

MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, May 19, 2021
9:30 A.M., ZOOM ONLINE MEETING

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Loyd Smith, called the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Committee members and staff introduced themselves. A list of Committee representatives and alternates attending the meeting is included with these minutes as Attachment 1. There were 37 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

Ms. Neely Kim addressed the Transportation Advisory Committee on public comments submitted by email or correspondence. The public comments received were summarized and read into the record by Ms. Kim.

The public comments submitted by email or correspondence can be viewed here:

<https://www.h-gac.com/getmedia/f7a674e1-82ef-427a-9284-d63f76d26e1c/TAC-Public-Comments-May-2021.pdf>

The public comments made during the meeting can be heard here:

<https://hgac.swagit.com/play/05192021-725/3/>

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Smith called for comments or revisions regarding the minutes from the April 14, 2021 meeting.

Chairman Smith entertained a motion for approval of the minutes for the April 14, 2021 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Ken Fickes and second motion for approval was made by Mr. Bruce Mann. The Committee voted and the motion carried. The minutes were approved.

A link to the audio recording is available at:

<https://hgac.swagit.com/play/05192021-725/4/>

AMENDMENTS TO THE 2021-2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AND THE 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP)

Mr. Jim Dickinson presented on the amendments to the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Staff sought TAC Recommendation for TPC of Resolution No. 2021-16 which included the following amendments:

- Remove federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funding, as well as the state matching funds, and replace them with local funding for the SH 99 (Grand Parkway) overpass construction

project at Peek Road (MPO ID 18032/CSJ 0912-72-381) at the request of the project sponsor, Fort Bend County.

- Modify the scope of work of the City of Houston Fondren Road six-lane widening project (MPO ID 17093/CSJ 3510-04-049) to a reconstruction of the existing four lanes with intersection, safety, multimodal, and drainage improvements at the City’s request.
- Update to Appendix J (Texas Department of Transportation Statewide Program of Projects) of the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program to comply with the recently released table of eligible projects.

A motion was made by Mr. David Fields and a second motion for approval was made by Jonathan Brooks. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording of all presentations are available on the TAC website at: <https://hgac.swagit.com/play/05192021-725/5/>

AMENDMENTS TO THE 2020-2021 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)

Ms. Neely Kim presented on Amendments to the 2020-2021 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The previous 2018-2019 UPWP included the Measuring Multimodal Network Connectivity Pilot under Task IV, subtask 4.3 including \$100,000 of Federal Highway Administration’s Highway Research and Development (HRD) funds. This project was funded through an Advanced Funding Agreement with Texas Department of Transportation (CSJ 597). This project continued to the 2020-2021 UPWP, the budget was included in the current UPWP, but the task description was not carried over. Staff is requesting to add the task description into the 2020-2021 UPWP.

Staff requested TAC recommendation of TPC approval of Resolution UPWP 20/21-6 for the following amendments:

1. Add task description “Pilot test new tools assessing the connectivity of bicycle-pedestrian infrastructure within communities under the Measuring Multimodal Network Connectivity Pilot project in coordination with partnering local governments”.
2. Change funding source from Highway Research Development Funds (HRD) to Surface Transportation Research Development and Deployment Funds (STRDD).

Ms. Monique Johnson motioned for approval. A second motion was made by Mr. Mike Wilson. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording of all presentations are available on the TAC website at: <https://hgac.swagit.com/play/05192021-725/6/>

REQUESTED AMENDMENTS TO THE 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY

7A. Mr. Vishu Lingala presented Requested Amendments to the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan and Air Quality Conformity. The RTP is updated once every 4 years with public review and comments and amended anytime. H-GAC opened the first public comment period in December 2020 with virtual public meeting held on December 3, 2020. The second public comment period was open between March 26, 2021 and April 28, 2021. Second round of public meetings were held on April 28, 2021.

Through both public comment periods, H-GAC received a total of 141 through online comment submission forms, email, and direct mail. Mr. Lingala gave a summary of all comments received and all submitted comments can be viewed at <https://www.h-gac.com/regional-transportation-plan/submitted-public-comments> and letters submitted can be viewed at [public comments page](#).

