



Houston-Galveston
Area Council

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

H-GAC Launches First Regional Clean Air Plan and Invites Public Input

HOUSTON, TX — The [Houston-Galveston Area Council](#) (H-GAC) has launched the region's first Clean Air Action Plan, a long-term effort to improve air quality, protect public health and support a strong regional economy across the 13-county Houston-Galveston region.

The plan is paired with a new interactive website, h-gac.com/clean-air, where residents, businesses and local governments can explore the plan and share feedback.

Developed through the Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program, the Clean Air Action Plan outlines strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and harmful air pollution through 2050. It focuses on five key areas: transportation, buildings and energy, industry, waste management, and agriculture and land use.

Built with Community Input

The Clean Air Action Plan is the result of extensive public outreach across the region. H-GAC engaged residents, community groups and regional partners through meetings, events and online engagement.

A community survey launched in August 2025 gathered input from residents about their concerns, priorities and ideas for improving air quality. This feedback helped shape the plan's strategies and ensure they reflect the needs and values of the communities they serve.

The new website is designed to make the plan easy to understand and use. Features include interactive sections for each focus area, tools for public feedback, a resource library and information on how cleaner air can lead to better health, lower energy costs and job growth.

Residents will also have a chance to connect in person. The H-GAC Air Quality team will be at Earth Day at Discovery Green this Saturday to answer questions, share information and gather community input on the Clean Air Action Plan.

H-GAC encourages residents and regional partners to review the draft strategies online and provide feedback as the plan moves toward implementation. Public input will help shape which projects move forward, including efforts like expanding alternative commute options and investing in nature-based solutions in urban areas.

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The Clean Air Action Plan is part of H-GAC's broader "Clean Air, Healthy Communities" initiative, which connects regional growth with environmental responsibility.

Learn more and get involved:

h-gac.com/clean-air

About the Regional Clean Air Action Plan

The Regional Clean Air Action Plan will serve as a comprehensive strategy to reduce greenhouse gases, improve air quality, and promote healthy communities across the Houston-Galveston region. Developed in partnership with Harris County, the city of Houston, Fort Bend County, and the Houston Advanced Research Center, the plan will build on existing air quality and climate action initiatives. The development of the plan is a central component of a \$1 million Climate Pollution Reduction Grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, providing a structured roadmap for reducing emissions and guiding regional climate initiatives. For more information, visit h-gac.com/climate-pollution-reduction-grant-program

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

H-GAC is a voluntary association of local governments and local elected officials from the 13-county Gulf Coast planning region, which includes an area of 12,500 square miles and more than eight million people. H-GAC promotes efficient and accountable use of local, state, and federal tax dollars; serves as a problem-solving and information forum for local governments; and helps analyze trends and conditions affecting the region. For more information, visit h-gac.com.

THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

The primary responsibility of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is to decide how federal transportation funds are spent locally for capital projects and planning studies. Each metropolitan area in the United States with more than 50,000 residents has an MPO. Since 1974, the Houston-Galveston Area Council and the Transportation Policy Council have served as the MPO (staff and policy board, respectively) for the eight-county metropolitan planning area, which includes Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller counties. Together they provide policy guidance and overall coordination of the transportation planning activities within the eight-county MPO region.

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