

6A. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA

DATE: Friday, December 19, 2025
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: 3555 Timmons Lane, Conference Room B, Houston, Texas 77027

The presiding officer, Chairman Justin Beckendorff called the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting of December 19, 2025, at 9:36 a.m. to order.

CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM, INTRODUCTIONS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chair Justin Beckendorff opened the meeting by reminding Transportation Policy Council (TPC). He then recognized Ms. Allie Isbell (H-GAC), who confirmed that a quorum of 16 members was present, as documented in Attachment 1. No conflicts of interest were declared by any TPC members. All presentations, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Allie Isbell (H-GAC) provided instructions to the public on how to submit comments online and informed attendees that Spanish translation services were available onsite, while American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation was accessible online. No written comments were submitted to staff by December 18, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Public comments were provided in the room and no public comments were provided online through Zoom. All presentations, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 5. MPO DIRECTOR REPORT AND ORIENTATION OF AGENDA, MR. RON PAPSDORF, CHIEF TRANSPORTATION OFFICER, H-GAC

Mr. Ron Papsdorf, Chief Transportation Officer at H-GAC, updated the Council on his attendance at the Tomball German Festival and Port Freeport's 100 years celebration which he enjoyed very much and noted both were great events. Mr. Papsdorf also provided an overview of the December TPC agenda and shared updates on several ongoing transportation planning initiatives.

Mr. Papsdorf informed the Council on H-GAC board actions for December which included approval of a contracts for the 2050 RTP consultant, Needville Mobility Plan, Commute Solutions campaigns and website refresh and regional modeling tools. Mr. Papsdorf thanked everyone for a great year and wished happy holidays to all. Presentations, comments, and discussions from the meeting are available in the official recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

TPC Chair Justin Beckendorff presented the Consent Agenda for approval. He asked if any members wished to remove items for further discussion. No requests were made. Council Member Marie Robb made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and the motion was seconded. The Council voted and approved the Consent Agenda. Presentation, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 7. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY MILESTONE POLICY, MR. SAGNIK RAHA, H-GAC

Mr. Sagnik Raha (HGAC) provided an overview of the Project Development and Delivery Milestone Policy and its objectives, framework, and useful tools to reinforce the policy's goals. Mr. Raha acknowledged the workgroup and thanked them for all their work. Mr. Raha requested approval by the TPC. A motion was made by Judge Mark Keough and seconded. A discussion occurred after the motion. The Council voted and approved the Project Development and Delivery Milestone Policy and TPC Resolution No. 2025-34. Presentation, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 8. CARRY OVER SPEND DOWN UPDATE, MR. SAGNIK RAHA, H-GAC

Mr. Sagnik Raha (HGAC) provided an update on the Carry over Spend Down. Before 2022, the region faced challenges in managing projects within the 4-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Repeated rollovers into other fiscal years due to projects not meeting critical path milestones for development and delivery and projects remaining stagnant. Carry over balances in Category 5 (CMAQ) and Category 7 (STBG) were high. Carry over spend down policy created to aid in reducing carryover balances across the region. Every quarter, staff meets with 35 project sponsors that received carryover spend down funding which represents 122 TIP carry over spend down projects. Total funding \$900M. Funding sources include: CMAQ, STBG and CRP funds. Mr. Raha described carry over spend down letting by fiscal year and carry over spend down programmed in FY 2026, FY 2026 scheduled projects, cancelled projects and next steps. A discussion occurred after the presentation. Presentation, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed

ITEM 9. SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOLS (SRTS) UPDATE, MR. BRIAN D. SMITH II, H-GAC

Mr. Brian Smith, II (HGAC) gave an update on Safe Route to Schools (SRTS). Staff will create a regional Safe Route to School (SRTS) program. It is identified in the goals of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Staff has completed the literature review and best practices study of STRS including recommendation for the MPO's role in moving SRTS forward in the region. This will include providing planning support for implementation of SRTS best practices in the region and provide technical support for regional, local area, corridor, and site-specific SRTS plans. Mr. Smith described the two program categories, current status and the non-infrastructure approach, using Maricopa Association of Governments as a best practice model and next steps. Discussion occurred after the presentation. Presentation, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed