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording of all presentations are available on the TAC website at: <https://hgac.swagit.com/play/05192021-725/7/>

7B. Mr. Vishu Lingala further presented on the proposed 2045 RTP amendments categorized as minor or major amendments, and transit amendments. A list of these categorized amendments can be found in the TAC packet for review. Staff requested recommendation for TPC approval of Resolution No. 2021-17, for minor amendments such as the project descriptions, or revisions to the estimated total project cost, or annotations in analysis year columns of the existing 2045 RTP projects, which are listed in Attachment A. Attachments B and C are for information only.

Mr. Morad Kabiri motioned for approval on Attachment A. A second motion was made by Mr. Mr. Nick Woolery. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording of all presentations are available on the TAC website at: <https://hgac.swagit.com/play/05192021-725/7/>

REGIONALLY COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Ms. Jamila Owens provided an updated on the Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan. H-GAC is required to develop and update its Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan (RCTP) every five years since 2006 for all thirteen counties in the H-GAC Planning Area. This plan provides an inventory of transportation assets in public and human service transportation. It also assesses needs, gaps and opportunities for increased efficiencies and provides recommendations for improvements. Staff has begun working with the Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee to develop the 2022 update of the Gulf Coast Regional Transportation Plan. The Subcommittee has formed a workgroup that will augment the work of the Subcommittee for the project. The work began with developing goals and objectives in late 2020. The update of the plan will include evaluating existing conditions, identifying transportation needs, focus on where critical transportation service gaps exist, holding a public survey, workshops and focus groups, as well as providing analysis and developing recommendations. The report is expected to be presented for information and action in 2022. More information on the RCTP is available at the following [website](#). To view this presentation, please click on the link below:

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording of all presentations are available on the TAC website at: <https://hgac.swagit.com/play/05192021-725/8/>

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AGENCY SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGETS

Ms. Jamila Owens presented on Public Transportation Agency Safety Performance Measures and Targets. Ms. Owens described the foundation for the development and implementation a Safety Management System, which was adopted in August 11, 2016 by the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA). Transit agencies in the Houston-Galveston Region were required to submit a Public Transportation

Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) by December 31, 2020. H-GAC is required to report regional targets for agencies by June 30, 2021. H-GAC, consistent with FTA guidelines divides transit agencies into two reporting tiers to develop aggregate targets. The Tier I and Tier II Public Transportation Agency Safety Performance Measures and Targets are included in the TAC Packet. Information can also be reviewed in the [Draft Performance Measures - System Evaluation](#) report. This information will be presented to TAC and TPC's approval in June. After TPC's approval, the report will be included under Appendix B of the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program and will be submitted to FTA prior to the June 30, 2021 deadline.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording of all presentations are available on the TAC website at: <https://hgac.swagit.com/play/05192021-725/9/>

QUARTERLY TIP STATUS REPORT

Mr. Adam Beckom provided an update on the Quarterly TIP Status Report for the 2021 Fiscal Year. Projects programmed by the Transportation Policy Council to receive discretionary federal and state TIP funding (Congestion Management and Air Quality/Surface Transportation Block Grant/Transportation Alternatives Set Aside funds) often do not advance to implementation on the timelines originally envisioned. Based on discussions with the Transportation Advisory Committee and Transportation Policy Council, staff presents a quarterly report on the status of projects selected for funding in the TIP. The quarterly reports provide actionable and timely information to guide development of each year's letting schedule and make necessary adjustments earlier and more deliberately each fiscal year to ensure our region maximizes the use of available funding. In the TAC Packet, staff provided the Committee with tables to summarize the allocations, programming, and obligations that have occurred as of April 2021. Staff also highlighted some of the problems with large carryover balances and provided next steps on how to reduce the balances.

Vice Chair Chapa Gorczynski commented on staff possibly looking into smaller cities in rural Texas, looking into federal matches in distress areas and to start up a conversation to maximize the use of available funding. Additionally, Vice Chair Chapa Gorczynski encouraged members of the Committee to also look at the numbers and contribute any notes or comments for opportunities and solutions to provide to H-GAC staff.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording of all presentations are available on the TAC website at: <https://hgac.swagit.com/play/05192021-725/10/>

IMPACTS OF COVID-19 ON TRANSPORTATION

Ms. Allie Isbell presented information on the Impacts of COVID-19 on Transportation in the region. Staff began tracking transportation data and identifying trends caused by remote work adopted by many employers, business closures, and stay home orders. The Transportation Department released a [report](#) in September 2020 outlining these impacts on various transportation modes, including vehicular, transit, bicyclist and pedestrian travel.

