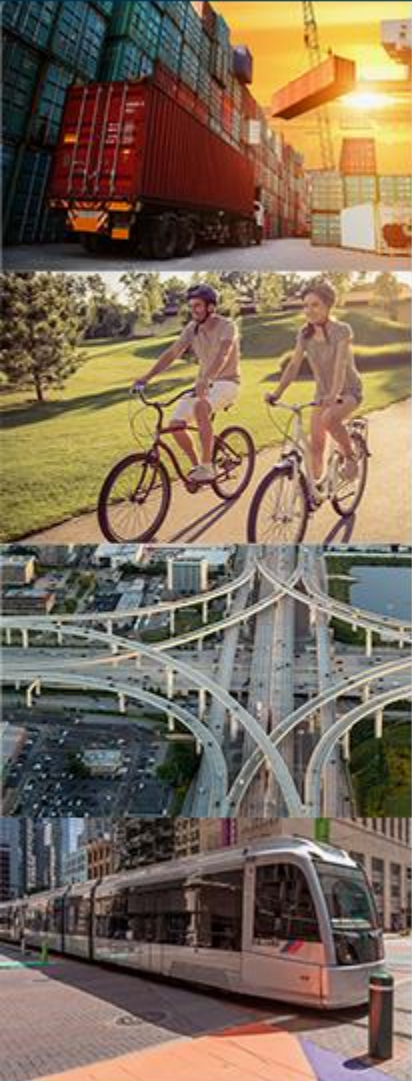


RTC Subcommittee Updates

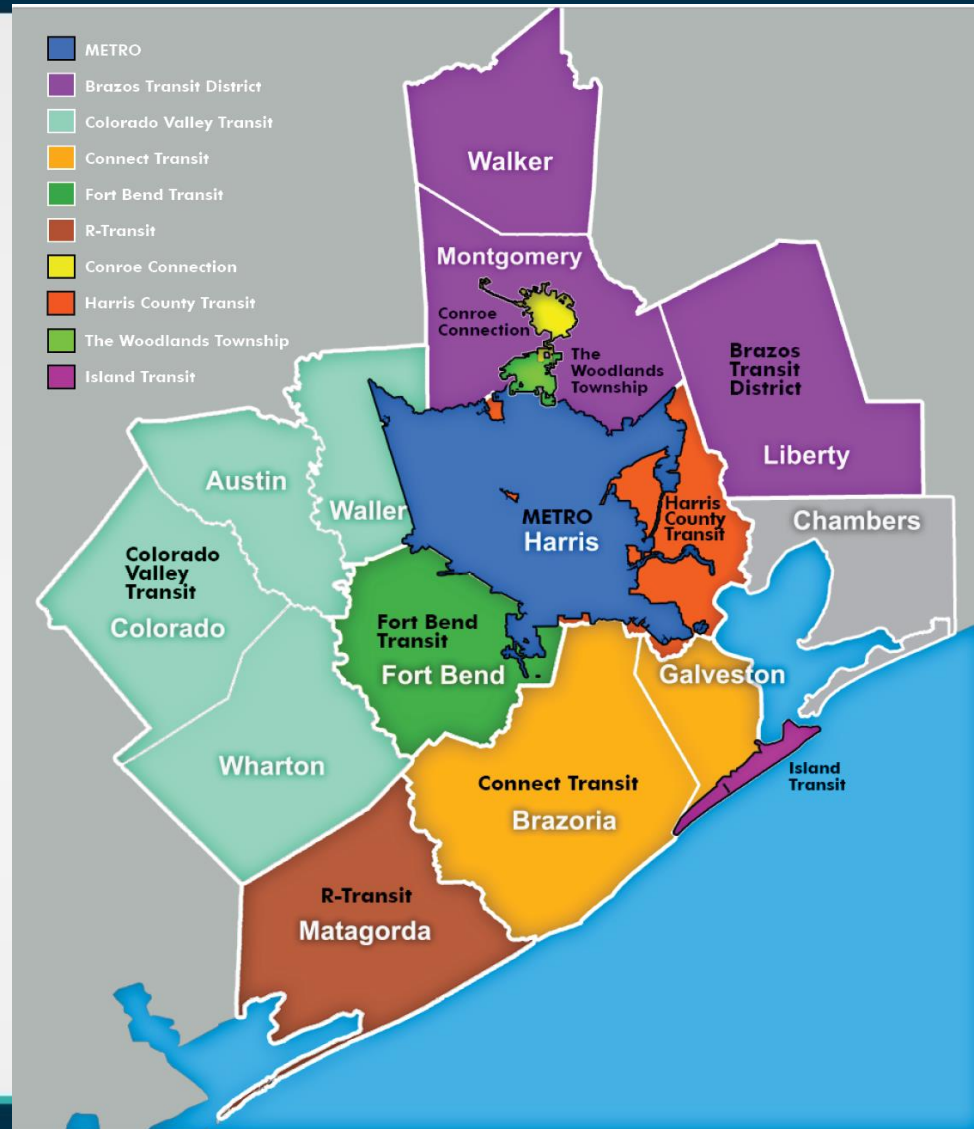


Kari J. Hackett
April 11, 2019

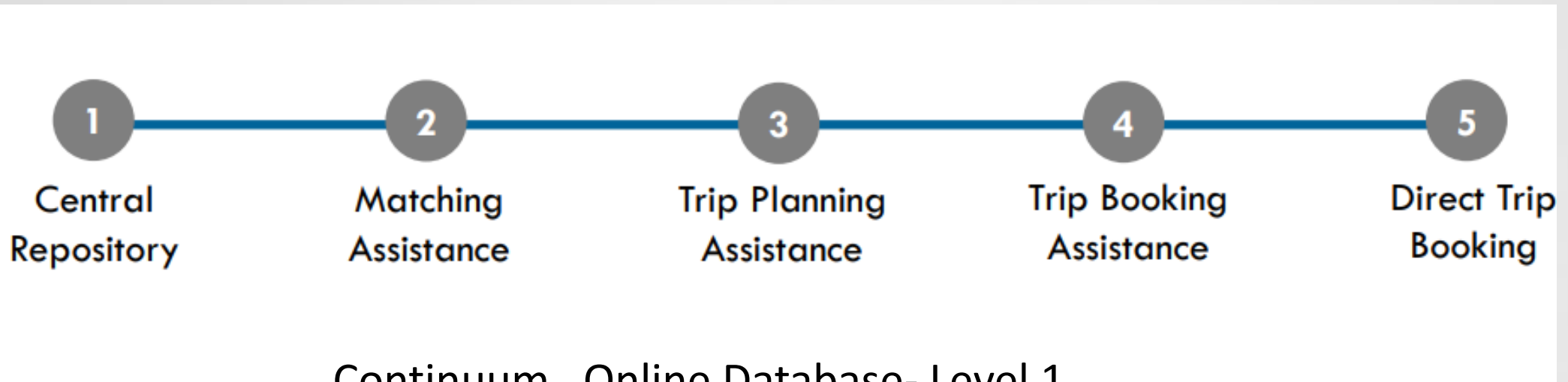
Regional Transit Operators



