

**Regional Transit Coordination (RTC)
Subcommittee Meeting
Houston-Galveston Area Council
Online Meeting/Conference Call
Thursday July 8, 2021
9:30-11:00 AM**

Agenda

1. Introductions and Certification of Quorum (9) – Perri D’Armond, Fort Bend County Transit, Chair
2. Public Comments
3. Action Items:
 - 3.1 Adoption of Agenda
 - 3.2 Approval of RTC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2021
4. Information Items: (15 minutes or less each)
 - 4.1 RCTP Workgroup Update – Sandy Klanfer, H-GAC
 - 4.2 Regional Transit Connectivity Workgroup Update – Thomas Gray, H-GAC
 - 4.3 Updated Results of Survey of Effects of Coronavirus Pandemic on Regional Transit Providers – Thomas Gray, H-GAC
 - 4.4 ConnectSmart Update – Brenda Bustillos, TxDOT
 - 4.5 Commute Solutions Update – Deborah Mayfield, H-GAC
 - 4.6 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program Update – Neely Kim, H-GAC
 - 4.7 Pearland Transit Study – Alan Rodenstein, H-GAC
5. Agency Reports (5 minutes or less each)

Next RTC Subcommittee Quarterly Meeting: October 14, 2021

REGIONAL TRANSIT COORDINATION SUBCOMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 8, 2021 – 9:30-11:00am

Houston-Galveston Area Council

Virtual Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT

Perri D'Armond – Fort Bend County Transit (Chair)
Sarah Coulter – The Woodlands Township (Vice Chair)
Sharon Moses-Burnside – City of Houston
Elizabeth Whitton – Energy Corridor
Jason Jones – Houston Center for Independent Living
Vernon Chambers – Harris County Transit
Shain Eversley – METRO
Sean Middleton – Connect Transit
James Oliver – Island Transit

Dave Lewis – Harris County Veterans Services

OTHERS PRESENT

Brenda Bustillos – TxDOT
Travis Madison – TxDOT
Arnold Vowles – TxDOT
Rawetts Baaheth - TxDOT
Stephanie Broaddus – TxDOT
Paula Haley-Polk – TxDOT
Andy Mao - TxDOT
Kimberly Judge – City of Dayton
Kenneth Brown - METRO
Reggie Brown – METRO
Randy Frazier – METRO
Janis Scott
Colin Keller
(Plus other unidentified listeners)

BRIEFING

Overview

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the need to maintain social distance, RTCS Members and Alternates met virtually by teleconference. This regular meeting included several action items, including the election of officers and the endorsement of the Public Transit Agency Safety Plan (PTASP). Other topics included a review of Subcommittee purpose and duties for new members, an update of the ongoing monthly survey of the pandemic's effect on regional transit providers, a presentation by METRO of their trip planning platform, a presentation regarding project evaluation criteria being considered for transit projects, and an update on state and federal legislation affecting transit.

INTRODUCTIONS AND CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM

ITEM 1 – Ms. Perri D'Armond, Chair, Fort Bend County Transit, convened the meeting at 9:33 AM. Roll was called by H-GAC staff and quorum was certified.

PUBLIC COMMENT

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Krystal LaStrape – City of Sugar Land
Tandelyn Weaver – TIRZ 9 South Post Oak
Angela Cox – Houston Habitat for Humanity
Chamane Barrow – Houston Center for Independent Living
Ken Fickes – Harris County Transit
Shawn Johnson – City of Conroe
Rachel Die – METRO

H-GAC STAFF PRESENT

Jamila Owens
Thomas Gray
Alan Rodenstein
Vishu Lingala
Karen Owen
Ben Finley
Veronica Waller

ITEM 2 – There were no public comments presented to the Subcommittee.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM 3.1 – Adoption of Agenda

Ms. D’Armond requested a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Thomas Gray pointed out that the agenda had been amended since its mail-out to include an item regarding transit project evaluation criteria.

Action Item Motion: moved by Sarah Coulter, seconded by Vernon Chambers. Action Item Approved.

ITEM 3.2 – Election of Subcommittee Officers

Ms. D’Armond requested a motion to approve the slate of officer nominations for 2021-2022 (Both she and Ms. Sarah Coulter are eligible to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, for one more year), or a motion to nominate an alternate slate of electors.

Action Item Motion: moved by Vernon Chambers to approve the slate of officers as presented, seconded by Sean Middleton. Action Item Approved.

(Item 3.5 was taken out of order to allow Subcommittee members time to review the meeting minutes pertaining to Items 3.3 and 3.4)

ITEM 3.5 – Endorsement of Public Transportation Agency Safety Targets – Alan Rodenstein, H-GAC

Mr. Alan Rodenstein presented the Public Transit Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) targets to the Subcommittee. He discussed the PTASP’s purpose and definitions and explained the methodology behind the targets. Mr. Rodenstein requested that the Subcommittee recommend approval of the PTASP target to the Transportation Policy Council.