Aspects of the various transportation modes, such as volumes, congestion, speed, and crash rates are being monitored as well. Data described in the newsletter article as well as the presentation can be

reviewed online through the [COVID Dashboard](#). H-GAC staff will continue to track this data and update the COVID Dashboard.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording of all presentations are available on the TAC website at: <https://hgac.swagit.com/play/05192021-725/11/>

PLANNING ACTIVITIES

A. Development of the 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Ms. Kim provided an update on the development of the 2022-2023 UPWP. In March of 2021, H-GAC requested for UPWP planning project proposals from eligible entities in the region, and this call for project proposals was closed on April 8, 2021. This request for projects resulted in 17 planning proposal submissions by various local governments and other agencies within the region. The planning proposals are under review by H-GAC staff and selected projects will be proposed to be included in the 2022-2023 UPWP. Staff plans to present the draft 2022-2023 UPWP to TAC and TPC in June. To view further information on 2022-2023 UPWP Development Process, please refer to the TAC packet under Item 12A.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording of all presentations are available on the TAC website at <https://hgac.swagit.com/play/05192021-725/12/>

B. Amendments to the 2021-2024 TIP and 2045 RTP

Mr. Jim Dickinson gave a brief overview of Future Amendments to the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The Future Amendments were as follows:

- Combine two (2) adjoining segments of access management treatments on FM 2920 in Harris County at the Texas Department of Transportation Houston District's request. The overall cost, limits and schedule will be unchanged.
- Program the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO) Emergency and Community Services (ECS) Center construction project in fiscal year 2022 of the TIP with a \$5.9M Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Emergency Relief Program (Chapter 53, Section 5324) grant. The federal funding was awarded as a result of losses sustained during Hurricane Harvey in 2017.
- Program the METRO Missouri City Park & Ride construction project in fiscal year 2022 of the TIP with \$37M of local funding. The project, which was approved by voters in the METRONext transit plan in 2019, will construct a new facility at a location close to the intersection of Beltway 8 and US 90A.
- Program four (4) METRO Bus Operations Optimized Systems Treatment (BOOST) projects in fiscal years 2022 and 2024 of the TIP with \$145M of local funding. The projects, which will improve transit service on seventeen (17) high frequency routes in the system, will include all phases, right-of-way acquisition, environmental planning, design, and construction. The BOOST program was approved by voters in the METRONext plan in 2019.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording of all presentations are available on the TAC website at <https://hgac.swagit.com/play/05192021-725/12/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Patrick Mandapaka made an announcement on grant opportunities available and announced the following meetings and events:

- a. Regional Transportation Plan Subcommittee Meeting – May 12, 2021, 1:30 p.m.
- b. Next TPC Meeting – May 21, 2021, 9:30 a.m.
- c. Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee Meeting – May 27, 2021, 10:00 a.m.
- d. Transportation Improvement Program Subcommittee Meeting – June 2, 2021, 1:30 p.m.
- e. Greater Houston Freight Committee Meeting – June 10, 2021, 1:00 p.m.
- f. Next TAC Meeting – June 16, 2021, 9:30 a.m.
- g. Transportation Safety Committee Meeting – June 29, 2021, 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting of the TAC at 11:23 a.m.

A slide presentation and audio recording of all presentations are available on the TAC website at: <https://hgac.swagit.com/play/03172021-733/12/>

1st Vice Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

ATTACHMENT 1

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING ATTENDANCE (Roll Call)

May 19, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.

NOTES:

1. Attendance is marked with “X” in the corresponding column for the Member and/or Alternate.
2. Where both the Member and Alternate are present, the Alternate is marked with an asterisk (*) after the “X” to indicate that this person does not count toward quorum or votes for this meeting.

