5A.

# MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025, 9:30 A.M. MEETING

# **INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Morad Kabiri, called the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Chair Kabiri and gave an overview of the housekeeping rules for the Committee. The Chair then called on Ms. Allie Isbell to do the Roll Call.

A list of Committee representatives and alternates attending the meeting is included with these minutes as Attachment 1. There were 36 members in attendance; 22 are required for a quorum.

The meeting agenda and materials are available on the TAC website at: <u>http://www.h-gac.com/transportation-advisory-committee/meeting-agendas-and-minutes.aspx</u>.

In addition, the livestream recording is available at: <u>http://www.h-gac.com/transportation-advisory-</u> <u>committee/meeting-livestream-archive.aspx.</u>

# PUBLIC COMMENTS

A written public comment was received and read into the record. To hear this public comment, click here.

No public comments were made from the floor.

#### ORIENTATION TO AGENDA AND MPO DIRECTOR REPORT

MPO Assistant Director Jamila Owens gave a summary to the Committee of agenda items both for action and information.

The items for action included the meeting minutes for the March TAC meeting, 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments, a TAC Nominating Committee Recommendation, and an FY 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment.

Ms. Owens further summarized that information items brough for discussion were Mobility Planning for the FIFA World Cup 2026, the Regional Demographic Forecast, and TAC Bylaws. For planning activities, staff would be providing a summary of recent 2025-2028 TIP Administrative Amendments, and a Conformity Update.

To hear the MPO Director Report in its entirety, please click on the link here.

After Ms. Owens concluded her summary of the Director's Report, Ms. Owens introduced Ms. Sydni Ligons, H-GAC, Senior Planner to give a Legislative Update on Senate Bill 1555 and House Bill 3727. Ms. Ligons also provided an update in reference to a Delegation Meeting in Chicago, also joined by other partnerships in the region, to meet peers from Chicago and learn more about the Chicago Create Program. To hear the Legislative Update and about the Delegation Meeting, please click on the link <u>here</u>.

# ITEM 5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Chair, Morad Kabiri entertained a motion for Consent Agenda Item; 5A.) Meeting Minutes Summary for March 19, 2025, TAC Meeting.

A motion to approve the meeting minutes was made by Ms. Perri D'Armond. A second motion for approval was made by Mr. Ken Fickes. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available <u>here</u>.

# ITEM 6. 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS

Mr. Jim Dickinson presented the 2025-2028 TIP Amendments. The 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a four-year capital improvements program for transportation projects. Under federal rules, all federally assisted projects must be included in the TIP to be eligible for funding. In addition, federal rules require that regionally significant local projects must also be included in the TIP.

The 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a long-range plan that prioritizes spending on regional transportation projects including short and long-range strategies to ensure the transportation network is safe and efficient. Updated every four years, the RTP outlines a fiscally constrained transportation investment program that is based on the unique needs and characteristics of the MPO region.

Amendments to the TIP and RTP are brought to the Transportation Policy Council for consideration monthly and amended in accordance with the H-GAC Public Participation Plan.

A summary of the proposed revisions to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program were included:

- Add \$26.1M of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding to Harris County MUD 500's (municipal utility district) FY 2026 Greenhouse Road underpass at US 290 and Union Pacific Railroad construction project (MPO ID 18052) to fund a more detailed design which includes replacement of the existing US 290 main lanes bridge. Harris County MUD 500 will provide \$6.5M of matching funds.
- Update the City of Conroe's FY 2021-2026 Federal Transit Administration Sections 5307, 5310 and 5339 funded Program of Projects for administration, capital, planning, and operations expenditures. Program twenty-three new apportionments and adjust the funding on eighteen existing projects based on the finalized allocations. The City is requesting Transportation Development Credits in lieu of matching funds, where applicable, to leverage the federal funds.
- Add \$63.7M of federal Surface Transportation Block Grant funding, with a 20% local match, to two segments of the City of Pearland's Mykawa Road widening projects (MPO IDs 7602, 17082) due to increased cost estimates since the original programming in 2014 and 2015.
- Program two U.S. Department of Transportation RAISE discretionary grant program awards made to the TxDOT Houston District to construct intermodal facilities in Angleton (MPO ID 19367; \$7.0M) and in Freeport (MPO ID 19368; \$15.2M).
- Program the City of Mont Belvieu's Traffic Management Center construct project (MPO ID 19361) selected in the Project Selection Process in FY 2027 with \$2.8M of federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality and local matching funds.
- Program the engineering phase of Montgomery County's SH 99 frontage road and turn lane construct project (MPO ID 19352) selected in the Project Selection Process in FY 2026 with \$750K of state Pass-Through Finance funds.

