



A G E N D A
HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 15, 2021 9:15 AM

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1E5BLa-QSvOrhsXAvKe_dg

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. N/A
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Members of the public may participate by sending comments to BoardPublicComments@h-gac.com; by joining online via our website; or by dialing US: 1-888-788-0099 (Toll Free) or 1-877-853-5247 (Toll Free) (Webinar ID: 916 6336 6116; Participant ID: 497511; Passcode: 613749)
4. DECLARE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

ACTION

5. CONSENT AGENDA
Items listed are of a routine nature and may be acted on in a single motion unless requested otherwise by a member of the Board.
 - a. N/A
 - b. TOW AND GO PROGRAM – CITY OF HOUSTON
Request authorization to enter an interlocal agreement with the City of Houston for the Tow and Go Program; total amount is \$4,020,000. (Staff Contact: Craig Raborn)
 - c. PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLIST COUNTERS
Request authorization to negotiate the purchase of permanent and mobile counting equipment from the above companies in the order presented; total amount is \$100,000. (Staff Contact: Craig Raborn)
 - d. LIVABLE CENTERS STUDY – CITY OF HOUSTON, SOUTHWEST
Request authorization to contract with firms in order ranked to conduct Livable Centers Study for the City of Houston, Southwest; total amount is \$303,125. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)
 - e. WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN
Request approval to contract with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to conduct regional water quality planning activities; total amount is \$136,588. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)
 - f. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM – FISCAL YEAR 2022 -2023
Request adoption of resolution approving application submittal and authorization of contract with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for fiscal year

2022-2023 solid waste management implementation program in the amount of \$2,013,328. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)

- g. WORKFORCE SYSTEM CONTRACT AMENDMENT – BAKER RIPLEY
Request authorization to increase funding for the BakerRipley Career Office contract by \$2,200,000; total amount is \$25,600,000. (Staff Contact: Mike Temple)
 - h. WORKFORCE SYSTEM CONTRACT AMENDMENT – LEARNING DESIGNS
Request authorization to increase contract with Learning Designs by up to \$50,000; total contract amount is \$979,668. (Staff Contact: Mike Temple)
6. FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE
Report on activities and Committee recommendations.
- a. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – MAY 2021
Request approval of the monthly financial report ending May 31, 2021. (Staff Contact: Nancy Haussler)
7. AUDIT COMMITTEE
- a. COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
Request approval of the 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. (Staff Contact: Nancy Haussler)
 - b. EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT PLAN AUDIT
Request approval of the 2020 Employee Retirement Plan. (Staff Contact: Nancy Haussler)
8. HUMAN SERVICES
- a. WORKFORCE SYSTEM CONTRACT – CONSTRUCTION CAREER COLLABORATIVE
Request authorization to contract with Construction Career Collaborative; total amount is \$364,511 in the first year, with an option to renew for two additional years. (Staff Contact: Mike Temple)
9. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
- a. CLEAN RIVERS PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 WORK PROGRAM
Request authorization to contract with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for regional water quality monitoring; total amount is \$1,931,230. (Staff Contact: Todd Running)
 - b. CLEAN RIVERS PROGRAM WATER QUALITY MONITORING SUBCONTRACTS
Request authorization to contract with the City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services; Environmental Institute of Houston; University of Houston-Clear Lake; and the Texas Research Institute for Environmental Studies for Water

Quality Monitoring Services; combined total amount is \$292,625. (Staff Contact: Todd Running)

- c. CLEAN RIVERS PROGRAM LABORATORY SUBCONTRACT
Request authorization to execute contract with Eastex Environmental Laboratory; total amount is \$127,000. (Staff Contact: Todd Running)

10. N/A

11. N/A

12. N/A

13. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

14. ADJOURNMENT

TOW AND GO PROGRAM – CITY OF HOUSTON

Background

The Houston-Galveston Area Council's Metropolitan Planning Organization, in partnership with the City of Houston and Texas Department of Transportation, implemented the Tow and Go Program in 2018 to reduce congestion on local area freeways caused by stalled vehicles. The Tow and Go Program's goal is to quickly remove stalled vehicles from freeways to a nearby safe location with no direct cost to the motorist. The Tow and Go Program also supports the Vision Zero goals of the agencies through reduction of secondary crashes and fatalities. The program has been active for three years and completed over 92,000 tows. Average tow clearance time during 2020 was just over 16 minutes.

