13. SUMMARY OF THE AUGUST 2026 GREATER HOUSTON FREIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

BACKGROUND

Global disruptions are contributing to increased demand for energy and chemicals from Texas, thus the Houston Ship Channel with main exports being crude oil and refined products, organic chemicals and plastics/resins. As of April 2026, crude oil export tonnage increased 35% and refined product export tonnage increased 29%. U.S. Census reported (released June 9, 2026) Houston Ship Channel exports were up approximately 28% from April 2025 to April 2026.

CURRENT SITUATION

On August 27, 2026, the Greater Houston Freight Committee (GHFC) hosted a panel of experts who discussed the increased demands on Texas production and the Houston Ship Channel. John Moseley, Chief Operating Officer of Port Houston moderated the discussion with the following panelists: Vincent DiCosimo, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs of TARGA; Charles Neal, General Manger, polyvinyl alcohol (PVOH) of Kuraray America, Inc.; Richard Heath, President and CEO of TALKE; and Matt Glass, Second Officer of the Houston Pilots. Callie Barnes, Director of Roadway Mobility for Port Houston provided a brief update on Port Houston's priorities.

Chad Burke and Callie Barnes, Co-Chairs of the Greater Houston Freight Committee will summarize the presentations and the conclusions reached based on the data and discussions from the August meeting.

ACTION REQUESTED

Information only.