# Additional Federal Transit Administration Formula Funded Amendments

• Update METRO's FY 2024 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Sections 5307, 5310, 5337 and 5339 funded Program of Projects in FY 2025 (MPO IDs 19102-19110) applying Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) in lieu of matching funds to leverage the federal funds.

- Program two new Harris County Housing & Community Development's FY 2024 FTA Section 5307 funded projects in FY 2025 (MPO IDs 19454,19455) for transit operations and capital expensed using TDCs in lieu of matching funds to leverage the federal funds where applicable.
- Update Fort Bend Public Transportation's FY 2024-FY 2028 FTA Sections 5307 and 5310 in FY 2025 (MPO IDs 18836, 18926, 18930, 18342, 18830, 18831, 18832, 18840) applying TDCs in lieu of matching funds.
- Update The Woodlands Township's FY 2020-FY 2025 FTA Section 5307 Program of Projects in FYs 2025-2028 (MPO IDs 18636, 18640, 19456-19472) applying TDCs in lieu of matching funds.
- Update the METRO's Missouri City Park and Ride project (MPO IDs 18167, 18924) with modifications of the facility, limits, scope and funding.

Staff requested the Committee's recommendation for Transportation Policy Council approval of Resolutions 2025-12 and 2025-13.

After the presentation, Chair Kabiri opened the floor for questions.

Mr. Jason Smith remarked that on the list of amendments provided, Item 20 (page 20 of the packet), for Montgomery County (Rayford Rd and Birnam), did not show a CSJ number. Mr. Smith asked that Staff update the information to show the CSJ number, when the item is taken to the Transportation Policy Council. Staff concurred with the request.

A motion to approve the was made by Mr. Jason Smith with the addition of the CSJ number being added to the Montgomery County amendment in line 20, in the list of amendments. A second motion for approval was made by Ms. Ruthanne Haut. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available <u>here</u>.

# ITEM 7. TAC NOMINATING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Bylaws for the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) require the Chair to appoint a Nominating Committee prior to the first meeting of each calendar year for the purpose of bringing before the Committee a slate of officers and subcommittee members for consideration. The 2025 TAC Nominating Committee was approved at the TAC meeting in March 2025 and includes the following TAC members: Perri D-Armond (Fort Bend Transit), David Wurdlow (City of Houston), Amy Skicki (BAYTRAN) and Wael Tabara (Brazoria County) and Brian Alcott (Harris County Toll Road Authority).

The TAC approved the Nominating Committee's slate of 2025 subcommittee members in March 2025, however some positions remained vacant.

Since the March 2025 TAC Meeting, the Nominating Committee reviewed a recommendation for a vacancy to the Transportation Air Quality Subcommittee.

• Lisa Lin, Harris County, Private/Professional - Alternate

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Patrick Mandapaka. A second motion to approve was made by Ms. Perri D'Armond. The Committee voted and the motion carried. To hear this item, please click on the link below.

# ITEM 8. MOBILITY PLANNING: FIFA WORLD CUP 2026

Mr. Josh Shideler, Assistant Director of Houston TranStar, provided a presentation of the Mobility Planning, FIFA World Cup 2026. The FIFA World Cup 2026 presents a significant opportunity and challenge for the Houston region, as it prepares to host one of the world's largest sporting events. Effective mobility planning is critical to ensure the safe and efficient movement of spectators, residents, and workforce before, during, and after the matches. The region would host seven games for the World Cup.

