

6A. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA

DATE: Friday, February 23, 2024
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: 3555 Timmons Lane, Conference Room B, Houston, Texas 77027

The presiding officer, Chair Justin Beckendorff called the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting of February 23, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. to order.

CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM, INTRODUCTIONS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chairman Justin Beckendorff recognized Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, for the Certification of the Quorum and she conducted the Roll Call of the TPC membership. Fifteen (15) members comprise a quorum. A quorum was declared present and recorded on the Roll Call, which is included with these Minutes as Attachment 1.

The presentation, comments, questions and discussion under Item 1- 3 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

Chairman Justin Beckendorff asked members of the Council to Declare Conflicts of Interest on any item on the agenda. Mayor Kevin Cole informed the Council that he had a conflict and gave the Council specifics regarding Item 10 on the February TPC Agenda. Mayor Kevin Cole also informed the Council that he owns some property next to a project included in this item. Mayor Cole will recuse himself when the Council votes on the Item in March.

The presentation, comments, questions and discussion under Item 3 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC informed the Council that translation services were available to the public. Ms. Isbell introduced Maria Alegrett and asked her to provide instruction in Spanish to the public. The American Sign Language Interpreters were Adrienne Baskins and Nikki Boehme. The public could access those services by following instructions on the screen. No written comments were submitted by 5:00 p.m. on February 21, 2024. Public Comments were made in person and online and can be heard in the recording below:

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

ITEM 5. MPO DIRECTOR REPORT AND ORIENTATION OF AGENDA, MR. CRAIG RABORN, H-GAC

- A. Planning Activities Report
Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, informed the Council the report on Planning Activities was sent to them in the meeting packet.
- B. H-GAC Board of Directors Report
Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, gave the Council an overview of the transportation projects approved at the February H-GAC board meeting. TPC members received this information in the meeting packet.
- C. Project Selection Process Update
Mr. Vishu Lingala, H-GAC gave a brief update on the Project Selection Process and informed the Council that the process is under way for the 5 investment categories. The evaluation criteria is available on the website and the questionnaires were due on February 5, 2024 but was extended to February 15, 2024. Sponsors can request portal accounts by sending an email to Vishu.Lingala@h-gac.com.
- D. TxDOT Federal Fund Utilization Swap Program
Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, gave a brief description of the TxDOT Federal Fund Utilization Swap Program to the Council. The information was sent to TPC Members and included in the meeting packet.
- E. TIP Administrative Amendments
Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, gave an update on the TIP Administrative Amendments to the Council. The information was sent to the TPC members and included in the meeting packet.

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

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA, CRAIG RABORN, H-GAC

- A. Request approval of January 26, 2024 Meeting Minutes Summary
- B. Amendments to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program and the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan
- C. Safety Performance Measures

A motion was made by Secretary Nancy Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Adrian Garcia. The Council voted and approved the motion.

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

ITEM 7. REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS, STEPHEN KEEN, H-GAC

Mr. Stephen Keen, H-GAC, gave an overview to the Council on the Regional Transportation Plan Project Development Process. The projects are long-term projects that are 10+ years from construction. In this process there are five steps: Access, Submission, Evaluation, Recommendations, and Presentation. Projects will be recommended into three categories: RTP Project List, Illustrative List, or Refinement. The purpose is to establish a process to add projects to the RTP. This process will establish a project list that reflects and adheres to RTP Vision and Goals, increase projects submitted, and maximize planning efforts. Mr. Keen further described the step-by-step process and described the specifics of each step and concluded the presentation with a timeline. A motion was made by Commissioner Adrian Garcia and seconded by Mayor

Kevin Cole. A discussion period occurred after the presentation. The Council voted and approved the motion.

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

ITEM 8. REGIONAL PRIORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN, ANDREW DECANDIS, H-GAC

Mr. Andrew DeCandis, H-GAC, gave an update on the Regional Priority Climate Action Plan. The primary goal of the program is to address the sources of greenhouse gases while creating new jobs, delivering cleaner air, and lowering energy costs. The Program is being implemented in two phases: Phase I: Non-Competitive Planning Grant, Phase II: \$4.6 Billion Competitive Implementation Grant. Mr. DeCandis described specific details of Phase I outreach efforts and work completed. Mr. DeCandis continued his update describing staff efforts in CPRG Phase II.