Current Situation

H-GAC works with the City of Houston for the towing and management of the Tow and Go Program. The Texas Department of Transportation has authorized the expenditure of these funds, which are budgeted in the Transportation Improvement Program. H-GAC is requesting authorization to enter an interlocal agreement with the City of Houston to continue the Tow and Go Program to fund administration and reimbursement of the tows provided at no direct cost to the stranded motorist. This agreement will extend the funding of Tow and Go program in Houston by 19 months, from October 2021 to May 2023.

Funding Source

Federal - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funds

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to enter an interlocal agreement with the City of Houston for the Tow and Go Program; total amount is \$4,020,000. (Staff Contact: Craig Raborn)

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLIST COUNTERS

Background

The Houston-Galveston Area Council's Metropolitan Planning Organization collects, analyzes, and shares data on pedestrian and bicyclist activity through the Pedestrian and Bicyclist program. According to the 2019 American Community Survey, approximately 105,000 people in the region bicycle or walk to work. H-GAC's bicycle and pedestrian count data helps to guide future infrastructure investments and assist with policy recommendations related to multimodal transportation and safety in the region. H-GAC currently has 4 permanent counters within Houston and 4 additional mobile counters available for loan, to temporarily install them upon request for data collection in the eight-county Metropolitan Planning Area.

Current Situation

H-GAC seeks to expand its permanent and mobile counting equipment to better collect data in locations outside of Houston. In addition, some of the older equipment must be replaced due to ongoing maintenance issues. The cost per unit for bicycle and pedestrian counters is in the range of \$3,500 to \$8,000. This authorization will allow the purchase of approximately 8 new permanent and 10-12 mobile counters.

H-GAC issued a Request for Proposals in March 2021 and two proposals were received. The Proposal Review Committee recommended the following companies in the order presented below as vendors to purchase bicycle and pedestrian counter equipment:

1. Eco-Counter, Inc.
2. Smart Sensor Solutions, LLC.

Funding Source

Federal – Transportation Planning Funds

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to negotiate the purchase of permanent and mobile counting equipment from the above companies in the order presented; total amount is \$100,000. (Staff Contact: Craig Raborn)

LIVABLE CENTERS STUDY – CITY OF HOUSTON, SOUTHWEST

Background

Establishing Livable Centers is one of the implementation strategies of H-GAC's 2045 Regional Transportation Plan. The aim of this strategy is to create more walkable, mixed-use places that reduce reliance on single-vehicle occupancy. A total of thirty-four studies have been completed in the region and three more are currently underway.

Current Situation

The thirty-eighth Livable Centers study is ready to begin in Southwest Houston. The overall goal of the study is to formulate recommendations that will lead to a healthy, sustainable environment; accessible by multiple travel modes; and addresses the needs of residents, property owners, business owners and visitors. A committee comprised of representatives from H-GAC, Texas Department of Transportation, and City of Houston Council District K evaluated five proposals submitted by firms on May 10, 2021. Based on the committee's scoring and evaluation of the proposals as well as interviews, the committee's ranking is shown below:

1. Halff Associates, Inc.
2. Stantec
3. Asakura Robinson

Funding Source

Federal and Local

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to contract with firms in order ranked to conduct Livable Centers Study for the City of Houston, Southwest; total amount is \$303,125. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)

