

5A. MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 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 introduced Mr. Ron Papsdorf, the new Chief Transportation Officer, to the Committee and asked Mr. Papsdorf if he would like to make any comments. After Mr. Papsdorf made a brief introduction, the Chair then called on Ms. Jamila Owens 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 33 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.

A Public Comment was made from the floor. To hear this public comment, please click [here](#).

ITEM 4. ORIENTATION TO AGENDA AND MPO DIRECTOR REPORT

Ms. Allie Isbell, the Assistant Director of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), presented an overview of the meeting's agenda and the MPO Director Report. She discussed a grant agreement received through the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program and highlighted the recently published 2024 Mobility Report. Ms. Isbell also stated that she would share a link to the report with the Committee for their review, after the meeting.

Ms. Isbell informed the Committee that a Greensheet had been distributed to provide updates on two agenda items. Regarding Item 6, the Greensheet detailed the removal of five projects from the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Amendments for the TxDOT Beaumont District. For Item 10, the update included the addition of a third funding category, the carbon reduction program, with an approximate value of \$50 million.

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 June 18, 2025, TAC Meeting.

A motion to approve was made by Ms. Amy Skicki. A second motion for approval was made by Mr. Ken Fickes. 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:

- Cancel two Fort Bend County locally funded, non-regionally significant widening projects on Harlem Road and Beechnut Street (MPO IDs 12622 and 13754) at the County's request.
- Add the FY 2023 \$1.6M Congressional Community Project Funding award to the City of Pearland's Mykawa Road widening project (MPO ID 17082) which will be matched with \$400K of local funding.
- Add the FY 2024 \$850K Congressional Community Project Funding award to Westchase Management District's Meadowglen West sidewalk reconstruction project (MPO ID 18098) which will be matched with \$213K of local funding.
- Add the engineering phase to the TxDOT Beaumont District's FY 2025 US 90 widening project (MPO ID 16347) funded with additional Cat-4, Cat-12 and Cat-12CL funding.
- Add the engineering phase to the TxDOT Beaumont District's FY 2025 FM 565 widening project (MPO ID 17113) funded with additional Cat-2 funding and delay to FY 2027.
- Add Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funding to the TxDOT Beaumont District's FY 2023 SH 105 widening project (MPO ID 18031) to cover a cost overrun.
- Add CMAQ funding to the TxDOT Beaumont District's FY 2025 US 90 grade separation construction project at Union Pacific Railroad (MPO ID 18036) to cover a cost overrun.
- Add CMAQ funding to the TxDOT Beaumont District's FY 2026 US 90 grade separation construction project at FM 1413 (MPO ID 19187) to cover a cost overrun.
- Split Montgomery County's FY 2025 Congressional Community Project funded Ford Road widening project (MPO ID 18120) into two sections creating a locally funded section from IH 69 to Needham Road in FY 2026 (MPO ID 19413). Delay the original section (MPO ID 18120) to FY 2026 with reduced local funding.
- Delay two Port of Houston Authority Port Road grade separation project phases (engineering: MPO ID 19012; construction: MPO ID 19013) to FY 2027 and FY 2028 at the Port's request to coordinate with the construction of the Bayport Southern Access Road.
- Increase the Surface Transportation/Block Grant funding, with Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) in lieu of matching funds, on Chambers County's Hatcherville Road reconstruction project (MPO ID 19078) to cover expected construction cost increases based on the latest estimate. Delay to FY 2026.
- Adjust the Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 Urban Area formula funding and replace the state and local matching funds with TDCs, for the City of Galveston's transit planning and operating

project (MPO ID 19088) at the City's request.

- Program METRO's Police Department Headquarters building site purchase and rehabilitation project (MPO ID 19539) with \$50M of local funding in FY 2026 to obtain a Federal Transit Administration 'Letter of No Prejudice'.
- Program METRO's Eastwood Transit Center Reconstruction project (MPO ID 19540) with \$29M of local funding in FY 2027 to obtain a Federal Transit Administration 'Letter of No Prejudice'.

Staff was seeking TAC recommendation for TPC approval of Resolution 2025-18 and 2025-19.

Mr. David Wurdlow moved to approve the recommendations for the 2025-2028 TIP Amendments. The motion was seconded. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

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

ITEM 7. COMMUTE SOLUTIONS MONTH

Ms. Robyn Egbert presented on Commute Solutions Month. Commute Solutions is the region's travel demand management program that provides marketing, education, and outreach about transportation options in the region that can help reduce congestion and improve air quality. The Commute Solutions program is administered by the Metropolitan Planning Organization in partnership with the Houston-Galveston Area Council, Texas Department of Transportation, regional transportation agencies, area employers, higher education, local and county governments, and other community organizations.

September is the anniversary month of the Commute Solutions program. Last year, in honor of the program's 30th anniversary, the Federal Highway Administration and the Texas Department of Transportation gave the Commute Solutions program the "green light" to pilot an Ozone Action Campaign. The Campaign provided marketing to encourage people to make choices that can reduce ground level ozone during the peak ozone season.