Planning for the World Cup is being led by the Houston Sports Authority. Transportation Planning for the World Cup is being led by a committee chaired by Brian Mason of TranStar. The Houston – Galveston Area Council, Texas Department of Transportation and others are participating in this committee. TranStar will provide an overview of the work being done to prepare for effective mobility during the World Cup.

This item was for information only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available <u>here</u>.

# ITEM 9. UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) AMENDMENT – HOUSTON FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 TRANSPORTAITON PLANNING AND MODELING

This item was presented by Ms. Neely Kim, Senior Manager at H-GAC. The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) is seeking a consultant to develop transportation scenarios and conduct modeling to address the mobility challenges associated with the FIFA World Cup 2026 in Houston. The consultant will create scenarios that consider both background and event-related traffic, incorporating factors such as road closures, congestion hotspots, increased traffic loads, transit access, and pedestrian flow. Transportation models and data analysis will be used to evaluate existing mobility and operational plans under various combined scenarios. This scenario planning effort will deliver data-driven recommendations to support the Houston Host Committee's mobility & transportation plans, and enable local, state, and regional stakeholders to effectively manage transportation during the event. Additionally, this study will serve as a template for planning transportation for future major events in the 8- County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) region.

The UPWP 2025 does not include funding to support transportation planning and modeling for the Houston FIFA World Cup 2026. The amendment requested to the UPWP was as follows:

- 1. Adding new activity for a consultant to be utilized to develop transportation scenarios and conduct modeling to address mobility challenges associated with FIFA World Cup 2026.
- 2. Adding Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) to Fiscal Year 2025, Task II subtask 2.1.a in the amount of \$500,000.00 for the utilization of a consultant.

After the presentation, the floor was open for questions and the Director of Analytics and Research, Mr. Jochen Floesser, approached the podium to answer questions from the Committee. The Committee discussed at length.

After the discussion, Mr. Wurdlow made a motion to approve. Mr. Wael Tabara made a motion to amend the recommendation, and that Staff provide supporting documents that provide the cost, the deliverables, action items, why December, if qualifications are done and when the teams are determined, what does that indicate. The Chair called for the Committee to vote. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

Mr. Jason Smith abstained from the Committee vote.

To hear the entire discussion on this item, please click on the link below.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available <u>here</u>.

# 10. REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC FORECAST

Mr. Pramod Sambidi gave an update on the Regional Demographic Forecast. The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) periodically updates its Regional Growth Forecast, which projects population, employment, and land use trends across the eight-county H-GAC Transportation Management Area: Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller counties.

Each forecast update integrates the latest data on planned developments, population and employment trends, economic conditions, regional travel networks, and user feedback. The forecast plays a vital role in transportation planning for multiple agencies and is widely referenced in various reports and analyses. The model generates projections in five-year increments from 2020 through 2050, using 2020 as the base year.

In January 2025, H-GAC released the 2024 Regional Growth Forecast, projecting a regional population of 10.7 million by 2050, an increase of 3.6 million over 30 years. This estimate is 500,000 lower than the 2018 forecast (11.24 million), primarily due to declining birth rates, an aging population, and temporary migration disruptions from COVID-19—trends that are also reflected in both national and Texas population projections. The 2024 update incorporates the latest socioeconomic, real estate, and travel network data, along with refinements to the growth model to better account for future real estate development. For more details on methodology and results, visit https://www.h-gac.com/regional-growth-forecast

This item was for information only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website <u>here</u>.

# ITEM 11. TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) BYLAWS DISCUSSION

Ms. Allie Isbell presented on the Transportation Advisory Committee Bylaws Discussion to address the Committee's interest of revisiting the TAC Bylaws and TAC Subcommittee Bylaws. Some of the topics of discussion include the following: Categories of membership on subcommittees, options for extending appointment/nomination terms, review TAC Membership to align with updated TPC Membership, and number of members on the Nominating Committee.