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

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 9. 2024 LIVABLE CENTERS PROGRAM CALL FOR PROPOSALS, SARAI OSORIO, H-GAC

Ms. Sarai Osorio, H-GAC, gave a presentation on the Call for Livable Center Study Sponsors FY 2025-2028. The goal of the Livable Centers Program is to facilitate the creation of walkable, mixed-use places that provide multimodal transportation options, improve environmental quality, improve pedestrian safety, and promote economic development and housing diversity. Staff administers small scale Land Use and Transportation studies in collaboration with local communities and study sponsors. H-GAC Staff is overseeing three active studies in Prairie View, City of Sugar Land, City of Alvin and completed 43 studies. Ms. Osorio informed the Council the Livable Centers Cycle 7 Call for Study Sponsors is open and she described a timeline for the call, described eligibility requirements and the informational meeting for the call.

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

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 10. FUTURE AMENDMENTS TO THE 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN, JIM DICKINSON, H-GAC

Mr. Jim Dickinson, H-GAC, presented the Future Amendments to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Plan and the Regional Transportation Plan. A summary of the proposed revisions to the 2023-2026 TIP and 2045 RTP is included below for the Council's review.

- Program the TxDOT Houston District's IH 10 West frontage roads construction project (MPO ID 19023) in Waller County selected by the Transportation Policy Council as a Regional Goods Movement project in December 2023 with Category-2 funding. (+ \$52.9M; Total: \$52.9M)
- Program the TxDOT Houston District's IH 10 West frontage roads construction project (MPO ID 19024) in Fort Bend County selected by the Transportation Policy Council as a Regional Goods Movement project in December 2023 with Category-2 funding. (+ \$4.0M; Total: \$4.0M)

- Program the TxDOT Houston District’s FM 1488 Right-of-Way (ROW) acquisition with federal/state SW-ROW funding in FY 2024 (MPO ID 18985) for the FY 2026 new 4 lane construction in Montgomery County (MPO ID 16313). (+\$14.2M; Total: \$14.2M)
- Program the TxDOT Houston District’s IH 45 North Houston Highway Improvement Project (NHHIP) ROW phase project for Segment 3C-1 (MPO ID 18976), funded with federal/state SW-ROW funding, in FY 2024 to allow commencement of advanced ROW acquisitions and utilities coordination. (+\$94.0M; Total: \$94.0M)
- Program the TxDOT Houston District’s IH 45 NHHIP ROW phase project for Segment 3C-2 (MPO ID 18977), funded with federal/state SW-ROW funding, in FY 2024 to allow commencement of advanced ROW acquisitions and utilities coordination. (+\$610.0M; Total: \$610.0M)
- Split out two segments (MPO IDs 19025, 19026) of the TxDOT Houston District’s NHHIP Segment 3C-2 interchanges reconstruction project (MPO ID 16330) to improve its constructability and delay it to FY 2028. (+\$0M; Total: \$1.1B)
- Program the TxDOT Houston District’s NHHIP main lane reconstruction project for Segment 3C-2 (MPO ID 19025), which would be split out from MPO ID 16330, with federal/state Statewide Connectivity and SW-ROW funding in FY 2024. (+\$196.0M; Total: \$196.0M)
- List the TxDOT Houston District’s NHHIP main lane reconstruction project for Segment 3C-3 (MPO ID 19026), which would be split out from MPO ID 16330, in FY 2027 of the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan. (Total Project Cost: \$250.0M)
- Program the TxDOT Houston District’s US 290 Truck Parking Lot construction project at FM 2920 (MPO ID 18917) with federal/state Preventative Maintenance and Rehabilitation funding in FY 2025. (+\$1.8M; Total: \$1.8M)
- Program the TxDOT Houston District’s US 290 6-lane widening project in Waller County (MPO ID 17233) with federal/state Metropolitan and Urban Area and Statewide Connectivity funding in FY 2025 to reflect the approved TxDOT FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). (+\$83.2M; Total: \$83.2M)
- Program the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program award for the installation of four direct current fast-charge ports on IH 69 South in the City of Sugar Land (MPO ID 19075) in FY 2024. (+\$1.1M; Total: \$1.1M)
- Program the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program award for the installation of four direct current fast-charge ports on IH 10 East in the City of Winnie (MPO ID 19076) in FY 2024. (+\$1.2M; Total: \$1.2M)
- Increase Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funding by \$17.9M to cover additional design elements and inflated costs of labor and materials on TxDOT Houston District’s FY 2026 BW 8 Frontage Road Access Management project (MPO ID 18035). (+\$17.9M; Total: \$26.9M)