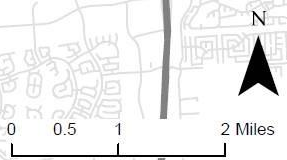
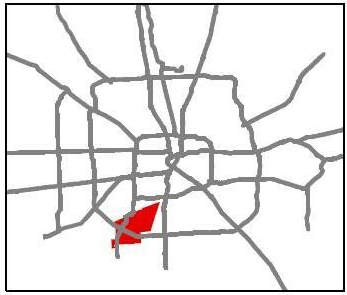
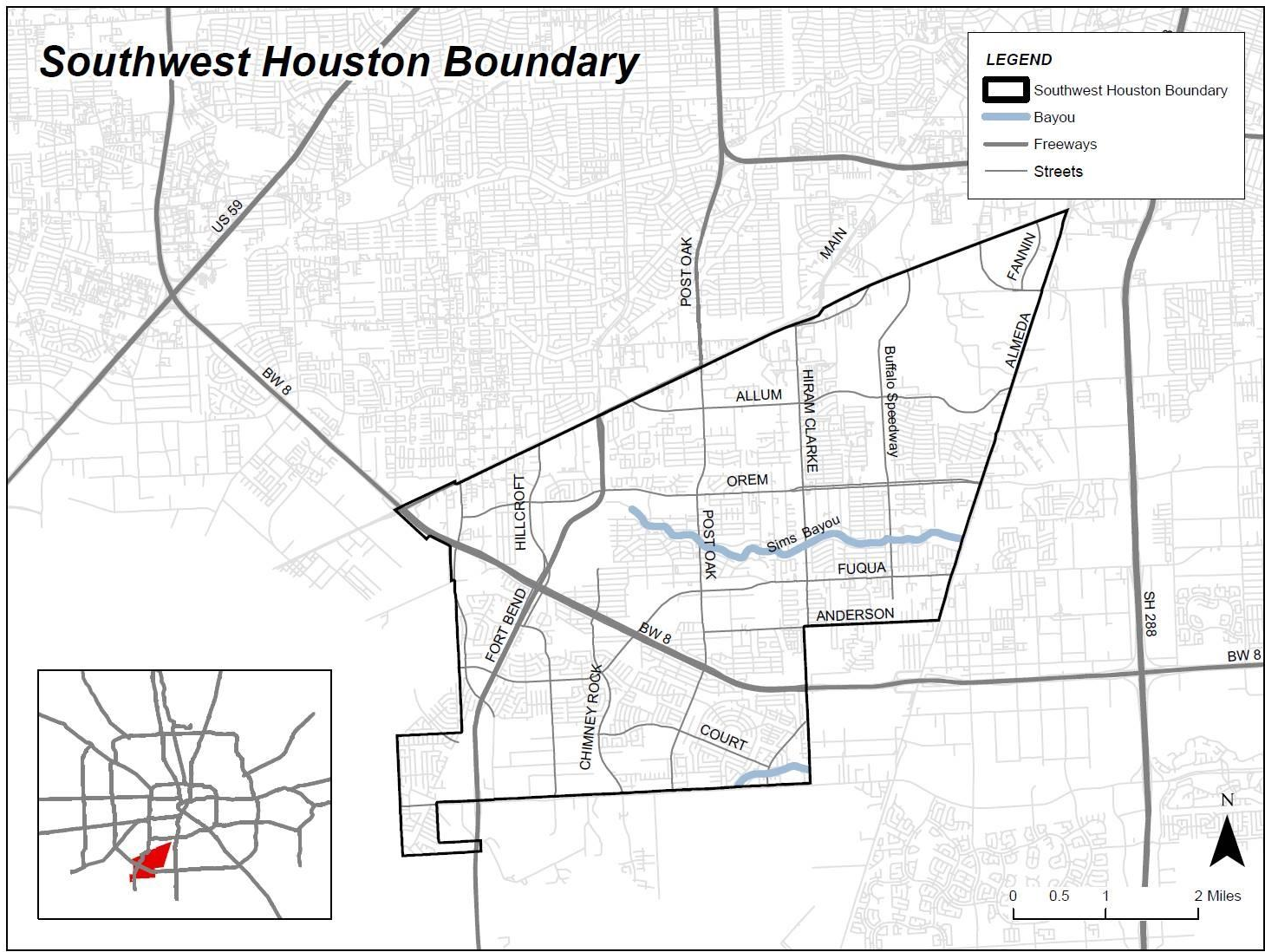
ATTACHMENTS:

- ▢ Southwest Livable Centers Boundary Exhibit

Southwest Houston Boundary

LEGEND

-  Southwest Houston Boundary
-  Bayou
-  Freeways
-  Streets



WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Background

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality administers 604(b) planning funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Water Act. As the Governor-designated agency for water quality management planning in this region, H-GAC has had a long-standing contractual agreement with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to conduct water quality planning under this program. The activities of this annual project cover the entire 13-county H-GAC region.

