

5A. MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 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 gave a brief overview of the housekeeping rules. After the housekeeping rules, the Chair called on Ms. Allie Isbell, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Assistant Director, 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 32 members in attendance; 22 are required for a quorum.

The meeting agenda and materials are available on the TAC website at:

<http://www.h-gac.com/transportation-advisory-committee/meeting-agendas-and-minutes.aspx>.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no *written* public comments received, and no public comments were made from the floor.

ITEM 4. ORIENTATION TO AGENDA AND MPO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR REPORT

The report was presented by Ms. Jamila Owens, the MPO Assistant Director, who provided a brief overview of recent activities and upcoming items of interest. Ms. Owens reported that there were two actions items, the July meeting minutes and 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments. Ms. Owens further noted that Staff are still exploring a new planning activity report format, to provide to TAC Members.

Other items mentioned in Ms. Owens report included recent H-GAC Board action items, which comprised of approval of two grant agreements for regional public transportation coordination (around \$350,000), approval of consulting contracts for Fresno Livable Center Study and Youth Traffic Safety Education Program. Ms. Owens also informed the Committee of an upcoming Board action item for approval pertaining to the North Houston Communities Transportation Priorities Plan. Lastly, Ms. Owens briefly highlighted other ongoing planning activities aside from the items listed in Item 10. The two planning initiatives underway that were noted by Ms. Owens were that the Data Analytics department has begun working with an external consultant on predictive modeling for the World Cup, and the Communications Team is partnering with the Commute Solutions Program in preparation for the Ozone Action Program. To hear the MPO Director Report in its entirety, please click on the link [here](#).

ITEM 5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Kabiri entertained a motion for Consent Agenda Item; 5A) Meeting Minutes Summary for July 16, 2025, TAC Meeting.

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Jason Smith. A second motion for approval was made by Ms. Perri D'Armond. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

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:

- Program two Fort Bend County SH 99 northbound frontage road construction projects (MPO IDs 19494, 19495) in FY 2026 with \$30M of federal Surface Transportation Block Grant and Supplemental Transportation funds matched with state funds as H-GAC Project Selection Process awards.
- Add \$6.7M of state-awarded Supplemental Transportation funds to three Fort Bend County SH 99 frontage road construction projects (MPO IDs 19198, 19200, 19201) in FY 2026 and update the authorized phases of work.
- Remove \$70.4M of federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funds from three METRO construction projects (MPO IDs 15265, 18761, 18762) due to Federal Highway Administration's determination of ineligibility. Delay from FY 2025 to FY 2026.
- Change the sponsor of the City of Conroe's FY 2029 Old Conroe Road four-lane extension project (MPO ID 17101) to Montgomery County per the agreement between the agencies.

Staff was seeking TAC recommendation for TPC approval of Resolution 2025-23.

Mr. Jason Smith moved to approve the recommendations for the 2025-2028 TIP Amendments. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ken Fickes. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

ITEM 7. NORTH HOUSTON ASSOCIATION 2025 STRATEGIC MOBILITY PRIORITIES

Ms. Marlisa Briggs, President of the North Houston Association (NHA), along with Mr. Hunter Brennan with Civitas Engineering Group and Mr. Michael Copeland with HNTB, provided a presentation on the North Houston Association 2025 Strategic Mobility Priorities. Since its creation in 1982, the North Houston Association (NHA) has been advocating for key regional mobility projects in the north Houston region. Every three years, the NHA produces the NHA Strategic Mobility Priorities (SMP).

The purpose of the SMP is to identify mobility projects which need either funding or political/public support. Selected projects are to be within the North Houston Association's service area, or impact mobility in the NHA's boundaries.

For the 2025 NHA SMP, representatives sought input from more than 25 agencies, cities, precincts and organizations, gathering information on the top projects in need of advocacy. More than 90 projects were initially identified in these meetings. These projects were then scored by members of an all-volunteer task force, comprised of NHA members who specialize in mobility matters. The task force scored all projects in the following areas: mobility, safety, economic development, multimodal/intermodal, diversity/environmental justice and have an element of achievability. The result of this rigorous process was the identification of 22 priority projects; three city projects, seven county projects, four Harris County Toll Road Authority projects, seven TxDOT projects and

one project's funding source is unknown. More information regarding the 2025 NHA SMP can be found here: <https://www.north-houston.com/2025-strategic-mobility-priorities/>. To hear more about this presentation, please click on the link below.

