

5A. MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA

DATE: Friday, August 25, 2023

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: 3555 Timmons Lane, Conference Room B, Houston, Texas 77027 and Video Conference

The presiding officer, Chair David Robinson called the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting of August 25, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. to order.

Chairman David Robinson made a statement to TPC members and others that he was the presiding officer at a meeting of the Transportation Policy Council being held in-person or by a video conference on Friday, August 25, 2023 and he was physically present at 3555 Timmons Lane, Houston, Texas 77027 and attested that the meeting was open and accessible to members of the public and reminded each member of the governing body participating in via Zoom they must be visible and audible to be considered a participant in this meeting, and they must enable their video and microphone when responding to a roll call, voting on action items and asking questions

ITEM 1 & 2 CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman David Robinson recognized Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, for the Certification of the Quorum and she conducted the Roll Call of the TPC membership. Fourteen (14) members comprise a quorum. A quorum was declared present and recorded on the Roll Call, which is included with these Minutes as Attachment 1.

ITEM 3. DECLARE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Chairman David Robinson asked members of the Council to Declare Conflicts of Interest on any item on the agenda. No TPC members declared any conflicts.

ITEM 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC informed the Council that Spanish translation services were available and introduced Lourdes McIntyre to provide instructions on how to make Public Comments in Spanish by video conference. Ms. Isbell also informed the Council that American Sign Language services were available to the and informed the Council the instructions were on a slide in Zoom. Ms. Isbell read one public comment received by 5:00 p.m. on August 24, 2023. No public comments were made in person and there were several public comments made online.

The presentation, comments, questions and discussion under Item 1 through 4 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 5. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman David Robinson asked the Council if there was any discussion on the consent agenda. No items were requested to be pulled. Chair David Robinson asked for a motion on the Consent Agenda Items below:

- A. Request approval of July 28, 2023 TPC Meeting Minutes Summary
Approved July 28, 2023 TPC Meeting Minutes Summary.

Secretary Nancy Arnold said that no changes were requested and made a motion to approve the Consent agenda and the motion was seconded by Judge Mark Keough. The Council voted and approved the July 28, 2023 Consent Agenda.

The presentation, comments, questions and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

Chair Robinson moved the TPC Agenda Item 9 as the next item on the agenda at the request of Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC. There were no objections from the Council.

ITEM 9. AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY STATUS UPDATE, MR. CRAIG RABORN, H-GAC

Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, began his update by informing the Council the status of the Air Quality Conformity would affect H-GAC staff's ability to process Amendments of the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and also explained to the Council that TPC Agenda Item 6 will need to be deferred and gave an overview of the communication with FHWA, EPA, TCEQ and TxDOT along with a timeline and what projects would be effected. A discussion among the TPC members and H-GAC staff occurred during this portion of the presentation. Mr. Raborn continued his presentation by elaborating on the time frame for approval by the FHWA and a discussion period followed

The presentation, comments, questions and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed

Prior to the presentation of Item 6, a discussion period occurred among members of the Council and Mr. Craig Raborn clarifying that no action would be taken on Item 6 based on the status of the Air Quality Conformity.

ITEM 6. AMENDMENTS TO THE 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AND THE 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP), MR. JIM DICKINSON, H-GAC

Mr. Jim Dickinson, H-GAC, provided a presentation on the Amendments to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). A summary of the proposed revisions to the 2023-2026 TIP and 2045 RTP are included below:

- Increase the state-allocated federal right-of-way (SW-ROW) funding of the TxDOT Houston District's FM 646 widening project in Galveston County (MPO ID 10144), adding state and local matching

amounts, to cover the inflation of utilities relocation materials and surveying map services. (+ \$2.8M; Total Cost: \$17.6M)

- Delay the City of Conroe’s STBG-funded Old Conroe Road extension and widening project (MPOID 17101) from FY 2025 to FY 2026 due to the pending environmental clearance and continuing right-of-way acquisitions. (Total Cost: \$101.2M)
- Program METRO’s \$4.0M FY 2021 and FY 2022 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310, Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities program, allocations in FY 2023 and FY 2024 of the TIP with local matching funds. Thirteen (13) projects (MPO IDs 18962-18974) will fund transit administration, capital, and operations expenditures for twelve (12) service providers in the Houston Urbanized Area. (+ \$7.3M; Total Cost: \$7.3M)
- Update METRO’s FY 2024 Bus Replacement project (MPO ID 18370) with a \$40.4M FTA Section 5339, Bus and Bus Facilities program, *Low and No Emissions Grant* award which will be matched with \$6.4M of local funds. Update the project description to specify inclusion of a fueling facility. The project will include purchasing forty (40) compressed natural gas (CNG) fueled buses, building a CNG fueling station and modernizing a bus maintenance facility. (-\$13.6M; Total Cost: \$46.8M)

The presentation, comments, questions and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 7. 2024 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM, (UPWP), MR. CRAIG RABORN, H-GAC

Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, provided a presentation on the draft 2024 Unified Planning Work Program. Mr. Raborn informed the Council about the current UPWP progress status and described the activities completed, activities underway, in procurement, under development and 12 planned activities will carryover. Mr. Raborn also described delays with some funding agreements, procurements and staffing shortages. The 2024 UPWP will be a one-year rather than two-year program and will focus on completing carryover tasks. Mr. Raborn further elaborated the UPWP will incorporate the new Bipartisan Infrastructure Law requirements, have an approximately \$18.9 million MPO budget, have significant reformatting and restructuring and there will be opportunities to add activities or studies through amendment. Mr. Raborn described budget changes and planning activities changes to the UPWP since presented last month.