Current Situation

The Fiscal Year 2022 Regional Water Quality Planning program contract will be effective September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022, and its major work elements include:

- Update the service area boundaries and wastewater treatment plant outfalls and reviewing discharge and overflow reporting data to support local and state wastewater planning efforts.
- Support the watershed protection planning efforts in the region.
- Facilitate the H-GAC's Natural Resources Advisory Committee.
- Review the funding applications to the Texas Water Development Board State Revolving Funds for concurrence with the water quality management plan, as requested by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.
- Continue the maintenance of H-GAC's regional onsite sewage system facilities (septic systems) database and administration of the Wastewater Assistance Program for the repair or replacement of failing septic tanks.
- Develop the regional Water Quality Management Plan Update for incorporation into the state's Water Quality Management Plan.

Funding Source

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request approval to contract with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to conduct regional water quality planning activities; total amount is \$136,588. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM – FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

Background

The Houston-Galveston Area Council will receive \$2,013,328 from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for solid waste administration, coordination, and implementation activities.

Current Situation

In September 2021, H-GAC will issue a Request for Applications for local government projects. Approximately \$1,000,000 will be available for local government projects. One Request for Applications will be issued for the biennium; however the committee may recommend altering the funding split or issue a second Request for Applications depending on the quantity and quality of applications received.

All eligible grant projects will need to support priorities identified in H-GAC's regional solid waste management plan. The grant categories are:

- Local enforcement
- Litter and illegal dumping cleanup and community collection events
- Source reduction and recycling
- Local solid waste management plans
- Citizens' collection stations and "small" registered transfer stations
- Household hazardous waste disposal
- Technical studies
- Educational and training projects

Funding Source

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request adoption of resolution approving application submittal and authorization of contract with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for fiscal year 2022-2023 solid waste management implementation program in the amount of \$2,013,328. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)

ATTACHMENTS:

WORKFORCE SYSTEM CONTRACT AMENDMENT – BAKER RIPLEY

Background

H-GAC, as fiscal agent for the Gulf Coast Workforce Board, contracts with multiple organizations to operate Workforce Solutions, the region's public workforce system. For the past several years, contractors operating career offices have been integrating staff of the Texas Vocational Rehabilitation Service into Workforce Solutions local offices. This integration results in a need to redo local office space to accommodate the additional staff and service and sometimes to move a location to find sufficient room.

Current Situation

Local non-profit BakerRipley operates 13 of the 29 career offices in the region. They have completed buildouts for three locations this year and are working on three additional sites.

Because changes to these offices are the result of integrating vocational rehabilitation services – operated at the state level by the Workforce Commission – we must request vocational rehabilitation funds from the Commission to complete office redesigns and relocations.

We are requesting authority to add \$2,200,000 in vocational rehabilitation funds to BakerRipley's career office contract for completion of buildouts in the Rosenberg and Houston Northeast offices and the relocation of the Harris County Southwest office.

Funding Source

Texas Workforce Commission
Vocational Rehabilitation Service

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to increase funding for the BakerRipley Career Office contract by \$2,200,000; total amount is \$25,600,000. (Staff Contact: Mike Temple)

WORKFORCE SYSTEM CONTRACT AMENDMENT – LEARNING DESIGNS

Background

H-GAC, as the fiscal agent for the Gulf Coast Workforce Board, contracts with organizations to operate Workforce Solutions, the region's public workforce system. One of the services Workforce Solutions offers is financial assistance for working parents to help pay early education/childcare expenses. During the pandemic, many families had to give up this assistance because parents lost jobs. We saw our enrollments in early education fall. As the economy recovers and people return to work, we are experiencing a rising demand and an increasing number of applications for childcare assistance.