The Transportation Advisory Committee's Bylaws define the purpose, membership, quorum requirements, and other rules for conducting Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings. Changes to the bylaws must be approved by a two-thirds majority of the TAC and the Transportation Policy Council.

The Transportation Advisory Subcommittee Bylaws define the purpose, membership quorum requirements, and other rules for conducting Transportation Advisory Subcommittee meetings. Changes to these bylaws must be approved by the TAC.

The most recent TAC Bylaws Subcommittee or Workgroup was created in March 2019. Members included Jeff Weatherford (Chair), Ken Fickes, Oni Blair, Bruce Mann, Auggie Campbell, Morad Kabiri, Perri D'Armond, and Clint Harbert. This subcommittee/workgroup recommended amendments to the TAC Subcommittee Bylaws and those were approved by the Transportation Policy Council in February 2020. To hear this discussion, please click on the link below.

This item was for information only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available <u>here</u>.

# **ITEM 12. PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

A. 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Administrative Amendments

Mr. Jim Dickinson provided a brief update on 2025-2028 TIP Administrative Amendments. Mr. Dickinson indicated that the Administrative Amendments were completed and signed by Staff and TxDOT. To hear this update, please click on the link below.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website <u>here</u>.

#### B. <u>Transportation Conformity and RTP Update</u>

An update was given in two parts. Mr. Stephen Keen gave an update on the RTP Project List Amendment. Staff contacted all sponsors on the RTP Project List with seventy plus sponsors and 1,000 plus projects. A comprehensive project list is available to review on the H-GAC Website at: <u>Regional Transportation Plan</u> <u>Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC)</u>

Staff implemented feedback from remaining sponsors and the project list will be updated on the website periodically. The official RTP Amendment will be ready this Fall for the TAC and TPC, after conformity analysis and the public comment period. After the presentation, Mr. Keen introduced Dr. Maggie Isied to give the update on transportation conformity.

Dr. Maggie Isied provided a brief overview of transportation conformity. Transportation conformity is a requirement of the federal Clean Air Act (CAA) to ensure that air quality in regions designated as nonattainment for one or more National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) pollutants are not negatively impacted by new transportation projects and other related activities. Through this analysis, regions must demonstrate that emissions related to regional transportation projects do not exceed limits established in the state's air quality State Implementation Plan. The Conformity kick-off meeting occurred on March 11 and Ms. Isied provided the Committee with a timeline of events that have transpired and other events that will take place for conformity determination. To hear this update, please click on the link below.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website <u>here</u>.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Jamila Owens gave a brief overview of the announcements shown for upcoming meetings and informed the Committee that Staff will be prepared to make a presentation, in May on Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding. The orientation video and materials will also be distributed as soon as available:

Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee (RAQPAC) Meeting	April 24	10:00 a.m.	Virtual
Transportation Policy Council (TPC) Meeting	April 25	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	May 7	9:30 a.m.	Virtual
Subcommittee Meeting			
Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Subcommittee	May 7	1:30 p.m.	Virtual
Meeting			
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting	May 14	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office
Area Emissions Reduction Credit Organization	May 14	2:00 p.m.	Hybrid
(AERCO) Board Meeting			

# ADJOURNMENT

Chair Morad Kabiri adjourned the meeting of the TAC at 11:32 a.m.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website <u>here</u>.

First Vice Chair Transportation Advisory Committee

# Attachment 1

# TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDANCE APRIL 16, 2025, AT 9:30 A.M.

NOTES:

- 1. Attendance is marked with "X" in the corresponding column for the Primary Member and/or Alternate Member.
- 2. Where both the Primary Member and Alternate Member is marked with an asterisk (\*) after the "X" to indicate that this person does not count toward quorum or votes for this meeting.