<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Present</u>
<i>Chair</i>				
Loyd Smith, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Harris County	Brannan Hicks	<u> </u>
1 st Vice Chair				
Veronica Chapa Gorczynski	<u>X</u>	Active Transportation	Joe Cutrufo	<u> </u>
2 nd Vice Chair				
Morad Kabiri, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Smaller Cities	Vacant	<u> </u>
Ricardo Villagrand, CFM	<u> </u>	Smaller Cities	Jorge Flores	<u> </u>
Sean Landis	<u>X</u>	Smaller Cities	Teresa Evans	<u> </u>
Perri D’Armond	<u>X</u>	Transit	Yvette Maldonado	<u>X*</u>
Ken Fickes	<u>X</u>	Transit	Vernon Chambers	<u>X*</u>
Ruthanne Haut	<u>X</u>	Transit	John Powers	<u> </u>
Carl Woodward	<u>X</u>	Environmental	Craig Maske	<u> </u>
Katherine Parker	<u>X</u>	Environmental	Dr. Carol Lewis	<u>X*</u>
David Fields	<u>X</u>	Planning	Katrina Bayer	<u> </u>
Faustino Benavidez, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Planning	Reynaldo Guerra, PhD	<u>X*</u>
Lisa Kocich-Meyer	<u>X</u>	Planning	Fabio Capillo	<u>X*</u>
Marlisa Briggs	<u>X</u>	Business Interests	Elijah Williams	<u>X*</u>
B.J. Simon	<u>X</u>	Business Interests	Stephanie Pizzoferrato	<u> </u>
Vacant	<u> </u>	Citizens Interests	Jonathan Brooks	<u>X</u>
			Sherry Weesner, P.E., CPM	<u> </u>
Andrea French	<u>X</u>	Citizens Interests	Rohit Saxena	<u> </u>
Bruce Mann	<u>X</u>	Port of Houston	Brett Milutin	<u> </u>
Michael Wilson	<u>X</u>	Port Freeport	Vacant	<u> </u>
Vacant	<u> </u>	Toll Road	Vacant	<u> </u>
Jimmy Thompson	<u> </u>	Toll Road	Vacant	<u> </u>
Ana Ramirez-Huerta	<u>X</u>	Active Transportation	Catherine McCreight	<u> </u>
Bill Zrioka	<u>X</u>	Airport	David Leslie	<u> </u>
Jeff Taebel	<u>X</u>	Regional Planning	Meagan Coughlin	<u> </u>
Clint Harbert	<u> </u>	METRO	Priya Zachariah	<u>X</u>

**Agenda Item 04
TAC Meeting Packet – 6/16/21**

<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Present</u>
Adam Jack, P.E.	<u>X</u>	TxDOT-Beaumont District	Scott Ayers, P.E.	
James W. Koch, P.E.	<u>X</u>	TxDOT-Houston District	Andrew C. Mao, P.E.	<u>X*</u>
Matt Hanks, P.E.	<u></u>	Brazoria County	Karen McKinnon, P.E.	<u>X</u>
Cory Taylor, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Chambers County	Billy Combs, P.E.	
Stacy Slawinski, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Fort Bend County	Rick J. Staigle, P.E.	
Michael Shannon, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Galveston County	Nancy Baher, P.E.	
David Douglas	<u></u>	Liberty County	Hon. Jay Knight	
Jeff Johnson, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Montgomery County	Brian Clark, P.E.	<u>X*</u>
Yancy Scott, P.E.	<u>X*</u>	Waller County	Jared Chen	<u>X</u>
Nick Woolery	<u>X</u>	City of Baytown	Frank Simoneaux	
Adam France	<u></u>	City of Conroe	Chris Bogert, P.E.	
Robert Winiecke, P.E., CFM	<u>X</u>	City of Galveston	Daniel Christodoss, P.E.	<u>X*</u>
Veronica O. Davis, P.E.	<u>X</u>	City of Houston	David Wurdlow	<u>X*</u>
Christopher Sims	<u>X</u>	City of League City	Hon. Chad Tressler	
Shashi Kumar	<u>X</u>	City of Missouri City	Vacant	
Robin Green, P.E.	<u></u>	City of Pasadena	Sarah Benavides, P.E.	<u>X</u>
Monique Johnson, AICP	<u>X</u>	City of Sugar Land	Rick Ramirez, P.E.	
Doug Kneupper, P.E.	<u></u>	City of Texas City	(Vacant)	
	<u>44</u>	Total Voting Membership		
	<u>37</u>	Total Voting Membership Present		
	<u>22</u>	Required for Quorum		

Ex Officio:

Roger E. Rees _____ Port of Galveston