

MEETING OF THE RTP SUBCOMMITTEE

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

TELECONFERENCE PARTICIPATION VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

1:30 PM

Minutes

Member Attendance:

Primary-Name	Present	Alternate-Name	Present
Vacant		Michael D. Jackson	YES
Bill Zrioka	YES	Paul Tollison	
Marlisa Briggs		Nikki Knight	
Peter Eccles	YES	Dexter Handy	
Amy Skicki		Dr. Shelley Sekula-Gibbs	YES
Karen McKinnon		Wael Tabara	
Kayla Dohkani	YES	Marcus Snell	
Todd Stephens	YES	Ruthanne Haut	
Jil Arias		Morad Kabiri	
Jeffery Boutte		Patrick Mandapaka	
Luke Fortkamp		Ross McCall	
Perri D'Armond	YES	Pamela LeBrane	
Vacant		Brandon Mosley	YES
Joe Garcia		Jean Mann	
Katherine Parker		Katherine Summerlin	YES
Bruce Mann		Rohit Saxena	YES
Vacant		Vacant	
Nancy Peron	YES	Carolina Lopez-Herrera	YES
David Gao	YES	Jeffrey English	YES
Ken Fickes	YES	Vernon Chambers	YES
Vacant		Ted Ross	YES
Alberto Lyne	YES	Rachel Die Montenegro	YES
Brian Alcott	YES	Amar Mohite	

Others Present: Veronica Waller, Lucinda Martinez, Rodney Sigua, Qun Zhao, Brenda Bustillos, Weijie Zhuo, Monique Johnson, Vinny Polignano, Sharon Ju, Carlene Mullins, Thomas Gray, Jochen Floesser, Eric Pacheco, Gloria Brown, Marcus Tucker, Tim (unidentified), Catherine Gray

**Staff Participating:** Stephen Keen, Maggie Isied, Vishu Lingala, Andrew DeCandis

1. Call to Order

- Chairman Brian Alcott called Subcommittee to order at 1:32 PM.

## 2. Meeting Minutes

- Staff requests action on September meeting minutes.
  - Chairman Brian Alcott request motion to approve.
    - Ken Fickes moves to approve.
    - Dr. Shelley Sekula Gibbs Seconds the motion.
    - Motion approved.

## 3. What we heard: September RTP Subcommittee Meeting

- When is the next opportunity for H-GAC to apply for CPRG grants?
  - Stephen Keen mentioned that while additional CPRG funding opportunities have been identified, H-GAC received feedback that will strengthen applications for future grant opportunities.
- Questions and/or comments
  - None

## 4. RTP Project Development Process Update

- Stephen Keen gives a brief update on the RTP Project Development Process.
  - Fiscal constraint, Illustrative List development, and project sponsor notification meetings are underway. The fiscally constrained project list will be presented to the RTP Subcommittee, TAC, and TPC in November. Air Quality will begin after project lists are approved by TPC.
- Questions and/or comments
  - None.

## 5. Air Quality Conformity Presentation: Overview

- Maggie Isied gives an overview of the Air Quality Conformity Process.
  - Transportation conformity is federally required. Our region is in nonattainment for the 8-hr Ozone Standard. The region must demonstrate that emissions do not exceed limits established in the state's air quality State Implementation Plan (SIP). Conformity is triggered by several different activities (usually significant amendments to or adoption of the RTP). Air Quality Conformity is a team sport. Analysis and consultation with conformity partners and stakeholders will take 5-6 months, and submission and approval by the USDOT will take 3-5 months. Conformity partners include the MPO, local transit and air quality offices, TxDOT TCEQ, US EPA, FTA, and FHWA. If conformity is not made, there is a one-year grace period before a lapse

occurs. Once lapse occurs, federal funds are restricted for projects subject to conformity.

- Questions and/or comments
  - Peter Eccles asks why the region went into a conformity lapse last year?
    - Andrew DeCandis said that there were scheduling issues with conformity partners. Because of that, conformity was delayed, and a conformity lapse grace period occurred for three months.
  - Chairman Brian Alcott asks about the definition of regionally significant?
    - Vishu Lingala said that the definition was from the 2040 RTP. The definition we use is for our MPO, which at minimum abides by the CFR regionally significance. The exempt project list is not subject to air quality conformity. Projects that are not added capacity, in general, are not subject to air quality conformity, however, each project needs to be examined for air quality conformity.
  - Dr. Shelley Sekula Gibbs asks if projects adding lanes funded by local funds should be added to conformity?
    - If project is not regionally significant, it is not in the air quality conformity process.

#### 6. Announcements

- Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)
  - Next Meeting: October 16, 2024, at 9:30 am (In-Person).
- Transportation Policy Council (TPC)
  - Next Meeting: October 25, 2024, at 9:30 am (In-Person).
- Regional Transportation Plan Subcommittee
  - Next Meeting: November 6, 2024, at 1:30 pm (Virtual).
- Brian Alcott suggested for a presentation over the next steps of the RTP Process presented by the Air Quality Conformity Team at H-GAC.

#### 7. Adjourn

- Chair Brian Alcott calls for motion to adjournment at 2:12 PM.
  - David Gao motions to approve.
  - Todd Stephens seconds motions.
  - Motion approved.