ITEM 10. RAILROAD CROSSING UPDATE, MS. SYDNI LIGONS. H-GAC

Ms. Sydni Ligons (HGAC) gave an update on the Freight Grade Separation Program. This program will study the feasibility of grade separations (or other solutions) at rail crossings to improve safety, mobility and connectivity. It's funded 100% by HGAC planning funds and runs through 2028. Rail crossings are a big issue in our region. Lots of delays, safety concerns, and accidents. These studies give local agencies a head start when applying for construction funding later. Local governments, transit agencies, toll road authorities, ports, and special districts (with a letter of support from the right of way owner can apply. The study will include Feasibility analysis, preliminary concepts, cost-benefit estimates, funding options, and implementation strategies. The call for projects opens in January 2026 and applications are due February 13, 2026. The applications will be reviewed in March 2026, studies start in June 2026 and RFP for consultants launches in January. Presentation, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed

12. FUTURE AMENDMENTS 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND THE 2056 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN, MR. JIM DICKINSON, H-GAC

A summary of the proposed revisions to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program is included below.

- Delay six TxDOT Houston District construction projects on various roadways (MPO IDs 38, 16320, 16347, 17228, 17229, 17230) to FYs 2030-2032 of the Ten-Year Plan (10Y) due to TxDOT's statewide level-letting process.
- Delay TxDOT Beaumont District construction project on SH 99 (MPO ID 14248) to FY 2030 of the 10Y due to the District's level-letting process.
- Delay TxDOT Houston District's IH 10 West reconstruction and widening project (MPO ID 6056) to FY 2029 of the 10Y to match the FY 2026 TxDOT Unified Transportation Program (UTP) which was approved by the Texas Transportation Commission on August 21, 2025.
- Reduce the Category-4 Statewide Connectivity Corridor funding of TxDOT Houston District's FY 2027 SH 225 main lanes reconstruction (MPO ID 18960) by \$14.6M based on the latest cost estimate.
- Change the limit of TxDOT Houston District's IH 10 West frontage road construction in Waller County (MPO ID 19023) to align it with the adjoining section.
- Program METRO's H-GAC Project Select Process award of \$28.8M of federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funds for their Northline Transit Center expansion project (MPO ID 15549) in FY 2026. The CMAQ funds will be matched with Transportation Development Credits.
- Cancel METRO's FY 2025 locally funded Bus Pad/Bus Lanes Improvement project (MPO ID 11723) due to not receiving any federal grant funding.
- Cancel METRO's FY 2025 locally funded Clean Diesel Bus Purchase project (MPO ID 15246) which was superseded by a federally funded purchase (MPO ID 11268).

- Update the description of the City of Houston’s Telephone Road rehabilitation project (MPO ID 18933) to conform to H-GAC's Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). Delay to FY 2026 in anticipation of grouping in a TxDOT Statewide Program.
- Cancel the engineering phase of Harris County’s FY 2026 Rankin Road access management improvements project (MPO ID 19018) and add Engineering Review as an authorized phase of work to the construction project (MPO ID 19019).
- Cancel the engineering phase of Harris County’s FY 2027 East Richey Road access management improvements project (MPO ID 19021) and add Engineering Review as an authorized phase of work to the construction project (MPO ID 19022).
- Program Harris County’s H-GAC \$12.5 federal Category-10 Project Selection Process award for Precinct 1 traffic signal replacements (MPO ID 19308) in FY 2026. The County will provide \$3.1M of matching funds.

Presentation, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJORNMENT

Chair Justin Beckendorff announced upcoming meetings and adjourned the December TPC Meeting at 10:55 a.m. Presentation, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

Hon. Lesley Briones, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

Attachment 1
MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC)
FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA
December 19, 2025

ROLL

<u>AGENCY</u>		<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Baytown, City of	<input type="checkbox"/>	Honorable Jacob Powell Council Member Jason Reynolds – Alternate	City of Baytown
Conroe, City of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Honorable Howard Wood Council Member Norman McGuire – Alternate	City of Conroe
Galveston, City of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Honorable Marie Robb Council Member Hon. David Finklea - Alternate	City of Galveston
Houston, City of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Honorable Sallie Alcorn Council Member Honorable Willie Davis- Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Honorable Carolyn Evans-Shabazz Council Member Honorable Joaquin Martinez - Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Randy Macchi Director -Houston Public Works David Wurdlow - Alternate	City of Houston
League City, City of	<input type="checkbox"/>	Honorable Tommy Cones Council Member Honorable Andy Mann - Alternate	City of League City
Missouri City, City of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shashi Kumar, P.E.. Director of Public Works Nicholas L. Cook – Alternate	City of Missouri City
Pasadena, City of	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sarah Benavides, P.E. Sr. Assistant Public Works Director Mark Gardemal – Alternate	City of Pasadena

