

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

DATE: Friday, January 26, 2024
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: 3555 Timmons Lane, Conference Room B, Houston, Texas 77027 and Video Conference

The presiding officer, Chair Justin Beckendorff called the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting of January 26, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. to order.

CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM, INTRODUCTIONS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chairman Justin Beckendorff 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, January 26, 2024 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

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- 2 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. No TPC members declared any conflicts.

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 Lourdes McIntyre and would provide Spanish translation and the American Sign Language Interpreters were Kathleen Lascala and Jennifer Marker. The public could access those services by following instructions on the screen. No written comments were submitted by 5:00 p.m. on January 25, 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. CONSENT AGENDA, CRAIG RABORN, H-GAC

- A. Request approval of December 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes Summary
- B. Amendments to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program and the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan

A motion was made by Secretary Nancy Arnold and seconded by Mayor Joe Zimmerman. The Council voted to approve the December 15, 2023 meeting summary.

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

ITEM 6. 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. Mr. Raborn also gave the Council a brief update on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant.
- B. H-GAC Board of Directors Report
Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, gave the Council an overview of the transportation projects approved at the January H-GAC board meeting. TPC members received this information in the meeting packet.
- C. Project Selection Process Update
Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC gave an 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 are due on February 5, 2024. Sponsors can request portal accounts by sending an email to Vishu.Lingala@h-gac.com.

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

ITEM 7. RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION FOR PAST TPC CHAIRMAN DAVID ROBINSON AND TPC MEMBER WALTER SMITH (WALLER COUNTY), CRAIG RABORN, H-GAC

A motion was made by Mayor Joe Zimmerman and seconded by Secretary Nancy Arnold. A resolution of Commendation for Past Chair TPC Chairman David W. Robinson was read by Chair Justin Beckendorff recognizing him for his service to the TPC and the City of Houston. Chair Justin Beckendorff called for a vote. The Council voted and approved the resolution. Past Chair David Robinson was invited to stand before the Council and accept a plaque. Past Chair Robinson received a robust round of applause by the Council. Past Chair Robinson made a heartfelt speech thanking the Council. Chair Justin Beckendorff continued the presentation recognizing Commissioner Walter E. Smith, Waller County. A motion was made by Secretary Nancy Arnold and the motion was seconded. Chair Justin Beckendorff read the resolution for his service to the TPC and Waller County. Chair Justin Beckendorff called for a vote. The Council voted and approved the resolution.

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

ITEM 8. REQUEST TPC APPROVAL OF TPC NOMINATING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS, ALLIE ISBELL, H-GAC

Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC gave an overview of the TPC Nominating Committee process to the Council. The TPC Nominating Committee were appointed in November and the members are as follows:

Mayor Joe Zimmerman	City of Sugarland	Chair
Council Member Sally Branson	City of Friendswood	
Council Member Sallie Alcorn	City of Houston	
Council Member David Robinson	City of Houston	
Mr. Robert Trevino, P.E.	Harris County	
Mr. Chuck Wemple	H-GAC	
Judge Mark Keough	Montgomery County	
Dr. Carol Lewis	Gulf Coast Rail District	

The TPC Nominating Committee met in December 2023 to review and to present a slate of recommendations for the Council’s approval. The recommendations were for the following positions:

- TPC Officers
- TPC Other Transportation Interests Position
- Greater Houston Freight Committee Co-Chair
- Transportation Advisory Committee At-Large Positions’

Mayor Joe Zimmerman continued the presentation and described recommendations as follows:

2024 TPC Officers		
Officer	Recommendation	Representing
Chairman	Justin Beckendorff	Waller County
First Vice Chair	Grady Prestage	Fort Bend County
Second Vice Chair	Kevin Cole	City of Pearland
Secretary	Nancy Arnold	Smaller Cities

Mayor Joe Zimmerman made a motion and the motion was seconded to approve. Chair Justin Beckendorff called for a vote. The Council voted and approved the 2024 TPC officers.

2024 TPC Other Transportation Interests Recommendation			
Primary	Organization	Alternate	Organization
Phyllis Saathoff	Port Freeport	Roger Guenther	Port Houston

Mayor Joe Zimmerman made a motion to approve the motion was seconded to approve. Chair Justin Beckendorff called for a vote. The Council voted and approved the 2024 TPC Other Transportation Interests.

2024 Greater Houston Freight Committee Co-Chair Recommendation	
Co-Chair	Organization
Richard Zientek	Union Pacific

Mayor Joe Zimmerman made a motion and the motion was seconded to approve. Chair Justin Beckendorff called for a vote. The Council voted and approved the 2024 Greater Houston Freight Committee Co-Chair Richard Zientek, Union Pacific.