This item was for information only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

ITEM 8. 2026-UNIFIED TRANSPORTATION PLAN (UTP) COMMENTS

Mr. Vishu Lingala presented on the 2026-Unified Transportation Program (UTP) Comments. The Unified Transportation Program (UTP) is used by the Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) to plan and guide project development over a 10-year period. The UTP is developed annually by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to comply with the Texas Administrative Code (TAC §16.105) and is approved by the TTC every August. The UTP authorizes TxDOT and local partnering agencies to prepare projects for construction based on potential future cash flow.

The UTP provides a comprehensive financial outlook for transportation funding from fiscal year 2026 to 2035. This UTP outlines anticipated funding allocations across twelve distinct TxDOT funding categories, ranging from preventative maintenance to strategic priority projects.

These twelve categories encompass a wide spectrum of transportation needs, that included the following:

- Infrastructure preservation (Preventative Maintenance)
- Urban corridor development
- Non-traditional transportation initiatives
- Statewide connectivity projects
- Environmental and congestion mitigation
- Bridge rehabilitation
- Metropolitan mobility improvements
- Safety enhancements
- Transportation alternatives
- Supplemental transportation programs
- District-specific discretionary funding
- Strategic priority investments

Staff provided a comprehensive financial overview with a detailed breakdown of 2026 statewide allocations and a comparative analysis featuring a side-by-side comparison of the 2025 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) allocations. For more detailed information on the UTP and funding categories, please visit the TxDOT website here: [Unified Transportation Program - UTP \(txdot.gov\)](#).

Following the presentation, the Committee engaged in a substantive discussion.

The key discussion points:

- Explored potential implications of proposed updates
- Raised specific concerns about funding allocations (Category 5)
- Discussed strategies to streamline the transportation conformity process in alignment with Clean Air Act requirements

Chair Kabiri proposed a strategic next step: Dr. Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, Chair of the Transportation Air Quality (TAQ) Subcommittee, to develop a report and recommended position for TAC review, addressing the Committee's air quality and conformity concerns pertaining to this topic. To hear the details and comments on this presentation, please click on the link below.

This item was for information only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

ITEM 9. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) COMPLIANCE

Ms. Allison Wahl provided an overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance. The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Transportation Department receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 27 and 28 require that all recipients of federal-aid highway funds comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. It states that "no otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States shall, solely by reason of his or her disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." 28 CFR 35 implements the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), which extended the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of disability to all local agencies, including those that do not receive Federal financial assistance. Staff provided an update on the efforts and actions to fulfill ADA Compliance. To hear more about this presentation, please click on the link below.

This item was for information only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available [here](#).

ITEM 10. PLANNING ACTIVITIES

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

Mr. Jim Dickinson provided a brief update on 2025-2028 TIP Administrative Amendments to the Committee. 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 [here](#).

B. Safety Action Plans

Ms. Keehren Baah gave an update on the ongoing Safety Action Plans throughout the region. 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 [here](#).

C. Railroad Crossing Grade Separation Initiative

Ms. Sydni Ligons gave an update on the MPO's role in a regional initiative to evaluate at-grade rail crossings. 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 [here](#).

D. 2050 Regional Transportation Plan

Mr. Brandon Mosley provided an update on the public outreach phase of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan. 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 [here](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Transportation Policy Council (TPC) Meeting	August 22	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Subcommittee Meeting	September 3	9:30 a.m.	Virtual
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting	September 10	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office
Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Subcommittee Meeting	September 10	1:30 p.m.	Virtual
Transportation Air Quality (TAQ) Subcommittee Meeting	September 17	10:00 a.m.	Virtual
Houston Regional Air Quality Summit	September 24	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	The Cullen Building at Baylor College of Medicine 1 Baylor Plaza Houston, TX 77030

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Morad Kabiri adjourned the meeting of the TAC at 11:25 a.m.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item are available on the TAC website [here](#).

