

5D. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS UPDATE

BACKGROUND

A Congestion Management Process (CMP) is required by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to be developed as part of the metropolitan planning process in urbanized areas with a population over 200,000. These metropolitan areas are known as Transportation Management Areas (TMAs) and are officially designated by the Secretary of Transportation using population figures from the latest decennial census.

Title 23, Section 450.0320 of the USC requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), such as H-GAC, to “address congestion management through a process that provides for safe and effective integrated management and operation of a multimodal transportation system.”

CURRENT SITUATION

Federal law does not require regular updates to the Congestion Management Process (CMP); however, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) expects periodic updates and revisions to the process. H-GAC last updated its CMP in 2021. This interim update is needed to make minor corrections while a more extensive update of the document gets underway.

As part of this update, changes were limited to administrative revisions, such as updates to the actuals data to reflect post-pandemic regional conditions and adding the link to a new online form to submit congestion management analysis documentation. No changes were made to the goals or strategies. Additional changes to the 2021 CMP included updated regional maps including updated Park and Ride locations, regional bike and sidewalk map, and listing the new software used by staff to conduct analysis, since the old software was discontinued.

This CMP interim update was presented to the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) subcommittee on August 6, 2025, and September 3, 2025, the Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) subcommittee on August 7, 2025, the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) subcommittee on August 13, 2025, and the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) for information on September 26, 2025.

ACTION REQUESTED

Transportation Advisory Committee Recommendation for Resolution 2025-30 to the Transportation Policy Council for Approval on October 24, 2025.



Resolution

NO. 2025 - 30

AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF THE 2025 CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PLAN INTERIM UPDATE

WHEREAS, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Houston and The Woodlands- Conroe Transportation Management Areas by the Governor of Texas in accordance with federal law, and;

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) is the regional transportation policy body, and;

WHEREAS, the H-GAC is committed to providing a 2025 Congestion Management Plan Interim Update, and;

WHEREAS, the FHWA requires a periodic update of the Congestion Management Process, and;

WHEREAS, federal law assigns the MPO the responsibility for carrying out the metropolitan planning process, in cooperation with the State and publicly-owned transit service providers, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON AND THE WOODLANDS-CONTROE TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREAS ADOPTS THE 2025 CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PLAN INTERIM UPDATE AND AMENDS THE 2025 CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PLAN INTERIM UPDATE INTO THE 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND THE 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 24th day of October 2025, at a regularly called meeting of the Transportation Policy Council.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Hon. Justin Beckendorff, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council

Hon. Leslie Briones, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council