2024-2025 TAC At-Large Recommendations			
Active Transportation – 2 Positions			
Primary	Organization	Alternate	Organization
Stephan Gage	TxDOT-Houston	Patricia Kievlan	Bike the Woodlands Coalition
Aubin Phillips	METRO	Joe Cutrufo	Bike Houston

Business Interests – 2 Positions			
Primary	Organization	Alternate	Organization
Marlissa Briggs	North Houston Association	Amy Skicki	Bay Tran
Veronica Chapa-Gorczyński	East End District	David Kim	Urban Land Institute

Cities of Less than 50,000 – 3 Positions			
Primary	Organization	Alternate	Organization
Morad Kabiri	City of Friendswood	Jilardo Arias	City of Friendswood
Dan Johnson	City of Manvel	Vacant	Vacant
Joe Garcia	City of Pattison	Janet Corte	City of Katy

Citizen Interests – 2 Positions			
Primary	Organization	Alternate	Organization
Nikki Knight	Greater Southwest Management District	Dexter Handy	Citizens Transportation Coalition
Sherry Weesner	Memorial Heights-Tirz 5	Irma Sanchez	Westchase District

Environmental – 2 Positions			
Primary	Organization	Alternate	Organization
Shelly Sekula Gibbs, M.D.	The Woodlands Township	Sue Theiss	TxDOT-Houston
Katherine Parker	Gulf Coast Railroad District	Carl Woodward	Harris County Flood District

Planning – 3 Positions			
Primary	Organization	Alternate	Organization
Catherine McCreight	TxDOT-Houston	Brenda Bustillos	TxDOT-Houston
David Fields	City of Houston	Monique Johnson	City of Houston
David Wurdlow	City of Houston	Jennifer Ostlind	City of Houston

Ports- 1 Positions			
Primary	Organization	Alternate	Organization
Mike Wilson	Port Freeport	Dean Corgey	Seafarers International

Public Transit – 3 Positions			
Primary	Organization	Alternate	Organization
Ken Fickes	Harris County Transit	Vernon Chambers	Harris County Community Services
Ruthanne Haut	The Woodlands Township	Todd Stephens	The Woodlands Township
Perri D’Armond	Fort Bend County	Shawn Johnson	Conroe Transit

Toll Roads- 2 Positions			
Primary	Organization	Alternate	Organization
Brian Alcott	Harris County Toll Authority	Amar Mohite	Harris County Toll Road Authority
Robert Castaneda	Montgomery County Toll Road Authority	Vacant	Vacant

Mayor Joe Zimmerman made a motion to approve and the motion was seconded to approve. Chair Justin Beckendorff called for a vote. The Council voted and approved the 2024 TAC At-Large Positions.

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

ITEM 9. REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS, STEPHEN KEEN, H-GAC

Mr. Stephen Keen, H-GAC, gave a presentation to the Council on the Regional Transportation Plan Project Development Process. The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is the long-range comprehensive plan for the region that guides major transportation investments for a minimum of 20 years. The RTP is updated every four years, which includes an updated project list. The RTP project list is:

- A reflection of the vision and goals of the most recent RTP
- Fiscally constrained
- Subject to Air Quality Conformity Determination and
- Approve by the TPC

Currently, there is no official, approved process which sole purpose is to add projects to the RTP. Mr. Keen described the Purpose, Project Development Process, the Projects Selection Process and the RTP Subcommittee Meeting outcomes. Mr. Keen further described the step-by-step process and elaborated on specifics of each step. A discussion period occurred after the presentation.

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

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 10. SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES, STEPHEN KEEN, H-GAC

Mr. Stephen Keen, H-GAC, provided a presentation on the Safety Performance Measures. The Houston-Galveston Area Council and Texas Department of Transportation are required to annually submit safety performance measures to the Federal Highway Administration. The MPO supports the State's Safety Performance Measures. Mr. Keen described the 5 safety performances measures and described the results of each measure with an average of five years. A discussion period occurred after the presentation.