H-GAC Planning Region-13 Counties

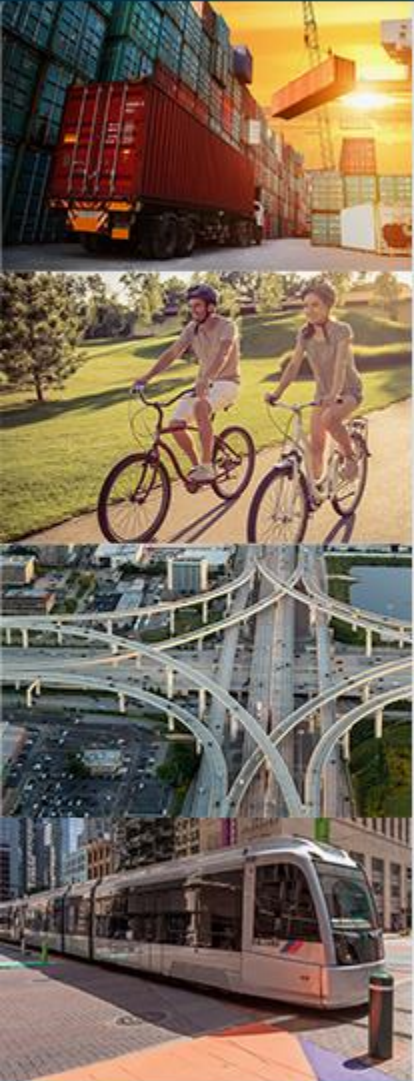


Overview--One Call/One Click Systems



Continuum, Online Database- Level 1
Static GTFS Level 3
Real-Time GTFS and AVL Levels 4-5
NCHRP Report #832