<u>AGENCY</u>		<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Pearland, City of	<u> X </u>	Honorable Kevin Cole- 2nd Vice Chair Mayor Trent Epperson-Alternate	City of Pearland
Sugar Land, City of	<u> X </u>	Honorable Suzanne Whatley Council Member Honorable Jim Vonderhaar – Alternate	City of Sugar Land
Texas City, City of	<u> </u>	Honorable Dedrick Johnson Mayor Jon Branson - Alternate	City of Texas City
Smaller Cities – Position 1	<u> </u>	Hon. Joe Garcia City of Pattison	Smaller Cities
	<u> X </u>	Honorable Chad Nesvadba-Alternate City of Needville	
Smaller Cities – Position 2	<u> </u>	Hon. Sally Branson City of Friendswood	Smaller Cities
	<u> X </u>	Hon. Ross Gordon-Alternate City of Bellaire	
Smaller Cities – Position 3	<u> X </u>	Hon. John Escoto City of Shenandoah	Smaller Cities
	<u> </u>	Hon. Matthew Dantzer-Alternate City of Magnolia	
The Woodlands Township	<u> X </u>	Dr. Shelley Sekula-Gibbs Director, The Woodlands Township Board Craig Eissler-Alternate	The Woodlands Township
Brazoria County	<u> X </u>	Matt Hanks, JD, P.E. County Engineer Honorable David Linder – Alternate	Brazoria County
Chambers County	<u> </u>	Honorable Ryan Dagley County Commissioner Honorable Tommy Hammond-Alternate	Chambers County
Fort Bend County	<u> X </u>	Honorable Grady Prestage County Commissioner, 1st Vice Chair Stacy Slawinski, P.E. – Alternate	Fort Bend County

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Galveston County	_____ Honorable Robin Armstrong County Commissioner _____ Honorable Joe Giusti– Alternate	Galveston County
Harris County	_____ Honorable Lesley Briones- Secretary County Commissioner, Pct. 4 X Roberto Treviño, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Harris County	_____ Honorable Adrian Garcia County Commissioner, Pct. 2 _____ Milton Rahman, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Liberty County	X _____ Honorable Jay Knight County Judge _____ Honorable Bruce Karbowski - Alternate	Liberty County
Montgomery County	X _____ Honorable Mark Keough County Judge _____ Matt Gray – Alternate	Montgomery County
Waller County	X _____ Honorable Justin Beckendorff County Commissioner – Chair _____ Kendric Jones- Alternate	Waller County
Houston Metropolitan Transit Authority	_____ Elizabeth Gonzalez Brock METRO Chair X _____ Thomas Jasien-Alternate	METRO
TxDOT-Houston	X _____ Glenn Allbritton, P.E. District Engineer _____ Varuna Singh, P.E.– Alternate	TxDOT Houston District
TxDOT-Beaumont	X _____ Ana I. Mijares, P.E. District Engineer _____ Lisa Collins, P.E. – Alternate	TxDOT Beaumont District
Port Freeport	X _____ Phyllis Saathoff Executive Director _____ Rob Lowe-Alternate	Port Freeport
Port Houston	X _____ Charlie Jenkins Chief Executive Officer Kerrick Henny-Alternate	Port Houston

AGENCY

Gulf Coast Rail District

VOTING MEMBERSHIP

____ Veronica Chapa-Gorczyński
____ X GCRD Chair
____ Hon. Jon Keeney-Alternate

REPRESENTING

Gulf Coast Rail District

____ 31 **Total Voting Membership**

____ 24 **Voting Membership Present**

____ 16 **Required Quorum**

AGENCY

Texas State Senate

Freight Rail Interests

Texas State Legislator

Wharton County

NON-VOTING EX-OFFICIOS

____ Hon. Carol Alvarado

____ Clint Schelbitzki

____ Hon. Dennis Paul

____ Hon. Phillip Spenrath

REPRESENTING

8-County Region

Union Pacific

8-County Region

Wharton County

NON-VOTING

H-GAC

TxDOT-Houston

____ X Chuck Wemple

____ X Catherine McCreight

H-GAC

TxDOT-Houston