Mr. Raborn requested approval of the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and UPWP Resolution 2024-00 pending final review of public comments by the TPC officers. Chair Robinson asked for a Motion. A discussion period occurred after the presentation. A motion was made by Dr. Carol Lewis to approve the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program and the motion was seconded by Veronica Davis. The discussion on this item continued among the Council and H-GAC staff. A motion was made to table Item 7 by Mayor Joe Zimmerman and seconded by Judge Mark Keough. The discussion continued between the Council and H-GAC staff. Mayor Joe Zimmerman revised his motion with a caveat to set a Special Meeting to revisit Item 7 and seconded by Judge Mark Keough. Commissioner Grady Prestage questioned the motion and added the motion include the option for a hybrid meeting. Commissioner Grady Prestage also added the approval of Item 6 to the special meeting agenda. Mayor Joe Zimmerman requested that the motion be stated before the Council vote. A motion to table Item 7 with a caveat to have a special hybrid meeting to be

determined by the Director in September to revisit Item 6 and Item 7 from this agenda. The Council voted and approved the amended motion.

The presentation, comments, questions and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed

ITEM 8. COMMUTE SOLUTIONS MONTH, FRANCIS RODRIGUEZ, H-GAC

Ms. Francis Rodriguez, H-GAC, provided a presentation on Commute Solution Month. The Commute Solution program is celebrating 29 years of service in the community talking to commuters about alternative modes of transportation and their commuting options. The Commute Solutions program also involves employers across the region, developers and universities. September is Commute Solutions Month we will celebrate with weekly educational events and an outreach campaign. Ms. Rodriguez briefed the Council on selected program impact, a webinar series and the steps on how to become a partner.

Ms. Rodriguez requested approval of TPC Resolution 2023-29 in recognition of Commute Solutions Month. A motion was made by Mayor Joe Zimmerman and seconded by Council Member Howard Wood. The Council voted and approved TPC Resolution 2023-29.

The presentation, comments, questions and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 10. PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS UPDATE, MR. ADAM BECKHOM, H-GAC

Mr. Adam Beckom, H-GAC, provided a presentation on the Project Readiness Questionnaire and described H-GAC staff efforts to spend down carry-over balances. Mr. Beckom informed the Council that Project Readiness questionnaires were sent out to over 230 sponsors. The agencies had 3 weeks to return the questionnaire. Staff received 180 responses. Additional time was requested by some sponsors. Some projects are already included in the TIP. Some sponsors requested projects removed from consideration as they would not be ready in 0-3 years. Staff assessed all submitted project readiness questionnaires and coordinated with project sponsors to discuss project schedules and looked at carryover balances per funding category to develop recommendation to spend down the carryover balances. Mr. Beckom described the Regional Goods Movement investment category and informed the Council that 40 projects were submitted and 37 were received back, 2 of the agencies withdrew their BCA from consideration, and 1 agency requested additional time. Mr. Beckom detailed the next steps and timeline. A brief discussion occurred after the presentation.

The presentation, comments, questions and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed

ITEM 11. PLANNING ACTIVITIES

A. Administrative Amendments to the 2023-2025 TIP and 2045 RTP

Mr. Jim Dickinson, H-GAC, provided a presentation on the Administrative Amendments to the 2023-2024 TIP and 2045 RTP. Information was provided to TPC members in the meeting packet.

Discussion among H-GAC staff and the Council occurred during the presentation.

B. Future Amendments to the 2023-2026 TIP AND 2045 RTP

Mr. Jim Dickenson provided a presentation on 14 Future Amendments to the 2023-2026 TIP and 2045 RTP. Information was provided to TPC members in the meeting packet.

C. Quarterly TIP Update

Ms. Callie Barnes, H-GAC provided a presentation on the 22 Local Government Sponsors: 110* Projects in 2023-2026 TIP. 10B Total Funds. TxDOT: 55 Projects in 2023-2026 TIP. \$6B Total Funds. Ms. Barnes thanked all the Local Government Sponsors for meeting with her.

D. Summary of Transportation Planning Activities

Mr. Craig Raborn gave an update on various Transportation Planning Activities. Information was provided to the TPC members in the meeting packet.

