

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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H-GAC SEEKS COMMUNITY INPUT ON TRANSPORTATION STUDIES IN SOUTHEAST HARRIS COUNTY, LIBERTY COUNTY, AND MONTGOMERY COUNTY PRECINCT 2 AT UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

H-GAC Will Host One Virtual Public Meeting Every Other Thursday Discussing Each Study Area Starting on April 15

HOUSTON, TX – The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) is conducting transportation studies in three key areas of the metropolitan planning area that are experiencing rapid growth and development – Southeast Harris County, Montgomery County Precinct 2, and Liberty County – to better understand these areas' transportation needs and identify opportunities for improvements in safety, mobility, connectivity, and accessibility. Residents and stakeholders in these communities will have the chance to hear all about the studies and provide their own input at a series of virtual public meetings beginning on Thursday, April 15.

Each public meeting will cover a different study area. They will be held via Zoom and will include dial in by phone options. H-GAC experts will discuss the studies and take questions and comments from the attendees. H-GAC will also provide a Spanish translator and an American Sign Language interpreter for the hearing impaired. More information about each of these meetings, the studies, and how to register is available at engage.h-gac.com. The meetings will take place on the following dates and times:

- Southeast Harris County Subregional Study public meeting 6-7:30 p.m. | Thursday, April 15
- Montgomery County Precinct 2 Mobility Study public meeting 6-7:30 p.m. | Thursday, April 22
- Liberty County Mobility Study public meeting 6-7:30 p.m. | Thursday, April 29

The first meeting in the series – which takes place at 6 p.m., April 15 – will cover the Southeast Harris County Subregional Study. The study area – which includes communities in Houston, South Houston, Pasadena, Deer Park, and La Porte – serves a growing amount of commuter, residential, and industrial traffic. The study will work to identify the roadways and intersections in this area considered by residents to be highly congested, unsafe, needing more accessibility, or in need of other improvements. It includes an online survey and an interactive comment map available at engage.h-gac.com where residents and

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stakeholders can share their thoughts.

"This is an opportunity for those who live, work, and visit southeast Harris County to share their concerns and ideas to improve traveling through and around the study area," said Mike Burns, principal planner at H-GAC. "Their participation is a critical source of input."

The next public meeting – which occurs at 6 p.m., on April 22 - will cover the Montgomery County Precinct 2 Mobility Study. The study area – which includes Magnolia and portions of Montgomery, Conroe, Shenandoah, and The Woodlands Township – encompasses an area of the region experiencing tremendous development. The study is the product of a partnership between H-GAC and Montgomery County Precinct 2 Commissioner Charlie Riley to create a transportation plan that will address existing and future mobility needs. The plan would recommend short-, medium-, and long-range projects to improve mobility, efficiency, safety, and connectivity. As with the southeast Harris County study, the Montgomery County Precinct 2 Mobility Study includes an online survey and interactive comment map at engage.h-gac.com where residents and stakeholders can share their feedback and ideas about where transportation improvements are needed.

"Residents of Montgomery County Precinct 2 face traffic issues daily," said Carlene Mullins, principal transportation planner at H-GAC. "The study team looks forward to hearing from people that live, work, or visit the study area so their issues and concerns can be addressed."

The final meeting in the series – which will take place at 6 p.m., April 29 – covers the Liberty County Mobility Study. This study represents a partnership between Liberty County and the cities of Cleveland, Dayton, and Liberty. Its goal is to define future transportation investments that will provide more travel options for daily travelers in the county, increase the efficiency of freight traffic, upgrade highly congested corridors and intersections, improve safety at high-crash areas, and enhance economic opportunity for all who live and work in the county. It focuses on all transportation users, including car and freight truck drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transit riders. County residents and stakeholders can provide their feedback at the public meeting by submitting public comments or via an online survey and interactive comment map available at engage.h-gac.com.

"The people who live and work in Liberty County know best what the county's transportation issues are," said Thomas Gray, principal transportation planner at H-GAC and the study's project manager. "We're eager to receive their input so we can create a study that addresses their concerns."

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The public comment period for all three public meetings will open on April 15 and will close on May 14, 2021. Comments may be submitted by phone at 1-855-363-2516, by mail to Attention: Transportation Community Input Series, P.O. Box 22777, Houston, TX, 77277-2777, or emailed to publiccomments@h-gac.com.

For more information about transportation programs, visit <u>h-gac.com</u>.

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