

Air Quality

HOUSTON REGIONAL SUMMIT



PROGRAM RECAP

Event Overview

On September 24, 2025, H-GAC hosted the Inaugural Air Quality Summit in partnership with FIFA World Cup Sustainability Committee and Baylor College of Medicine. The event brought together over 100 participants from local government, industry, academia, advocacy organizations, and community groups. The summit aimed to advance regional collaboration on clean air strategies and promote awareness of the Clean Air Healthy Communities initiative.

Highlights & Key Outcomes

Engaging Sessions: The summit featured morning plenaries and afternoon breakout panels covering air quality trends, health impacts, and regional climate resilience strategies.

- **Morning Plenaries:** The Summit opened with welcoming remarks from Jamila Owens, setting the stage for a day focused on collaboration and innovation. Andrew DeCandis guided discussions seamlessly, keeping sessions engaging and on track. Elizabeth Carlson highlighted the opportunities and challenges that the upcoming World Cup presents for our region, while Dr. Bradley Flowers' keynote grounded attendees in the latest air quality data and trends shaping our work. During the featured sessions, Dr. Johnson underscored the critical link between air pollution and public health, and Dr. Lewis provided timely updates on regional monitoring and emissions resources.
- **Afternoon Panels:** The six breakout sessions showcased cross-sector leadership—from public agencies and universities to businesses and community advocates. Participants explored strategies to improve air quality, strengthen public health, and capture co-benefits such as energy savings, climate resilience, and community well-being. These discussions sparked new partnerships that will carry forward the momentum beyond the Summit.

Key Insights: Discussions emphasized the importance of cross-sector collaboration, community engagement, and data-driven decision-making in reducing emissions.

Partnerships: Participants highlighted ongoing collaborations between local governments, industry partners, and advocacy groups as critical to improving air quality across the region.

Voices from the Summit

"It's inspiring to see so many sectors coming together to tackle air quality challenges." – P. Andrews

"I enjoyed the keynote speakers' topics as they covered the wide breadth of air quality and impacts." – H. Schulz

"I loved the diversity in panel session topics..." – Anonymous

"I also really appreciated the ice breakers during lunch, as it helped connect different sectors and groups in this important work." – H. Khan

Next Steps

- **Take Action** – Reduce emissions, conserve energy, and share clean air tips.
- **Explore More** – Visit our site for photos and videos from the Summit.
- **Share Your Voice** – Help shape the Regional Clean Air Action Plan. Complete this survey.
- **Give Feedback** – Fill out the post-event survey to guide next year's Summit.
- **Stay Connected** – Subscribe to H-GAC updates for news and the 2026 Summit.

Thank You

A big thank you to all speakers, participants, sponsors, volunteers, and attendees. Your participation helps build a cleaner, healthier, and more resilient Houston-Galveston region.

Contact Information

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