Online Interactive Database

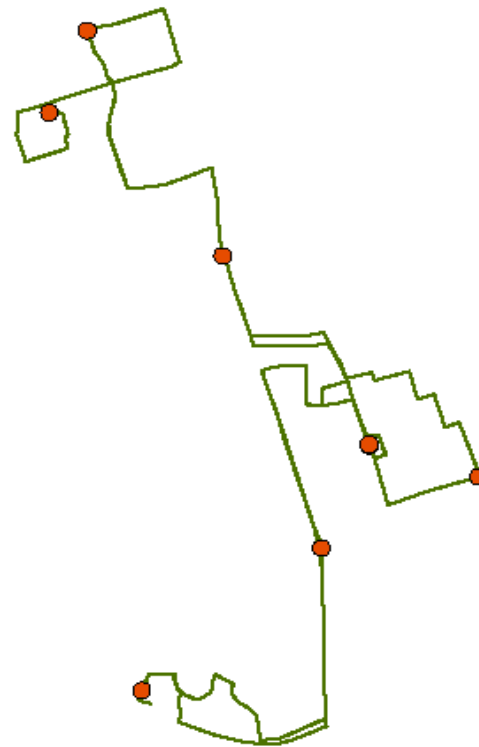


- Regional Stakeholders Assisted
- Contact Information--Updated (95%)
- Counties Served--Updated
- Refinements In Process- Simplify
 - Service/Passenger Types
 - Days of Operation (M-F)
 - Other Details (Regional Transit Guides)