Current Situation

As of May 2021, our average daily attendance across the region for Workforce Solutions childcare is about 24,000. We have the funding to support up to 30,000.

Our experience tells us that we will have to review at least 12,000 new applications in a short period of time to enroll 6,000 additional children. We will need additional capacity in our application processing/eligibility determination systems to meet this goal.

We propose using Learning Designs, one of our existing Workforce Solutions contractors, to augment our capacity. With an additional \$50,000, Learning Designs will manage temporary employees who will process applications and determine families eligible for assistance.

Funding Source

Texas Workforce Commission

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to increase contract with Learning Designs by up to \$50,000; total contract amount is \$979,668. (Staff Contact: Mike Temple)

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – MAY 2021

ATTACHMENTS:

- Monthly Financial Report - May 2021 PDF

**HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
For the Five Months Ended May 2021**

	Budget Year to date	Actual Year to date	Variance Dollar	%
Combined Revenues and Expenditures				
Revenues	\$ 161,649,503	\$ 129,056,202	\$ (32,593,300)	-20%
Expenditures	(161,187,333)	(127,723,914)	33,463,418	-21%
Change in Combined Fund Balance	\$ 462,170	\$ 1,332,287	\$ 870,118	

Change in Fund Balance by Fund Type				
Change in fund balance - General Fund	\$ 60,364	\$ 139,175	\$ 78,811	
Change in fund balance - Gulf Coast Regional 911	373,129	922,075	548,946	
Change in fund balance - Enterprise Fund	102,185	271,037	168,852	
Total Change in Fund Balances	\$ 535,678	\$ 1,332,287	\$ 796,609	

Variance Analysis

The presentation of the change in fund balance by fund type is intended to highlight the effects of revenue and expenditure transactions by fund. The General Fund (GF) consists of those funds not associated with grant programs or enterprise activities. The Special Revenue Fund (SRF) consists of those funds that are restricted for a specific purpose. HGAC's grant programs are in this fund. The Enterprise Fund is used to track activities of the Cooperative Purchasing program and the Energy Purchasing Corporation. The variances of specific revenues and expenditures are explained on the second page of this report.

*** The Cooperative Purchasing program has contributed a \$288,283 increase toward the Enterprise fund balance YTD, and the Energy Purchasing Corporation is reflecting a (\$17,246) decrease to the Enterprise fund balance.

**HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
For the Five Months Ended May 2021**

	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Dollar	%
Revenues					
General and Enterprise Fund					
Membership dues (a)	\$ 395,538	\$ 395,538	\$ 113,652	\$ (281,886)	-71%
HGAC Energy Purchasing Corporation (b)	90,000	37,500	26,674	(10,826)	-29%
Cooperative Purchasing fees	5,500,000	2,291,667	1,983,465	(308,202)	-13%
Gulf Coast Regional 911 fees	4,036,797	1,681,999	1,822,171	140,173	8%
Interest Income (c)	35,000	14,583	475	(14,108)	-97%
Other (d)	3,981,468	1,658,945	2,170,869	511,924	31%
Total General and Enterprise Fund revenues	\$ 14,038,803	\$ 6,080,232	\$ 6,117,306	\$ 37,074	1%
Special Revenue Fund					
Federal Grant (e)	\$ 3,556,065	\$ 1,481,694	\$ 103,457	\$ (1,378,237)	-93%
State Grants	369,810,185	154,087,577	122,835,437	(31,252,140)	-20%
Total Special Revenue Fund revenues	\$ 373,366,250	\$ 155,569,271	\$ 122,938,894	\$ (32,630,377)	-21%
Total Revenues	\$ 387,405,053	\$ 161,649,503	\$ 129,056,200	\$ (32,593,302)	-20%
Expenditures					
Personnel	\$ 27,608,829	\$ 11,503,679	\$ 11,117,152	\$ (386,527)	-3%
Pass-through funds - grant	341,090,281	142,120,950	112,189,513	(29,931,437)	-21%
Consultant and contract services	11,480,098	4,783,374	2,458,988	(2,324,386)	-49%
Lease of office space	1,791,142	746,309	731,871	(14,438)	-2%
Equipment	1,677,448	698,937	167,030	(531,906)	-76%
Travel (f)	327,205	136,335	16,170	(120,165)	-88%
Other expense	2,874,595	1,197,748	1,043,189	(154,559)	-13%
Total Expenditures	\$ 386,849,598	\$ 161,187,333	\$ 127,723,913	\$ (33,463,419)	-21%
Excess of Revenues over(under) Expenditures	\$ 555,455	\$ 462,170	\$ 1,332,287	\$ 870,117	

