

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 16, 2019

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H-GAC ANNOUNCES OUR GREAT REGION AWARD WINNERS

Awards Recognize Outstanding Local Community Initiatives

The Houston-Galveston Area Council announces the third annual Our Great Region award winners, recognizing outstanding local projects advancing goals and strategies identified in the *Our Great Region 2040* plan. *Our Great Region 2040* is a high-level plan focused on making the Gulf Coast region a better place to live, work, and succeed, as defined by measurable goals, by the year 2040.

Five local governments and organizations received awards across five categories, demonstrating innovative quality work focused on building a more vibrant region.

The **Excellence Award**, the highest honor, recognizes projects best advancing the vision of the *Our Great Region 2040 plan*.

Avenue Community Development Corporation for the Avenue to Opportunity Project

The **Connection Award** honors projects advancing two or more of the *Our Great Region 2040* plan's strategies through innovative partnerships.

• Harris County Transit-RIDES Program for the RIDES Program

The **Diligence Award** honors an implemented project executing a creative and tenacious approach to overcoming challenges to implementation.

• West Houston Association for the West Houston 2060 Plan

The **Opportunity Award** honors a project helping overcome disparities in access to opportunity.

• Texas A&M University for the Resiliency Through Regeneration Plan

The **Reach Award** honors a project demonstrating exemplary public participation.

• The <u>City of Houston</u> for Complete Communities Project

Read more about the award-winning projects at https://www.ograwards.org/2018-award-winners.html.

More information about H-GAC's Our Great Region 2040 is available at www.ourregion.org.

Houston-Galveston Area Council

The Houston-Galveston Area Council (www.h-gac.com) is a voluntary association of local governments in the 13-county Gulf Coast Planning Region—an area of 12,500 square miles and more than 7 million people. H-GAC works to promote efficient and accountable use of local, state, and federal tax dollars and serves as a problem-solving and information forum for local government needs.