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

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 11. 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 \$2.0M of Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funding in FY 2024 (MPO ID 19035) as a supplement to Fort Bend County Public Transportation's Westpark Tollway Park and Ride construction project (MPO ID 11537) to cover increased estimates for construction materials and labor. 400K Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) will be use in lieu of matching funds. (+\$2.0M; Total: \$6.1M)
- Add \$623K of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding, split 80/20, to Brazoria County's of County Road 58 4-lane widening project (MPO ID 17109) to cover increased estimates for construction that are due to inflation. (+\$623K; Total: \$7.0M)
- Add \$72K of Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) Section 5310 funding for administration of METRO's Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (MPO ID 18974) to cover increased program functions. (+\$72K; Total: \$77K)
- Replace \$50.7M of local funding of METRO's Emergency Operation Center construction project (MPO ID 18760) with \$64.1M of FTA Section 5324, Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program, funds. Also, update the project description and advance it from FY 2025 to FY 2024. (+\$13.5M; Total: \$64.1M)
- Delay METRO's Baker Ripley Senior Health and Wellness Ride Expansion project (MPO ID 18962) from FY 2023 to FY 2024 and update the apportionment year in its project description. (Total: \$1.7M)
- Delay METRO's Center for Pursuit Purchase of ADA Vehicle project (MPO ID 18963) from FY 2023 to FY 2024 and update the apportionment year in its project description. (Total: \$80K)

- Delay METRO’s City of West University Place ADA Access Improvements project (MPO ID 18964) from FY 2023 to FY 2024 and update the apportionment year in its project description. (Total: \$800K)
- Delay the City of League City’s North Landing Boulevard construction project (MPO ID 17080) from FY 2024 to FY 2025 due to issues with right-of-way acquisitions and utilities relocations. (Total: \$63.8M)

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

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 12. SELECT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TPC BYLAWS AMENDMENT, CRAIG RABORN, H-GAC

Chair Justin Beckendorff informed the Council that the Select Committee met before TPC and no recommendations were approved at that meeting. Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, proceeded with a brief overview on the Select Committee for TPC Bylaws Amendment to the Council. The purpose of the Select Committee was to examine three specific issues and make recommendations to the TPC. Mr. Raborn described the timeline of the Select Committee’s work and what was accomplished and outcomes. Mr. Raborn also informed the Council of the establishment of three new committees that would review agenda items and advise TPC, there was no recommendation from the Select Committee on specific MPO expansion areas and gave a recap of proposed TPC Bylaws revisions. Council Member Sallie Alcorn requested clarification on whether the TPC would vote on Item 12. A discussion occurred after the presentation. Mayor Joe Zimmerman requested a vote and made a motion that the Council continue to work on Item 1 & 2 and remove the proportional voting language and requested additional discussion on the standing Committees he also requested a roll call vote. A discussion period occurred after this motion with Rick Guerrero, H-GAC clarifying that a vote could occur on Item 12. A discussion occurred after the clarification. Chair Beckendorff requested Mayor Joe Zimmerman restate his motion. Mayor Joe Zimmerman made a motion to continue to work on Item 1 & 2 and remove Item 3 of the proposed TPC Bylaws and it was seconded by Judge Mark Keough. A discussion period occurred after the motion. Council Member Sallie Alcorn made a substitute motion to delay voting on Item 12 and provided language for the motion and gave specifics for her motion. The motion was seconded by 1st Vice Chair Grady Prestage. A lengthy discussion period occurred after this motion. A roll call vote was requested. Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC conducted the roll call vote. The Council voted. **7 Yes and 19 No**. The motion to delay voting was not approved. Chair Beckendorff requested that Ms. Isbell conduct a roll call vote on the original motion. The Council voted **20 Yes 6 No**. The motion was approved to continue to work on Item 1 & 2 and remove Item 3 of the proposed TPC Bylaws.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJORNMENT

The Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting will occur on February 14, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. -In person
Greater Houston Freight Committee will occur on February 19, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. – Virtual
The Transportation Policy Council Meeting will occur on February 23, 2024, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.- In person
Transportation Safety Committee will occur on February 27, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. - Virtual

Chairman Justin Beckendorff let the Council know that the February 23rd TPC Meeting will be held in person only.

Chairman Justin Beckendorff adjourned the meeting at 12:02 a.m.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Arnold". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

Attachment 1
 MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC)
 FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON
 TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA
January 26, 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	<u> X </u> Honorable Sallie Alcorn Council Member _____ Honorable Abbie Kamin- Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Carolyn Evans-Shabazz Council Member _____ Honorable Joaquin Martinez - Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Carol Haddock, P.E. Director, Houston Public Works _____ Veronica O. Davis, P.E. – Alternate	City of Houston
League City, City of	<u> X </u> 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 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 <u> </u> Honorable Sally Branson-Alternate	Smaller Cities, Harris County
Vacant	<u> </u> Honorable Sally Branson-Alternate	
Brazoria County	<u> X </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, 2nd 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> </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> X </u> Sanjay Ramabhadran METRO Chair <u> </u> Thomas Jasien	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> </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> 27 </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

 X Clint Schelbitzki

Union Pacific

Texas State Legislator

 X Hon. Dennis Paul

8-County Region

Texas State Legislator

 X Hon. Ed Thompson

8-County Region

Wharton County

 X Hon. Phillip Spenrath

Wharton County