Variance:

- a) We have been in contact with entities that have outstanding dues, and we anticipate payment soon.
- b). The Energy Purchasing Corporation will not meet revenue projections this year. Enrollment in the service is down and usage is also down.
- c). Interest income is down due to the Federal Reserve holding interest rates low. Adjustment to interest income projections will be made at the mid-year budget review.
- d) Other revenue includes the EDA loan program that has seen increased activity due to COVID related funds being made available to small businesses. These funds were not originally in H-GAC's budget and will need to be included in the mid-year revision.
- e) Federal pass-through revenue and expense in an EPA program administered by the Transportation department is off to a slow start for the year. We will review and revise the anticipated progress on this grant during the budget revision process.
- f) The travel budget was anticipating that Covid restrictions would end in 2021. We are starting to see some easing of restrictions and requests for in-person events that include in-region and out-of-region travel, so we expect that our expenses will increase later in the year.

COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

ATTACHMENTS:

EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLAN AUDIT

ATTACHMENTS:

WORKFORCE SYSTEM CONTRACT – CONSTRUCTION CAREER COLLABORATIVE

Background

The construction industry is an important sector in the greater Houston-Gulf Coast economy. With more than 206,000 jobs in residential, commercial, industrial, and heavy/civil construction, this industry continues to be a driver for our region, and the Gulf Coast Workforce Board looks to make strategic investments to support employers and workers in construction.

As a part of the investment strategy, we issued two requests for proposals: the first, to assist small and medium-sized construction businesses in talent acquisition, development and retention; and the second, to educate young people about the careers in construction, including skilled craft occupations. We received two proposals for the first request, and one for the second request.

Current Situation

At its June 1 meeting, the Gulf Coast Workforce Board approved a contract with the Construction Career Collaborative to support small and medium-sized construction employers with talent acquisition, talent development, and human resources consulting services and to promote construction industry jobs and skilled trades occupations among young people with industry awareness events in the local schools.

Construction Career Collaborative is a local non-profit, labor-neutral alliance of owners, contractors, specialty contractors, design professionals and industry associations collaborating to establish a safe, skilled, and sustainable craft workforce. The Collaborative grew out of the Houston chapter of Associated General Contractors.

The Collaborative will serve a minimum of 200 companies in the first year and reach at least 1,500 young people in 11 school districts throughout the region.

We are requesting authority to contract with the Collaborative for a three-year term, with \$364,511 for the first year. Second and third year contracts would be contingent upon satisfactory performance, availability of funds, and Board approval.

Funding Source

Texas Workforce Commission

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to contract with Construction Career Collaborative; total amount is \$364,511 in the first year, with an option to renew for two additional years. (Staff Contact: Mike Temple)

CLEAN RIVERS PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 WORK PROGRAM

Background

The Texas Clean Rivers Program is a partnership among the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), regional agencies, and local governments, with the aim of improving the quality of surface water that flows through our landscapes, cities and towns. Since 1992, H-GAC has been the lead agency responsible for implementing the Texas Clean Rivers Program in four major basins that cover over 66% of the H-GAC region (see Attachment). These four basins cover all or part of each of the 13 counties and 136 of the cities in our service area. The work that H-GAC conducts, under contract with the TCEQ, includes water quality monitoring, analysis, stakeholder involvement and public awareness.