Regional Transit Trip Planner Phase One Illustration-Conroe



Conroe Bus Route and Time Points Illustration

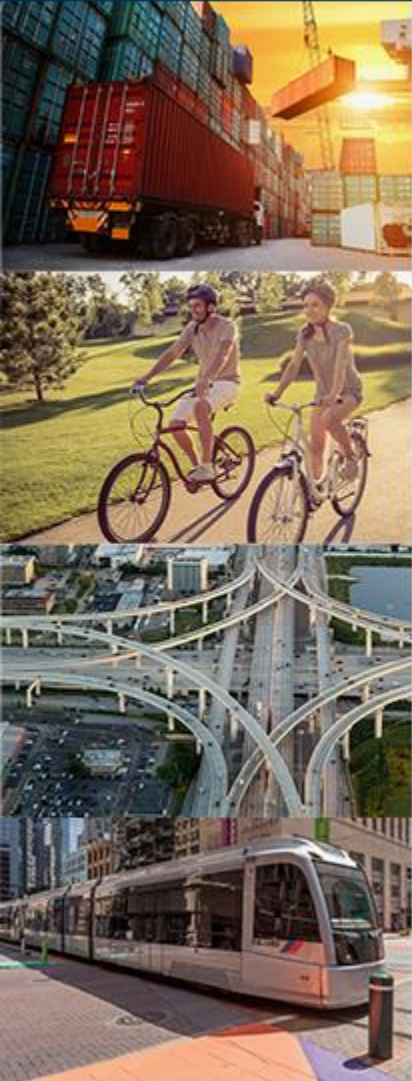


Legend

- stops1bExHarrisXY02082018
- Conroe_Connection_Jan17

Date: 5/23/2018

Local Example-Conroe

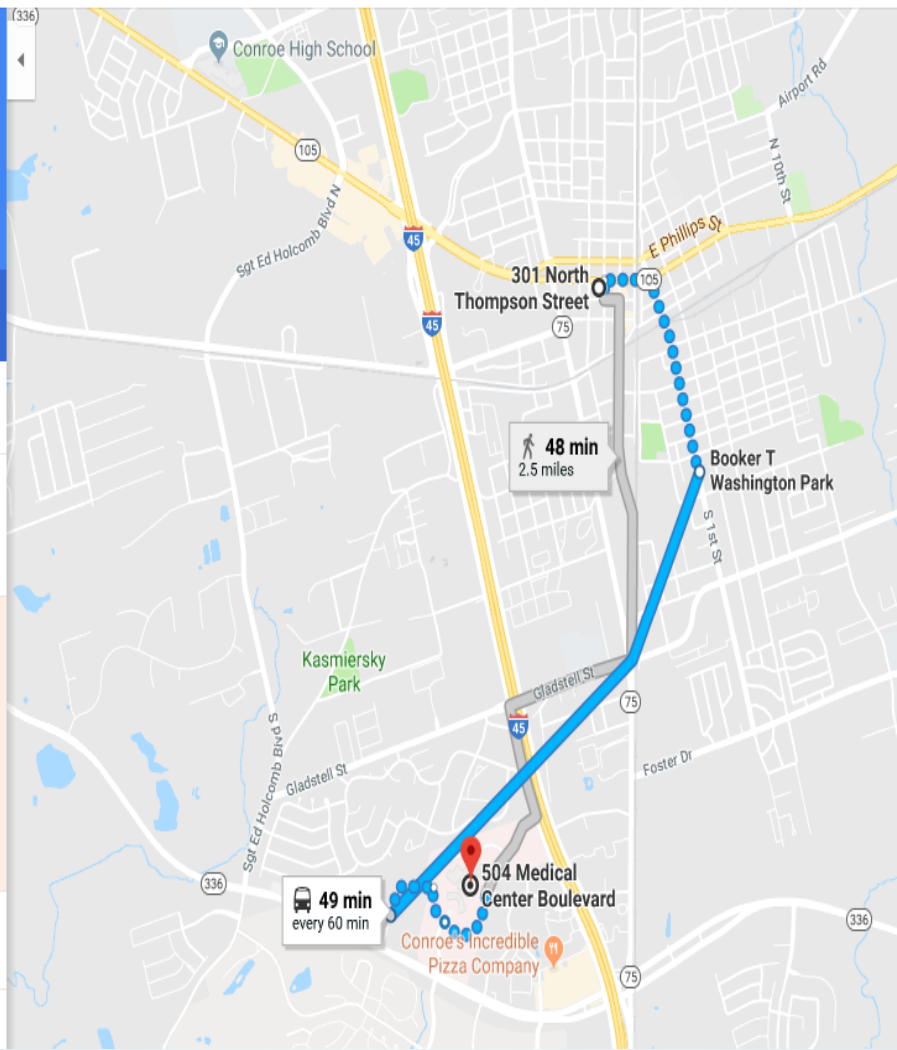


Navigation interface showing route options between 301 N Thompson St, Conroe, TX 77301 and 504 Medical Center Blvd, Conroe, TX 77301.

Options include:

- via N Main St: 48 min, 2.5 miles
- 9:53 AM–10:42 AM: 49 min (via Conroe Connection, 10:10 AM from Booker T Washington Park, 29 min every 60 min)

Additional features: SCHEDULE EXPLORER, CONFIDENTIAL, and SEND DIRECTIONS TO YOUR PHONE.



Work in Progress

- **GTFS Test Feeds- Phase One**
 - **Debugging in Process (March-April)**
 - **Brazos Transit District**
 - **The Woodlands Transit**

Next Steps

- Google Transit Pre-Launch Checklist (HCT)
- Phase Two-Conroe Connect
 - Detailed Bus Stops, Two Way Routes (April)
- GTFS Format Shapefiles
 - Island Transit (Hold)
 - Colorado Valley Transit District
- Coordination of Annual Updates
 - Transit Operators with Technical Capacity (FBCT)
 - H-GAC Technical Assistance, as needed.

Public Transportation Advisory Committee (“PTAC”)

**PTAC is a legislative advisory committee of the Texas
Transportation Commission (“TxDOT”)**

Issues under consideration by the PTAC 2018-2019:

- Recommended funding Increase
- Intercity Bus Funding
- Transportation Development Credits
- Bus Agency Safety Plans

For the Biennium, the PTAC recommended a funding increase of \$41 million per year to provide 14-hour/day weekday and 8 hour Saturday service for Texans in all counties and cities covered by a transit district. This is a committee priority for lifeline service that TxDOT and the PTAC hope can be addressed in the 2019 session.

Current Status of Legislative Appropriation Request (“LAR”)

The LAR of \$41 million is referenced in the appropriations request however the present projected funding is at \$205.5 million. Could be increased but the outcome is uncertain.

Intercity Bus Funding (“ICB”)

15 Percent of the annual non-urban area (Section 5311) apportionment is used for intercity bus transportation.

Goals:

- Support the Connection between rural areas and larger regional or national system ICB services;
- Support services to meet the intercity travel needs of residents in rural areas;
- Support and promote the coordination of services among providers, across jurisdictions and program areas and coordinate between rural and urbanized areas.