<u>Primary</u> Chair	<u>Present</u>	Representing	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Present</u>
Morad Kabiri, P.E.	Х	Smaller Cities	Jildardo Arias	
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chair				
Perri D'Armond	Х	Transit	Pamela Lebrane	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair		-		
Brian Alcott	Х	Toll Roads	Amar Mohite	
Brenda Bustillos, Ph.D.,		-		
P.E.	Х	Active Transportation	Lisa Graiff	
Yuhayna Mahmud		Active Transportation	Luis Guajardo, AICP	
James Brown	Х	_ Airports	Bill Zrioka	
Amy Skicki	Х	Business Interests	Scott Harper	Χ*
Marlisa Briggs		Business Interests	Kris Larson, LPM, AICP	
Irma Sanchez	Х	Citizen Interests	Dexter Handy	
			Sherry Weesner, P.E.,	
Alan Steinberg, Ph.D.	Χ	Citizen Interests	CPM	X*
Andrea French		Environmental	Sue Theiss	Х
			Shelley Sekula-Gibbs,	
Scott Nichols	Χ	Environmental	M.D.	<u>X*</u>
Clint Harbert, AICP		METRO	Alan Clark	Х
Catherine McCreight		_ Planning	Jeffrey English, AICP	Х
David Wurdlow	<u>X</u>	_ Planning	Katherine Parker	
Marlene Gafrick	Χ	Planning	Christina Cabral	<u>X*</u>
(Vacant)		Port of Houston	Rohit Saxena	Х
Dean Corgey		Ports	Rob Lowe	
Hon. Dan Davis	<u> </u>	Regional Planning	Hon. Lori Klein Quinn	Х
Andy Rodgers	X	Smaller Cities	Brian Winningham	
Kathie Reyer	Х	Smaller Cities	Byron Hebert	
Robert Castaneda		_ Toll Roads	David Gornet	
Ruthanne Haut	<u> </u>	_ Transit	Todd Stephens	
Ken Fickes, CCTM	Х	Transit	Vernon Chambers	Χ*
Lisa Collins, P.E.		TxDOT – Beaumont Dist.	Nancy Peron, P.E., PMP	
Grady Mapes, P.E.	<u>X</u>	TxDOT – Houston Dist.	Catherine McCreight	
Wael Tabara, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Brazoria County	Karen McKinnon, P.E.	
Zachery Vogler	Х	_ Chambers County	Cory Taylor, P.E.	

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Present</u>	Representing	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Present</u>
Zachery Vogler	Х	Chambers County	Cory Taylor, P.E.	
Stacy Slawinski, P.E.	Х	Fort Bend County	Rick J. Staigle, P.E.	
Michael Shannon, P.E.	Х	Galveston County	Nancy Baher	
Patrick Mandapaka,				
Ph.D., AICP	Х	Harris County	Kristian Heighway	
Hon. Jay Knight	Х	Liberty County	Hon. Greg Arthur	
Jason Smith	Х	Montgomery County	Thomas Woolley	
Ross McCall, P.E.		Waller County	Luke Fortkamp, P.E.	
Brant Gary	Х	City of Baytown	Martin Scribner	
Greg Hall, Jr.	Х	City of Conroe	Chuck Purvis	
Robert Winiecke, P.E.,				
CFM	Х	City of Galveston	Brandon Cook	
Fabio Capillo			Johana Clark,	
·	Х	City of Houston	P.E., PTOE, ENV SP	
Christopher Sims	Х	City of League City	Cara Davis	
(Vacant)		City of Missouri City	Joi Johnson	Х
Sarah Benavides, P.E.		City of Pasadena	Mark Gardemal, P.E.	
			Fabiola de Carvalho,	
Lorenzo Wingate	Х	City of Pearland	CFM, AMP, MIAM	
Melanie Beaman	Х	City of Sugarland	Sagnik "Nik" Raha, P.E.	
Kim Golden, P.E.		City of Texas City	Jack Haralson, P.E.	
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	44	Total Voting Membership		
		Total Voting Membership		
	36	Present		

22 Required Quorum