First Vice Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

Attachment 1

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDANCE AUGUST 13, 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>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Present</u>
<i>Chair</i>				
Morad Kabiri, P.E.	X	Smaller Cities	Jildardo Arias	
<i>1st Vice Chair</i>				
Perri D'Armond	X	Transit	Pamela Lebrane	
<i>2nd Vice Chair</i>				
Brian Alcott	X	Toll Roads	Amar Mohite	
Brenda Bustillos, Ph.D., P.E.	X	Active Transportation	Lisa Graiff	
Yuhayna Mahmud	X	Active Transportation	Luis Guajardo, AICP	X*
James Brown		Airports	Bill Zrioka	
Amy Skicki	X	Business Interests	Scott Harper	
Marlisa Briggs	X	Business Interests	Kris Larson, LPM, AICP	
Irma Sanchez		Citizen Interests	Dexter Handy	
Alan Steinberg, Ph.D.	X	Citizen Interests	Sherry Weesner, P.E., CPM	
Andrea French	X	Environmental	Sue Theiss	X*
Scott Nichols		Environmental	Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, M.D.	X
Clint Harbert, AICP		METRO	Alan Clark	
Lisa Collins, P.E.		TxDOT – Beaumont Dist.	Nancy Peron, P.E., PMP	
Grady Mapes, P.E.		TxDOT – Houston Dist.	Catherine McCreight	X
Catherine McCreight		Planning	Jeffrey English, AICP	X
David Wurdlow	X	Planning	(Vacant)	
Marlene Gafrick	X	Planning	Christina Cabral	
Rohit Saxena	X	Port Houston	Candice Armenoff	
Dean Corgey		Ports	Rob Lowe	
Hon. Dan Davis	X	Regional Planning	Hon. Lori Klein Quinn	
Andy Rodgers	X	Smaller Cities	Brian Winningham	
Kathie Reyer		Smaller Cities	Byron Hebert	X
Robert Castaneda		Toll Roads	David Gornet	
Ruthanne Haut	X	Transit	Todd Stephens	
Ken Fickes, CCTM	X	Transit	Vernon Chambers	X*
Wael Tabara, P.E.	X	Brazoria County	Karen McKinnon, P.E.	
Zachery Vogler, P.E.	X	Chambers County	Cory Taylor, P.E.	

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Present</u>
Stacy Slawinski, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Fort Bend County	Rick J. Staigle, P.E.	<u> </u>
Michael Shannon, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Galveston County	Nancy Baher	<u> </u>
Patrick Mandapaka, Ph.D., AICP	<u>X</u>	Harris County	Kristian Heighway	<u> </u>
Hon. Jay Knight	<u>X</u>	Liberty County	Hon. Greg Arthur	<u> </u>
Jason Smith	<u>X</u>	Montgomery County	Thomas Woolley	<u> </u>
Ross McCall, P.E.	<u> </u>	Waller County	Luke Fortkamp, P.E.	<u> </u>
Brant Gary	<u>X</u>	City of Baytown	Martin Scribner	<u> </u>
Greg Hall, Jr.	<u>X</u>	City of Conroe	Chuck Purvis	<u> </u>
Robert Winiecke, P.E., CFM	<u> </u>	City of Galveston	Brandon Cook	<u> </u>
Fabio Capillo	<u>X</u>	City of Houston	Johana Clark, P.E., PTOE, ENV SP	<u> </u>
Christopher Sims	<u> </u>	City of League City	Cara Davis	<u> </u>
(Vacant)	<u> </u>	City of Missouri City	Joi Johnson	<u>X</u>
Sarah Benavides, P.E.	<u> </u>	City of Pasadena	Mark Gardemal, P.E.	<u> </u>
Lorenzo Wingate	<u> </u>	City of Pearland	Fabiola de Carvalho, CFM, AMP, MIAM	<u> </u>
Melanie Beaman	<u>X</u>	City of Sugarland	(Vacant)	<u> </u>
Kim Golden, P.E.	<u> </u>	City of Texas City	Jack Haralson, P.E.	<u> </u>
	<u>44</u>	Total Voting Membership		
	<u>32</u>	Total Voting Membership Present		
	<u>22</u>	Required Quorum		