Historically, September is one of the worst months for air quality in our region. During the pilot in September 2024, transit ridership at participating agencies increased, and continued into the following months, helping to reduce congestion and lower pollution during this critical time.

Ms. Egbert discussed how Staff worked with transit partnerships in the region (the Woodlands Express, Conroe Connection, Harris County Transit, and Fort Bend County Transit) and what resulted in the month of September in 2024.

Staff planned to continue working with TxDOT on the Ozone Action Campaign, "Breathe Easy," in September 2025 which would cover the following below:

- Encourage the region to try transportation strategies that can reduce ground level ozone during the peak ozone season (ex: Trip chaining, taking transit, carpool, vanpool, fueling up at night)
- Partner with area transit providers to provide funding support to help people try transit on Fridays in September.
- Partner with additional agencies such as Air Alliance and the Texas Department of Transportation's Connect Smart program to raise awareness about the campaign and strategies that can reduce ground level ozone during this time.

Staff was seeking TAC recommendation for TPC approval of Resolution No. 2025-20 to designate September as Commute Solutions Month.

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

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

ITEM 8. 2026-2028 DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE) TRIENNIAL GOAL

Ms. Allison Wahl presented on the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Triennial Goal for 2026-2028. 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 Authority (FHWA), the Federal Transit Authority (FTA), and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Recipients of these federal funds are required to set an overall triennial goal for participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in their DOT-assisted contracts in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26: "Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) in Department of Transportation Programs". The triennial goal is established to ensure that DBE firms have reasonable opportunity to participate in DOT-assisted contracts.

Ms. Wahl discussed that Staff determined that the current DBE goal of 26% should be adopted for the 2026-2028 fiscal years. Various data was collected on DBEs in the H-GAC region and the Transportation DBE program held a DBE workshop and public meetings for feedback. A 30-day public comment period was conducted from June 17, 2025, through July 17, 2025. All comments were taken into consideration for the final completion of the DBE triennial goal and report. To hear further details on this presentation, please click below.

Staff was seeking TAC recommendation for TPC approval of Resolution No. 2025-21 for the 2026-2028 DBE Triennial Goal.

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Ken Fickes. A second motion for approval was made by Ms. Catherine McCreight. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

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

ITEM 9. 2050 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Brandon Mosley presented an overview of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update. The 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a strategic plan that guides future policies, programs, and development of transportation in the region over the next 20 years or more. A core document of the Metropolitan Planning Organization, the RTP targets federal, state, and local funding resources to support transportation investments that implement the region's vision. The plan must be updated every four (4) years per federal statute. The current RTP was last updated in 2024 and is set to expire on November 1, 2027. The initial phase of the 2050 RTP development process included data collection and public outreach covering existing conditions to develop the vision, goals, and objectives for the RTP.

Mr. Mosley outlined the timeline for the Phases of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) process and provided details about the public meeting schedule across the eight-county region. The initial hybrid open house public meeting, which combined both in-person and virtual participation, commenced on July 10, 2025, in Liberty County. Multiple public meetings are planned throughout the region, with Staff committed to reporting back on the progress achieved through these meetings, surveys, and other public engagement initiatives.

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](#).

10. QUARTERLY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Ms. Callie Barnes presented the Quarterly Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Status Report. The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) requires the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to monitor and report project delivery status to the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) and Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) for the 2025-2028 TIP. H-GAC conducts quarterly meetings with local government project sponsors and, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Quarters two through four (February 2025 to July 2025), met with 37 sponsors regarding 220 TIP projects. These projects represent over \$2.2 billion in funding from various categories, including Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ), Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program, Transportation Alternative Set Aside (TASA), and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). Of the total programmed projects, 93 projects valued at \$700 million are carryover spend down projects scheduled to be let by August 2026. Ms. Barnes gave a status report to show the quarterly updates on carryover spend down projects, STBG projects, and other those shifting to different fiscal year.

To hear 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 on the TAC website [here](#).

11. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT MILESTONE POLICY

Ms. Callie Barnes provided a brief synopsis on the Project Development Milestone Policy. Mr. David Wurdlow, the Workgroup Chair, gave the main presentation to the Project Development Milestone Policy. For the past three years, H-GAC staff conducted quarterly meetings with local government sponsors to monitor critical path project development (engineering and environmental) milestones for projects* programmed in the 4-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Within the first year (2022-2023) of the detailed project tracking effort approximately 90% of project funding moved out of FY 2023. Of the 90%, approximately 50% moved to the next year (“rolled”) and 40% moved beyond FY 2024. By the end of 2024, an additional \$625M shifted to more realistic let dates. Then another \$350M (presented at February 2025 Transportation Advisory Committee and Transportation Policy Council meeting) was moved to realistic let dates.

The carryover balances in both Category 5 (Congestion Mitigation Air Quality [CMAQ]) Funds and Category 7 (Surface Transportation Block Grant [STBG]) Funds were higher than desired before the detailed project monitoring and shifting effort began in 2022. Many of the projects described above that shifted let years via amendments between 2022-2025 had previously “rolled” into the next FY for multiple years. Some projects had not met one critical path milestone for project development.