E. H-GAC Board

Mr. Craig Raborn gave an update of Transportation items approved at the August 15, 2023 meeting of the H-GAC Board. Information was provided to the TPC members in the meeting packet.

The presentation, comments, questions and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADJORNMENT

All meetings below are conducted by Teleconference (TBD)

Regional Air Quality Policy Advisory Committee Meeting	8/31/23	10:00 a.m.	Hybrid
Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting	9/13/23	9:30 a.m.	Hybrid
Transportation Policy Council	9/22/23	9:30 a.m.	Hybrid

Chairman David Robinson adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m

The presentation, comments, questions and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.



10/03/2023

Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

Attachment 1
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC)
FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA
August 25, 2023

ROLL

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Baytown, City of	_____ Honorable Brandon Capetillo Mayor <u> X </u> Jason Reynolds – Alternate	City of Baytown
Conroe, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Howard Wood Council Member _____ Norman McGuire – Alternate	City of Conroe
Galveston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Marie Robb Council Member _____ Hon. John Paul Listowski - Alternate	City of Galveston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable David W. Robinson Council Member – Chairman <u> * </u> Honorable Abbie Kamin- Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	_____ Honorable Carolyn Evans-Shabazz Council Member <u> X </u> Honorable Sallie Alcorn - Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	_____ Carol Haddock, P.E. Director, Houston Public Works <u> X </u> Veronica O. Davis, P.E. – Alternate	City of Houston
League City, City of	_____ Honorable John Bowen 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 _____ Marcus Snell – Alternate	City of Missouri City
Pasadena, City of	<u> X </u> 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 Mayor <u> </u> Trent Epperson-Alternate	City of Pearland
Sugar Land, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Joe Zimmerman Mayor <u> </u> Honorable Suzanne Whatley – Alternate	City of Sugar Land
Texas City, City of	<u> </u> Honorable Dedrick Johnson Mayor <u> X </u> Jon Branson - Alternate	City of Texas City
Waller, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Nancy Arnold Council Member, Secretary	Smaller Cities, Harris County
Vacant	<u> </u> Honorable Sally Branson-Alternate	
Brazoria County	<u> </u> Matt Hanks, JD, P.E. County Engineer <u> </u> Honorable David Linder – Alternate	Brazoria County
Chambers County	<u> </u> Honorable Ryan Dagley County Commissioner <u> </u> Honorable Tommy Hammond. - Alternate	Chambers County
Fort Bend County	<u> X </u> Honorable Grady Prestage County Commissioner, 2nd Vice Chair <u> </u> Stacy Slawinski, P.E. – Alternate	Fort Bend County
Galveston County	<u> </u> Honorable Robin Armstrong County Commissioner <u> </u> Honorable Joe Giusti– Alternate	Galveston County
Harris County	<u> </u> Honorable Lina Hidalgo County Judge <u> X </u> Roberto Treviño, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Harris County	<u> </u> Honorable Adrian Garcia County Commissioner, Pct. 2 <u> X </u> Milton Rahman, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Liberty County	<u> </u> Melinda Soliday Department Administrator <u> </u> Honorable Jay Knight - Alternate	Liberty County

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Montgomery County	<u> X </u> Honorable Mark Keough County Judge <u> </u> Commissioner, Matt Gray – Alternate	Montgomery County
Waller County	<u> X </u> Honorable Justin Beckendorff County Commissioner – 1st Vice Chair <u> </u> Commissioner, Walter Smith - Alternate	Waller County
Houston Metropolitan Transit Authority	<u> X </u> Sanjay Ramabhadran METRO Chair <u> </u> Thomas Lambert	METRO
Houston-Galveston Area Council At Large	<u> X </u> Chuck Wemple Executive Director <u> </u> Onyinye Akujuo – Alternate	H-GAC
TxDOT	<u> X </u> Eliza Paul, P. E. <u> </u> District Engineer <u> </u> Varuna Singh, P.E.– Alternate	TxDOT Houston District
TxDOT	<u> </u> Martin Gonzalez, P.E. District Engineer <u> X </u> Ana I. Mijares, P.E. – Alternate	TxDOT Beaumont District
Other Transportation Interests	<u> </u> Roger Guenther Executive Director, Port Houston <u> X </u> Phyllis Saathoff, Port Freeport- Alternate	Other Transportation Interests
Gulf Coast Rail District	<u> X </u> Dr. Carol Lewis Chairman, GCRD <u> </u> Jeff Ross - Alternate	Gulf Coast Rail District
	<u> 28 </u> Total Voting Membership	
	<u> 23 </u> Voting Membership Present	
	<u> 14 </u> Required Quorum	

AGENCY

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

REPRESENTING

Texas State Senate

 Hon. Carol Alvarado

8-County Region

Freight Rail Interests

 Clint Schelbitzki

Union Pacific

Texas State Legislator

 X Hon. Dennis Paul

8-County Region

Texas State Legislator

 Hon. Ed Thompson

8-County Region

Wharton County

 X Hon. Phillip Spenrath

Wharton County