

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

DATE: Friday, February 27, 2026

TIME: 9:32 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 February 27, 2026, at 9:32 a.m. to order.

CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM, INTRODUCTIONS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chairman Justin Beckendorff opened the meeting with greetings and requested attendees to take their seats. The Chair asked Ms. Allie Isbell (HGAC) to conduct the role and verify quorum. Ms. Isbell confirmed that a quorum of 16 members was present, as documented in Attachment 1. Chair Beckendorff asked the Council if anyone wanted to declare a conflict of interest on any item on the February agenda. 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 (HGAC) 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 were accessible online. No written comments were submitted by February 26, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Public comments were provided in the room and no public comments were provided online. All presentations, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

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

Mr. Ron Papsdorf, Chief Transportation Officer (HGAC), greeted TPC members and wished everyone a Happy Go Texan Day. Mr. Papsdorf informed the Council staff has refined the TPC agenda format to make meetings run more smoothly. Agenda items are now organized into Action, Discussion, and Information categories to clearly indicate which items require a vote and which are for awareness. Background materials have also been improved to give members better context, and encouraged members to contact him, Allie, or Jamila for any additional details ahead of meetings. Mr. Papsdorf provided an overview of the TPC Agenda and briefed the Council on Item 12 Bridges and Safety Infrastructure for Community Success (BASICS) Act. Further details are included in the TPC packet. He highlighted recent planning activities and noted that staff recently hosted an MPO 101 Orientation for new TAC members, with plans to offer a similar session for Council Members. Ron also announced the 2026 TAC officers: Chair, Morad Kabiri, P.E., First Vice Chair Perri D'Armond, and Second Vice Chair Brian Alcott, P.E. Mr. Papsdorf concluded his presentation by inviting members to the Port Houston Tour on March 26 and encouraged them to RSVP, noting that staff can resend the invitation if needed. All presentations, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Beckendorff presented the Consent Agenda for approval. Chair Beckendorff asked if any members wished to remove items for further discussion. Council Member Sally Alcorn requested Item 6C be removed from the Consent Agenda. Item 6C was removed. Chair Beckendorff asked for a motion to approve Item 6A and Item 6B. Mayor Kevin Cole made a motion to approve Item 6A and Item 6B and it was seconded. The Council voted and approved the Consent Agenda. Comments were made on Item 6C by Council Member Sallie Alcorn and H-GAC staff. After a brief comment period, Chair Beckendorff asked for a motion to approve Item 6C. A motion was made by Mayor Kevin Cole and the motion was seconded. The Council voted and approved the Consent Agenda. All presentations, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 7. UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) AMENDMENTS, DR. NEELY KIM, H-GAC

Dr. Neely Kim informed the TPC in the UPWP for 2026-2027 was approved by TPC in June 2025 to be ready for the new fiscal year starting October 1, 2025. The new plan had to be developed while the FY 2025 UPWP was still being implemented, several ongoing projects had to estimate whether they would continue. Some of the projects did, in fact, need to carry over into FY 2026, prompting adjustments. No new funds are needed. These are previously approved funds being reassigned. The amendments simply ensure continued work is appropriately programmed into the correct tasks of the current UPWP. Staff requested programming approximately \$501,000 across several tasks (Tasks 2, 3, and 5) reflecting work continuing into FY 2026. Dr. Kim concluded the presentation highlighting the projects that were added. A discussion occurred after the presentation. Presentation, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

For discussion only. No action needed

ITEM 8. CHAMBERS COUNTY THOROUGHFARE PLAN, MS. CAROLINE BAILEY, H-GAC

Ms. Caroline Bailey, (HGAC) provided an overview of the Chambers County Thoroughfare Plan, she explained the purpose of a thoroughfare plan, emphasizing that it is a long-range framework (50+ years) used to preserve right-of-way, guide roadway classifications, support coordinated development, and establish consistent design guidelines. She also clarified what thoroughfare plans do not do, such as changing land ownership, committing agencies to construction, establishing cost estimates, or producing project funding plans. Ms. Bailey highlighted the state requirements under Texas Local Government Code §232.102, which allow counties to require right-of-way widths consistent with MPO-adopted transportation plans. She reviewed the roadway classifications and their minimum right-of-way dimensions. Ms. Bailey also gave an overview of the plan goals, public engagement efforts and next steps. A discussion occurred after the presentation. Presentation, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

For discussion only. No action needed

ITEM 9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN (PPP) UPDATE, MS. CAROLINE BAILEY, H-GAC

Ms. Caroline Bailey, (HGAC) provided an update on the Public Participation Plan (PPP) and briefed the TPC on what has changed since the last update in 2019 and why revisiting the plan is important. Ms. Bailey explained that MPO's are federally required to maintain a Public Participation Plan to outline how and when public and stakeholder engagement occurs. The PPP serves as a guide for ensuring high-quality, inclusive public involvement across the region. The plan must be updated regularly to meet evolving federal

and state requirements. Ms. Bailey concluded her presentation with an overview of what the current plan and the updated plan covers and highlighted several improvements. The PPP update is currently in a 45-day public comment period, which began at the TAC meeting last week and continues until April 6, 2026. A public meeting will be held soon with details forthcoming. Presentation, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Discussion Only. No action needed.