ICB Key Policy Considerations

- Program Emphasis: Operating Expenses vs. Capital
- Program Objectives: Texas Specific vs. Overall Federal
- Service Performance Objectives

Transportation Development Credits (“TDC’s”) (Formerly Toll Credits)

In 2012 The Texas Transportation Commission approved a policy to allow the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (“MPO”) in which TDC’s were generated to develop policies to administer 75% of the credits allocated to those areas.

The remaining credits would remain under the control of The Commission and for use by the Public Transportation Division for the benefit of state funded agencies not residing in an MPO area. For state funded agencies within an MPO area, the MPO would determine how those credits would be administered for a state funded agency.

What is a Development Credit

- A Transportation Development Credit (TDC) is a financial accounting tool approved by the Federal Highway Administration that allows states to use federal funding without the requirement of a cash match.
- Credits are earned when the state, a toll authority or a private entity funds a capital transportation investment with toll revenues earned on existing toll facilities, excluding revenues needed for debt service, returns to investors or the operation and maintenance of toll facilities.

Issues with Administration of TDC's

MPO Regions:

- North Central Texas Council of Governments
- Houston-Galveston Area Council
- Capital Area Council of Governments
- Plus TxDOT Program

Results in Four Dissimilar Programs with a potential disparate impact

Potential Solution

TxDOT Commission provide more guidance that would bring all programs into alignment.

Bus Agency Safety Plans Compliance Deadline 7/20/2020

Any system receiving FTA funds

Rail Transit & Large Bus Operators develop their own plans – subject to FTA review & enforcement

TxDOT responsible for Small Bus
Operators with 100 or fewer
vehicles in peak revenue service

Key Dates

Draft of Final Rules April – June 2019

PTAC Review June 2019

Notices & Public Hearing August – September 2019

Commission Adoption October 2019

Questions and Information

www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/public-transportation/committee.html

Or search TxDOT PTAC



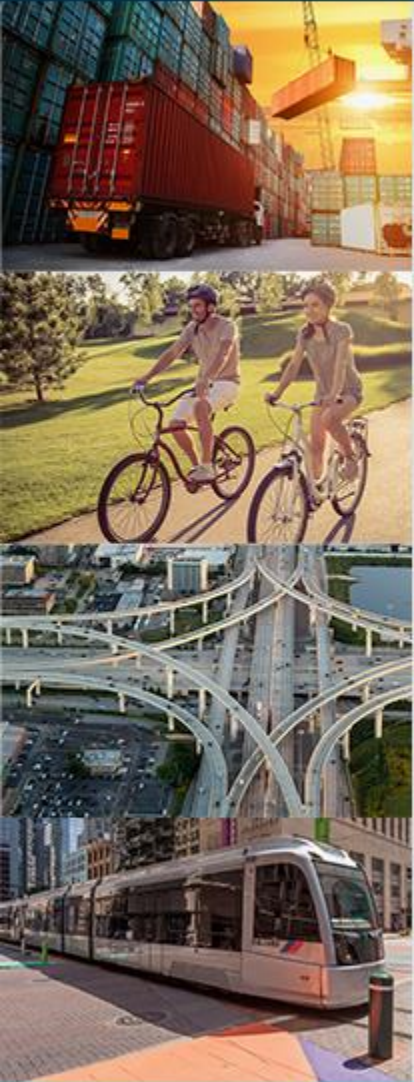
Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee Meeting



April 11, 2019
Lydia Abebe

Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee (RTCS)

- RTCS Purpose
 - Provide guidance
 - Assist with transit planning initiatives
 - Promote regional coordination
- Meets Quarterly (Jul. 11 & Oct. 10)
- Membership
 - Appointed by TAC and/or H-GAC
 - Local governments
 - Transit agencies



Current and Future Work Plan

- RTCS Action Plan Priorities
 - Google Transit Development (One Call/One Click)
 - Seamless Fare Policy
 - On-line Active Database
 - Regional Public Transit Awareness Program
 - Regional TOD Study
- High Capacity Transit Task Force



Commuter Transit Pilot Projects Implementation Status



Transit Agency/ Community	Starting (Tentative) Date	Destinations	Key Features
Conroe	April 1, 2019	Downtown, Midtown, Texas Medical Center	Joint project of METRO and Conroe – 45+ miles
The Woodlands Township	July 7, 2019	The Energy Corridor District	First suburb to suburb service – 45 + miles
City of Pearland	July 7, 2019	Texas Medical Center, Downtown	Purely private for-profit enterprise – No CMAQ \$
Fort Bend Transit	Early 2020	Downtown	Large service demand