Current Situation

H-GAC has worked with TCEQ and local partners to develop the following two-year work plan, under which we will:

- Conduct water quality assessments that address specific concerns of local governments and other stakeholders.
- Continue serving as a water quality “data clearinghouse” for environmental agencies, local governments and the public.
- Coordinate multiple state and local agencies in the planning and implementation of water quality monitoring programs.
- Provide data to support TCEQ in evaluating permits for wastewater treatment and conducting Total Maximum Daily Load studies.
- Continue to produce and distribute high quality publications to raise public awareness of water quality issues.

This work will begin on September 1, 2021 and continue until August 31, 2023.

Funding Source

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

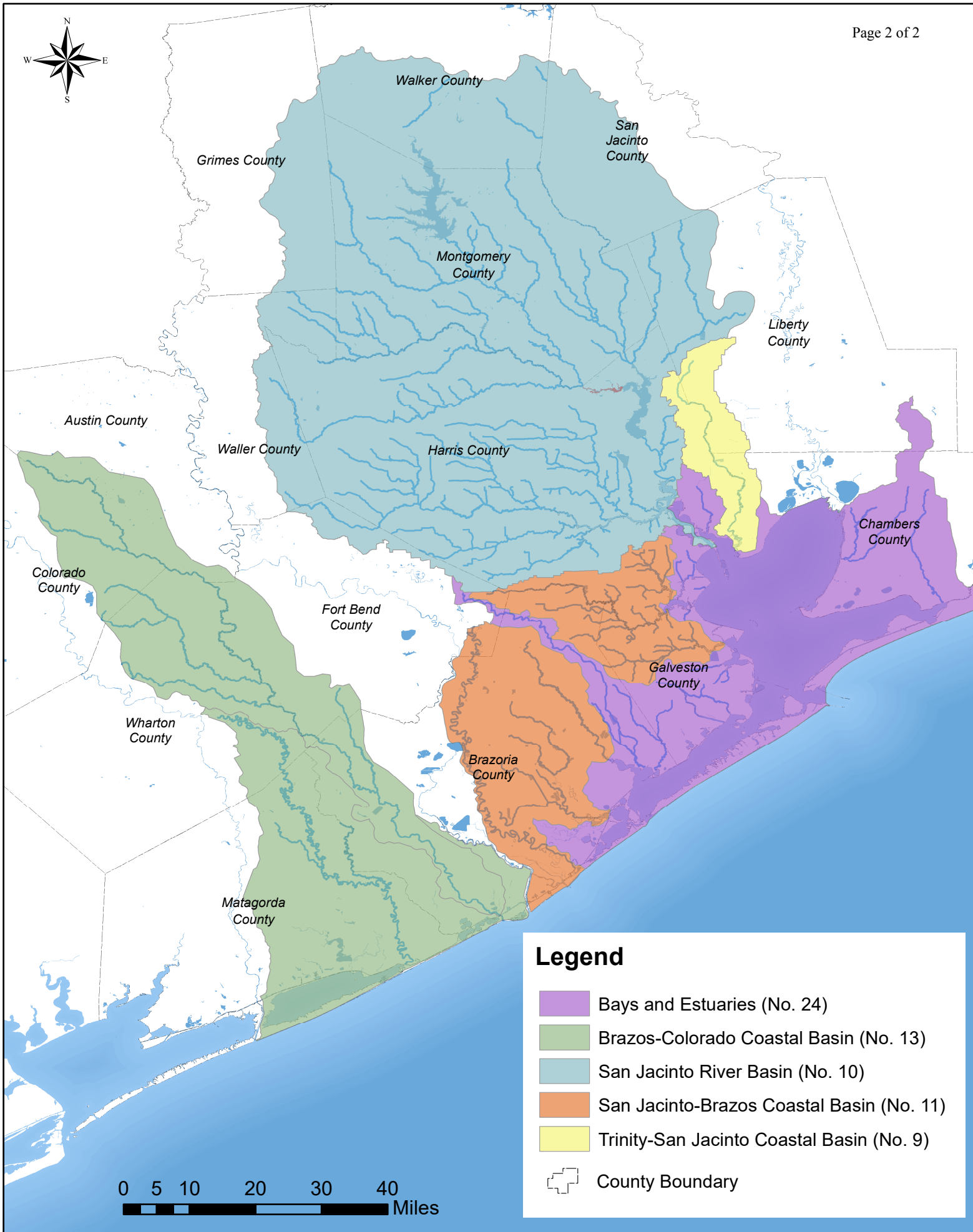
Request authorization to contract with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for regional water quality monitoring; total amount is \$1,931,230. (Staff Contact: Todd Running)