ITEM 10. FUTURE 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS, MR. JIM DICKINSON, H-GAC

Mr. Jim Dickinson (HGAC) provided a summary of the proposed revisions to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program is included below:

- Program two Woodlands Township Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339 funded transit capital expenses (MPO ID 19562, 19563) each with \$324K of federal funding and 65K matching Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) in FY 2027 and FY 2028 at the Township's request.
- Update the FTA Section 5307 funding and matching TDCs of twelve Woodlands Township transit capital, operations and planning projects in FYs 2027-2028 (MPO IDs 19457, 19458, 19461, 19462, 19464, 19465, 19466, 19467, 19468, 19469, 19470, 19472) based on the latest cost estimates.
- Update the descriptions, FTA Sections 5307, 5337 and 5310 funding amounts, and matching TDCs, for METRO's FY 2026 placeholder projects (MPO IDs 19111, 19112, 19113, 19114, 19115, 19116, 19117, 19118, 19119) using the METRO Board of Directors January 2026 approvals. █
- Rescope METRO's FTA Section 5339 funded West Bellfort Park & Ride project (MPO ID 18858) for the purchase of eleven 45-foot transit buses. Split out \$5.0M of the federal funds to create a new Regional Transit Fare Collection project (MPO ID 19565) in FY 2026. █
- Change the phase/task of two of METRO's safety and security implementation projects from 'Capital' to 'Operating' based on the Federal Transit Administration's determinations. Increase the number of TDCs per matching requirement for operating expenditures. Delay from FY 2025 to FY 2026.
- Reduce the federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funding of METRO's Regional Transit Fare Collection System (MPO ID 18260) from \$40.0M to \$27.0M as some of the funded activities for the program have already been implemented with other funding sources.
- Increase the federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding of the City of Houston's Greens Road widening project (MPO ID 5030), splitting the \$24.4M cost increase on a 50/50 basis, to cover increases incurred by complying with drainage regulations and unanticipated market inflation. Add \$9.2M of Local Contribution to fully fund the project.

- Reduce the federal/state CMAQ funding of TxDOT Houston District’s BW 8 frontage road access management project in Harris County (MPO ID 18035) from \$26.9M to \$9.8M based on the latest estimate. Delay from FY 2026 to FY 2027 at the District’s request.
- Delay the TxDOT Houston District’s SH 36 widening project in Fort Bend County (MPO ID 263) from FY 2027 to FY 2030 in the Ten-Year Plan due to TxDOT’s statewide level-letting process.
- Reduce the federal CMAQ funding of the Harris County Community and Economic Development Department’s Lynchburg Ferry vessel replacement project (MPO ID 19238) from \$32.7M to \$7.5M per the program guidance received from the Federal Highway Administration. Reduce the matching TDCs to 1.5M and increase the local contribution to fully fund the acquisition.

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

For Discussion Only. No action needed.

ITEM 11. FY 2027-2030 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) DEVELOPMENT, MR. STEPHEN KEEN, H-GAC

Mr. Stephen Keen (HGAC) gave a presentation on the development of the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP is a four-year, fiscally constrained, federally required program of regional transportation projects. A new TIP is developed every two years. Projects included must align with federal performance measures and be consistent with:

- The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
- The 10-Year Plan
- Ongoing air quality conformity work
- TxDOT’s Unified Transportation Program (UTP)

Mr. Keen outlined several updates to the upcoming TIP and emphasized that projects in the future years are not automatically carried forward. Staff reviews funding commitments, project readiness, conformity requirements, and fiscal constraint before determining what stays in the program. Local projects sponsors have been contacted and asked to provide updated information and he noted that project information changes frequently, so capturing the latest data is essential. Staff will also flag any projects that are late to bid or canceled. Mr. Keen concluded his presentation with a tentative TIP timeline. 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 12. BRIDGES AND SAFETY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR COMMUNITY SUCCESS (BASICS) ACT, MR. RON PAPSDORF, H-GAC

Mr. Ron Papsdorf (HGAC) provided information on this item in Item 5.

Mr. Papsdorf mentioned Item 5C. 2026 TPC Ethics Policy which was missed earlier in the meeting. This information was included in the TPC packet and all members of the TPC will need to sign and return the form by March 27, 2026. Presentation, comments, and discussions are available in the official meeting recording [HERE](#). For Information Only. No action needed

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJORNMENT

Chair Beckendorff informed the Council of upcoming meetings

Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting	March 18	9:30 a.m.	In Person
Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee	March 26	1:30 p.m.	Virtual
Transportation Policy Council Meeting	March 27	9:30 a.m.	In Person

Chair Beckendorff mentioned today marks the last day of early voting; members are encouraged to participate. Election day will be Tuesday. He also wished everyone a fun and safe time during the Houston Rodeo festivities.