- Modify the funding of the TxDOT Houston District’s SH 36 4-lane widening project in Fort Bend County (MPO ID 263) in FY 2026 to reflect the approved TxDOT FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). (+\$11.4M; Total: \$75.3M)
- Modify the funding of the TxDOT Houston District’s FM 2100 4-lane widening project in Harris County (MPO ID 290) in FY 2026 to reflect the approved TxDOT FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). (+\$1.5M; Total: \$44.4M)
- Modify the funding of the TxDOT Houston District’s FM 646 4-lane widening project in Galveston County (MPO ID 514) in FY 2024 to reflect the approved TxDOT FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). (+\$14.1M; Total: \$51.6M)
- Modify the funding of the TxDOT Houston District’s SH 105 4-lane widening project in Montgomery County (MPO ID 965) in FY 2026 to reflect the approved TxDOT FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). (+\$12.4M; Total: \$125.3M)
- Modify the funding of the TxDOT Houston District’s SH 105 4-lane widening project in Montgomery County (MPO ID 7706) in FY 2025 to reflect the approved TxDOT FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). (+\$13.4M; Total: \$53.8M)
- Modify the funding of the TxDOT Houston District’s FM 518 6-lane widening project in Brazoria County (MPO ID 10132) in FY 2026 to reflect the approved TxDOT FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). (+\$7.6M; Total: \$61.3M)
- Modify the funding of the TxDOT Houston District’s FM 646 4-lane widening project in Galveston County (MPO ID 10144) in FY 2024 to reflect the approved TxDOT FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). (+\$17.6M; Total: \$26.8M)
- Modify the funding of the TxDOT Houston District’s FM 646 4-lane widening project in Galveston County (MPO ID 10920) in FY 2024 to reflect the approved TxDOT FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). (+\$3.5M; Total: \$36.8M)
- Modify the funding of the TxDOT Houston District’s SH 35 4-lane construction project in Brazoria County (MPO ID 18027) in FY 2026 to reflect the approved TxDOT FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). (+\$0.0M; Total: \$39.4M)
- Modify the funding of the TxDOT Houston District’s US 90A 6-lane widening project in Fort Bend County (MPO ID 18029) in FY 2025 to reflect the approved TxDOT FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). (+\$585K; Total: \$35.6M)
- Modify the funding of the TxDOT Houston District’s IH 610 direct connector construction project in Harris County (MPO ID 18048) in FY 2026 to reflect the approved TxDOT FY 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). (+\$0K; Total: \$205.0M)
- Delay the City of Houston’s Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funded Greens Road 4-lane widening (MPO ID 5030) from FY 2024 to FY 2025 to allow for coordination with the Regional Strategic Transportation Fund Program. (Total: \$16.0M)

- Delay TxDOT Houston District’s NHHIP interchange reconstruction project (MPO ID 16328) from FY 2024 to FY 2025 and update its project description with the segment name. (Total: \$909.6M)
- Delay TxDOT Houston District’s SH 249 8-lane widening project (MPO ID 17224) from FY 2025 to FY 2027 in the 2045 RTP at the sponsor’s request. (Total Project Cost: \$130.6M)
- Delay METRO’s CMAQ funded US 290 Cypress Park and Ride ramp construction project (MPO ID 17041) from FY 2024 to FY 2027 to allow for completion of design, agreements, and environmental clearance. (Total: \$41.9M)
- Delay the City of Bellaire’s CMAQ funded wireless communications installation project (MPO ID 18020) from FY 2025 to FY 2026 to allow time for consultant selection. (Total: \$867K)
- Delay the City of Galveston’s FTA Section 5307 funded transit operations project (MPO ID 18616) from FY 2023 to FY 2024 to conform with expenditure needs. (Total: \$2.6M)
- Advance TxDOT Houston District’s NHHIP Segment 3B drainage project (MPO ID 19007) from FY 2025 to FY 2024 to take advantage of its current readiness. (Total: \$226.7M)
- Add ROW acquisition as an authorized phase of work to the TxDOT Houston District’s FM 517 FY 2028 4-lane widening in Galveston County (MPO ID 38). (Total: \$108.9M)