Project “stagnation” can lead to high carryover balances, incorrect carryover balance estimates, inability to accurately program projects (because there is not a clear understanding of the available balances per FY), as well as extra work for H-GAC staff, TxDOT, Transportation Advisory Committee and Transportation Policy Council members.

In February 2025, the Transportation Policy Council directed H-GAC to work through the TIP Subcommittee and Transportation Advisory Committee to develop a policy or policies to address these issues, reduce the amount of project delays, and increase confidence that TIP funds are allocated to projects that will be ready to let within their programmed timeframe. H-GAC convened a workgroup through recommendation of the TIP Subcommittee. The Project Development Milestone Policy Workgroup met eight times and will continue to meet until there is a draft policy to bring forward to the Transportation Advisory Committee and Transportation Policy Council for review/comment.

To hear further details 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 on the TAC website [here](#).

12. COMMERCIAL VEHICLES AND SPECIAL GENERATORS SURVEYS

Mr. Michael Onuogu gave a presentation on Commercial Vehicles and Special Generators Surveys. The Transportation Planning and Programming Division of the Texas Department of Transportation sponsors a State-wide comprehensive set of travel surveys which includes the eight-county Metropolitan Planning Area. The eight counties include: Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller.

The purpose of the surveys was to collect data and information needed as input to the regional travel demand model for the Metropolitan Planning Area. The model is an important planning tool used to forecast future traffic levels on area roadways, evaluate the region's transportation plan, and aid in the region's air quality conformity analyses. H-GAC staff is currently completing the update of the new regional travel models and simultaneously developing new travel forecasting tools using mesoscopic or microscopic techniques. The enhancement and application of current models as well as development of new analysis tools require a complete understanding of existing regional travel characteristics and patterns obtained through travel survey and used for its testing and development.

To hear more details on this item, please click on the link below.

This item was for information only.

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

ITEM 13. PLANNING ACTIVITIES

A. Future 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

Mr. Jim Dickinson provided a brief update on 2025-2028 TIP Future 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](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Transportation Policy Council (TPC) Meeting	July 25	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office
Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee (RAQPAC) Meeting	July 31	10:00 a.m.	Virtual
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Subcommittee Meeting	August 6	9:30 a.m.	Virtual
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting	August 13	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office
Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Subcommittee Meeting	August 13	1:30 p.m.	Virtual
Area Emissions Reduction Credit Organization (AERCO) Meeting	August 13	2:00 p.m.	Hybrid
Transportation Policy Council (TPC) Meeting	July 25	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Morad Kabiri adjourned the meeting of the TAC at 11:00 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 JULY 16, 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.		Active Transportation	Lisa Graiff	X
Yuhayna Mahmud	X	Active Transportation	Luis Guajardo, AICP	
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	X
			Sherry Weesner, P.E., CPM	X*
Alan Steinberg, Ph.D.	X	Citizen Interests	Sue Theiss	
Andrea French		Environmental	Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, M.D.	
			Alan Clark	X
Scott Nichols	X	Environmental	Nancy Peron, P.E., PMP	
Clint Harbert, AICP		METRO	Catherine McCreight	
Lisa Collins, P.E.		TxDOT – Beaumont Dist.	Jeffrey English, AICP	X
Grady Mapes, P.E.		TxDOT – Houston Dist.	(Vacant)	
Catherine McCreight		Planning	Christina Cabral	X
David Wurdlow	X	Planning	Candice Armenoff	X
Marlene Gafrick		Planning	Rob Lowe	
Rohit Saxena		Port of Houston	Hon. Lori Klein Quinn	X
Dean Corgey		Ports	Brian Winningham	
Hon. Dan Davis		Regional Planning	Byron Hebert	
Andy Rodgers	X	Smaller Cities	David Gornet	
Kathie Reyer	X	Smaller Cities	Todd Stephens	
Robert Castaneda		Toll Roads	Vernon Chambers	X*
Ruthanne Haut	X	Transit	Karen McKinnon, P.E.	
Ken Fickes, CCTM	X	Transit	Cory Taylor, P.E.	
Wael Tabara, P.E.	X	Brazoria County		
Zachery Vogler	X	Chambers County		

<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></u>	Harris County	Kristian Heighway	<u></u>
Hon. Jay Knight	<u>X</u>	Liberty County	Hon. Greg Arthur	<u></u>
Jason Smith	<u></u>	Montgomery County	Thomas Woolley	<u></u>
Ross McCall, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Waller County	Luke Fortkamp, P.E.	<u></u>
Brant Gary	<u></u>	City of Baytown	Martin Scribner	<u>X</u>
Greg Hall, Jr.	<u>X</u>	City of Conroe	Chuck Purvis	<u></u>
Robert Winiecke, P.E., CFM	<u>X</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>X</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>33</u>	Total Voting Membership Present		
	<u>22</u>	Required Quorum		