Dr. Shelley Sekula-Gibbs from The Woodlands Township announced that the Township has applied for The Boring Company's Tunnel Vision Challenge. If selected, the community could receive a one-mile underground tunnel to help visitors and residents move more easily around the Town Center. Over 400 communities have submitted applications, making the competition tough, but The Woodlands is excited and optimistic about the opportunity.

Chair Beckendorff adjourned the meeting at 10:33 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
 METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA
February 27, 2026

ROLL

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Baytown, City of	_____ Honorable Charles Johnson Council Member _____ Kenrick Griffith – Alternate	City of Baytown
Conroe, City of	_____ Honorable David Hairel Council Member _____ Norman McGuire – Alternate	City of Conroe
Galveston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Marie Robb Council Member _____ Hon. David Finklea - Alternate	City of Galveston
Houston, City of Position No. 1	<u> X </u> Honorable Sallie Alcorn Council Member _____ Honorable Willie Davis- Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of Position No 2	_____ Honorable Carolyn Evans-Shabazz Council Member _____ Honorable Joaquin Martinez - Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of Position No. 3	_____ Randy Macchi Director -Houston Public Works <u> X </u> David Wurdlow - Alternate	City of Houston
League City, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Tommy Cones Council Member _____ Honorable Andy Mann - Alternate	City of League City
Missouri City, City of	<u> X </u> Shashi Kumar, P.E. Director of Public Works _____ Nicholas L. Cook – Alternate	City of Missouri City
Pasadena, City of	_____ 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	_____ _____ _____ Honorable Dedrick Johnson Mayor Jon Branson - Alternate	City of Texas City
Smaller Cities – Position 1	<u> X </u> _____ _____ Hon. Joe Garcia City of Pattison Honorable Jerry Mouton-Alternate City of Deer Park	Smaller Cities
Smaller Cities – Position 2	<u> X </u> _____ _____ Hon. John Escoto City of Shenandoah * Hon. Dusty Thiele-Alternate City of Katy	Smaller Cities
Smaller Cities – Position 3	_____ _____ <u> X </u> _____ _____ Hon. Sally Branson City of Friendswood Hon. Ross Gordon-Alternate City of Bellaire	Smaller Cities
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	_____ _____ _____ 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 Adrian Garcia County Commissioner, Pct. 2 <u> X </u> Milton Rahman P.E.– Alternate	Harris County
Harris County	_____ Honorable Lesley Briones- Secretary County Commissioner, Pct. 3 <u> X </u> Roberto Trevino – Alternate	Harris County
Liberty County	<u> X </u> Honorable Jay Knight County Judge _____ Honorable Greg Arthur - Alternate	Liberty County
Montgomery County	_____ Honorable Mark Keough County Judge _____ Honorable Matt Gray – Alternate	Montgomery County
Waller County	<u> X </u> Honorable Justin Beckendorff County Commissioner – Chair _____ Honorable Kendric Jones- Alternate	Waller County
Houston Metropolitan Transit Authority	_____ Elizabeth Gonzalez Brock METRO Chair <u> X </u> Thomas Jasien-Alternate	METRO
TxDOT-Houston	_____ Glenn Allbritton, P.E. District Engineer <u> X </u> Varuna Singh, P.E.– Alternate	TxDOT Houston District
TxDOT-Beaumont	<u> X </u> Ana I. Mijares, P.E. District Engineer _____ Lisa Collins, P.E. – Alternate	TxDOT Beaumont District
Port Freeport	<u> X </u> Phyllis Saathoff Executive Director _____ Rob Lowe-Alternate	Port Freeport
Port Houston	<u> X </u> Charlie Jenkins Chief Executive Officer _____ Kerrick Henny-Alternate	Port Houston

AGENCY

VOTING MEMBERSHIP

REPRESENTING

Gulf Coast Rail District

_____ Veronica Chapa-Gorczynski
 GCRD Chair
 X _____ Hon. Jon Keeney-Alternate

Gulf Coast Rail District

31 Total Voting Membership

23 Voting Membership Present

16 Required Quorum

AGENCY

NON-VOTING EX-OFFICIOS

REPRESENTING

Texas State Senate

_____ Hon. Carol Alvarado

|8-County Region

Freight Rail Interests

_____ Clint Schelbitzki-

Union Pacific

Texas State Legislator

_____ Hon. Dennis Paul

8-County Region

Wharton County

_____ Hon. Phillip Spenrath

Wharton County

NON-VOTING

H-GAC

X _____ Chuck Wemple

H-GAC

TxDOT-Houston

_____ Catherine McCreight

TxDOT-Houston