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

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 11. TPC BYLAWS REVISION WORKSHOP, CRAIG RABORN, H-GAC

Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, informed the Council the workshop would review remaining Bylaws elements from January meeting and provide general guidance to staff for preparing Bylaws draft. No formal actions or votes occurred. Mr. Raborn proceeded to describe a timeline of the Bylaws revisions and facilitated discussion among the Council on the elements below.

- TPC structure and appointees
- TPC membership categories
- Procedure for expanding MPO boundary and membership
- Adding new members within existing boundary
- Clarify numerical voting procedure
- Add standing committees

The Item 11 presentation and discussion is included in the recording [HERE](#)

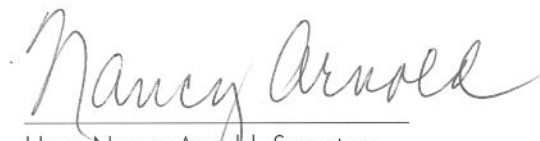
For Information Only. No action needed

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJORNMENT

Transportation Safety Committee will occur on February 27, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. - Virtual
The Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting will occur on March 13, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. -In person
The Transportation Policy Council Meeting will occur on March 21, 2024, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.- In person

Chairman Justin Beckendorff adjourned the meeting at 11:41 p.m.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Arnold". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

Attachment 1
 MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC)
 FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON
 TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA
February 23, 2024

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	_____ Honorable Sallie Alcorn Council Member <u> X </u> Honorable Abbie Kamin- Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	_____ Honorable Carolyn Evans-Shabazz Council Member <u> X </u> Honorable Joaquin Martinez - Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	_____ Carol Haddock, P.E. Director, Houston Public Works <u> X </u> Elijah J. Williams – Alternate	City of Houston
League City, City of	_____ Honorable Tommy Cones 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- 2ND Vice Chair Mayor <u> </u> Trent Epperson-Alternate	City of Pearland
Sugar Land, City of	<u> </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> </u> Jon Branson - Alternate	City of Texas City
Waller, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Nancy Arnold Council Member, Secretary <u> </u> Honorable Sally Branson-Alternate	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> X </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, 1st Vice Chair <u> </u> Stacy Slawinski, P.E. – Alternate	Fort Bend County
Galveston County	<u> X </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> X </u> Honorable Adrian Garcia County Commissioner, Pct. 2 <u> </u> Milton Rahman, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Liberty County	<u> X </u> David Douglas Director of Economic Development <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> </u> Vacant METRO Chair <u> X </u> Thomas Jasien - Alternate	METRO
Houston-Galveston Area Council At Large	<u> X </u> Chuck Wemple Executive Director <u> </u> Onyinye Akujuo – Alternate	H-GAC
TxDOT-Houston	<u> X </u> Eliza Paul, P. E. District Engineer <u> </u> Varuna Singh, P.E.– Alternate	TxDOT Houston District
TxDOT-Beaumont	<u> X </u> Martin Gonzalez, P.E. District Engineer <u> </u> Ana I. Mijares, P.E. – Alternate	TxDOT Beaumont District
Other Transportation Interests	<u> X </u> Phyliss Saathoff Executive Director, Port Freeport <u> </u> Roger Guenther, Port Houston- 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> 24 </u> Voting Membership Present	
	<u> 15 </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

Hon. Dennis Paul

8-County Region

Texas State Legislator

Hon. Ed Thompson

8-County Region

Wharton County

Hon. Phillip Spenrath

Wharton County