

7. LEGISLATIVE POLICY PRIORITIES AD HOC COMMITTEE

**BACKGROUND**

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The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee approved the BUILD America 250 Act on May 22, 2026, as a step towards a multi-year reauthorization of federal surface transportation programs before they expire on September 30, 2026. The Texas Legislature will also begin its 90<sup>th</sup> Legislative session preparations this fall for opening day of the session, January 12, 2027. Both the federal and state legislative processes provide an opportunity to identify legislative priorities that may impact the region.

At the June 26, 2026, Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting, Chair Beckendorff established the Legislative Policy Priorities Ad Hoc Committee to address this opportunity and invited TPC members to volunteer for participation. Following the meeting, staff distributed a request for volunteers and asked interested members to submit their names for consideration by July 17, 2026.

At the July 24, 2026, Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting, Chair Beckendorff established the Legislative Policy Priorities Ad Hoc Committee and appointed the following members to serve on this Committee:

Judge Mark Keough – Chair – Montgomery County  
Commissioner Lesley Briones- Harris County  
Council Member Sally Branson – City of Friendswood  
Council Member Suzanne Whatley – City of Sugar Land  
Mr. Kerrick Henny – Port Houston  
Dr. Shelley Sekula-Gibbs – The Woodlands Township

**CURRENT SITUATION**

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The Committee met on August 5th and August 17th to identify and discuss the legislative priorities that will impact the region. Judge Mark Keough presented these legislative priorities to the full membership of the Transportation Policy Council at the August 28, 2026, meeting. The committee is now seeking action.

**ACTION REQUESTED**

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Transportation Policy Council approval of their 2026 Legislative Priorities.