ATTACHMENTS:







▢ Map of Clean Rivers Basins

Cover Memo

H-GAC's Clean Rivers Program Basins



Legend

-  Bays and Estuaries (No. 24)
-  Brazos-Colorado Coastal Basin (No. 13)
-  San Jacinto River Basin (No. 10)
-  San Jacinto-Brazos Coastal Basin (No. 11)
-  Trinity-San Jacinto Coastal Basin (No. 9)
-  County Boundary

CLEAN RIVERS PROGRAM WATER QUALITY MONITORING SUBCONTRACTS

Background

Since 1992, H-GAC has been the lead agency responsible for implementing the Texas Clean Rivers Program in four major basins covering over 66% of the H-GAC region. To fill gaps and focus on problem areas, H-GAC coordinates with local agencies and subcontracts with local governments, institutions, and consultants to collect data from their existing sampling programs.

Current Situation

During Fiscal Year 2020-2021, H-GAC contracted with the City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services, the Environmental Institute of Houston at the University of Houston-Clear Lake, and the Texas Research Institute for Environmental Studies at Sam Houston State University to provide a variety of water quality monitoring services. H-GAC's Clean Rivers Program Steering Committee has recommended reissuing subcontracts contracts to these providers.

Under these subcontracts, the City of Houston will continue water quality monitoring within the city and its extraterritorial jurisdiction at seventy-three sites. The Environmental Institute of Houston will conduct quarterly water quality monitoring at seventy-five sites in selected areas of the region where there is no local monitoring program. Sites are located in Harris, Chambers, Galveston, Brazoria, Matagorda, Wharton, and Colorado Counties. The Texas Research Institute for Environmental Studies would conduct quarterly monitoring at ten sites in the upper reaches of streams in Walker and Montgomery Counties. All data will be collected under an approved Quality Assurance Project Plan. Monitoring activities will commence in September 2021 and continue through August 31, 2023.

The proposed budgets for each subcontract are as follows:

\$140,000 - City of Houston Health & Human Services

\$131,225 - Environmental Institute of Houston - UH Clear Lake

\$21,400 - Texas Research Institute for Environmental Studies at Sam Houston State University

Funding Source

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to contract with the City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services, Environmental Institute of Houston; University of Houston-Clear Lake; and the Texas Research Institute for Environmental Studies for Water Quality Monitoring Services; combined total amount is \$292,625. (Staff Contact: Todd Running)

CLEAN RIVERS PROGRAM LABORATORY SUBCONTRACT

Background

Since 1992, H-GAC has been the lead agency responsible for the Texas Clean Rivers Program in four of the H-GAC region's river basins. This work is performed under contract with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. H-GAC coordinates with local agencies to collect data from their existing sampling programs and also subcontracts with local governments, institutions, and consultants to fill gaps and focus on problem areas.

Current Situation

During Fiscal Year 2020-2021, H-GAC contracted with Eastex Environmental Laboratory to conduct laboratory analysis of water samples and other related services. This contract was the result of a competitive bid process in which a Request for Proposal was published in May 2019. This contract allowed for a 24-month extension based on satisfactory performance, which staff is proposing to exercise.

On a quarterly basis, this lab will analyze approximately 730 water quality samples collected by local Clean Rivers Program partners. These activities will commence on September 1, 2021 and continue through August 31, 2023.

Funding Source

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to execute contract with Eastex Environmental Laboratory; total amount is \$127,000. (Staff Contact: Todd Running)