Brief discussion ensued. Vernon Chambers expressed her appreciation for the data collected and the use of weighted averages to define the PTASP targets. Perri D’Armond agreed.

Action Item Motion: moved by Vernon Chambers, seconded by Elizabeth Whitton. Action Item Approved.

ITEM 3.3 – Approval of RTC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2021

Ms. D’Armond requested a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2021 Subcommittee meeting.

Action Item Motion: moved by Sean Middleton, seconded by Sharon Moses-Burnside. Action Item approved.

ITEM 3.4 – Approval of RTC Subcommittee Special Call Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2021

Ms. D’Armond requested a motion to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2021 special call Subcommittee meeting.

Action Item Motion: moved by Sean Middleton, seconded by Sharon Moses-Burnside. Action Item approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

ITEM 4.1 – Review of Subcommittee Purpose and Duties – Jamila Owens, H-GAC

Ms. Jamila Owens welcomed new members and briefly explained the purpose and duties of the Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee, which included duties common to all TAC Subcommittees as well as duties specific to the RTCS. There were no questions or comments.

ITEM 4.2 – Update on Survey of Effects of Coronavirus on Regional Transit Providers – Thomas Gray, H-GAC

Mr. Thomas Gray presented the results (through February 2021) of the survey, which has been answered by all the region’s transit providers. The survey has tracked changes in ridership brought on by the pandemic as well as changes in

service and other measures providers have implemented in response. Gray explained that the survey would continue even as the pandemic recedes, because the region's recovery from the pandemic is "part of the story."

Discussion followed. Because February's ridership was impacted by the freezing weather event (in addition to the pandemic), there were several comments related to weather emergencies and how transit agencies prepare for them. Ken Fickes noted that all cities and counties have a FEMA emergency plan in place and that Harris and Fort Bend Counties can share "Annex S" of their Emergency Operations Plan with interested members of the Subcommittee.

Colin Keller asked if there was a timeline as to when there would be a full resumption of ridership. Mr. Gray explained that no timeline currently exists, because it depends on not only the course of the pandemic itself but also when individual riders return to being comfortable on transit vehicles. Transit and travel patterns post-COVID will likely be different than those pre-pandemic, but the extent and details remain unknown.

ITEM 4.3 Regional Transit Connectivity (formerly Regional Fare) Workgroup Update – Thomas Gray, H-GAC

Mr. Gray reminded Subcommittee Members that the next meeting of the Regional Transit Connectivity Workgroup (formerly known as the Regional Fare workgroup) would be held on Thursday, April 15, and that the interagency Memorandum of Understanding would be discussed and finalized. There were no questions or comments.

ITEM 4.4 Regional Transit Connectivity Project – Trip Planner Update – Randy Frazier, METRO

Mr. Randy Frazier presented METRO's trip planner platform, which is intended to provide a regional multi-modal trip planning and alert application that can simultaneously utilize data from multiple agencies. Mr. Frazier discussed some of the capabilities and technical details of the platform and presented a timeline for implementation, with a "go live" date expected in July of 2021. METRO will collaborate with Harris County Transit and Fort Bend County transit first, and then bring other regional providers onto the platform.

Discussion ensued. Sharon Moses-Brown asked how this platform related to TxDOT's ConnectSmart platform and Brenda Bustillos responded that both platforms will use the same data/GTFS feed. Janis Scott asked if the platform's alert capabilities could include those for replacement bus deployments and Mr. Frazier said it could be added. Perri D'Armond expressed appreciation for the complexity behind the platform/

ITEM 4.5 2021 Call for Transit Projects Criteria – Vishu Lingala, H-GAC

Mr. Vishu Lingala presented the project evaluation criteria currently being developed for transit project applications for the 2021 Call for Projects. He also presented a timeline for TPC to adopt these new evaluation criteria. There were no questions or comments.

ITEM 4.6 Federal and State Legislation Update – Alan Rodenstein, H-GAC

Due to time constraints, Mr. Rodenstein presented a truncated version of this agenda item, focusing on bills currently being considered by State Legislature in its current session.

Ken Fickes recommended that transit providers take a close look at SB 2126, which reduces transit fare for riders with mental illness, as he felt it contained a very broad definition of "mental illness" and potentially conflicted with FTA rules.

AGENCY REPORTS

ITEM 5 – There were no reports from any agencies.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. D'Armond adjourned the meeting at 11:38 AM.

Next RTCS Quarterly Meeting – July 8, 2021, 9:30 AM

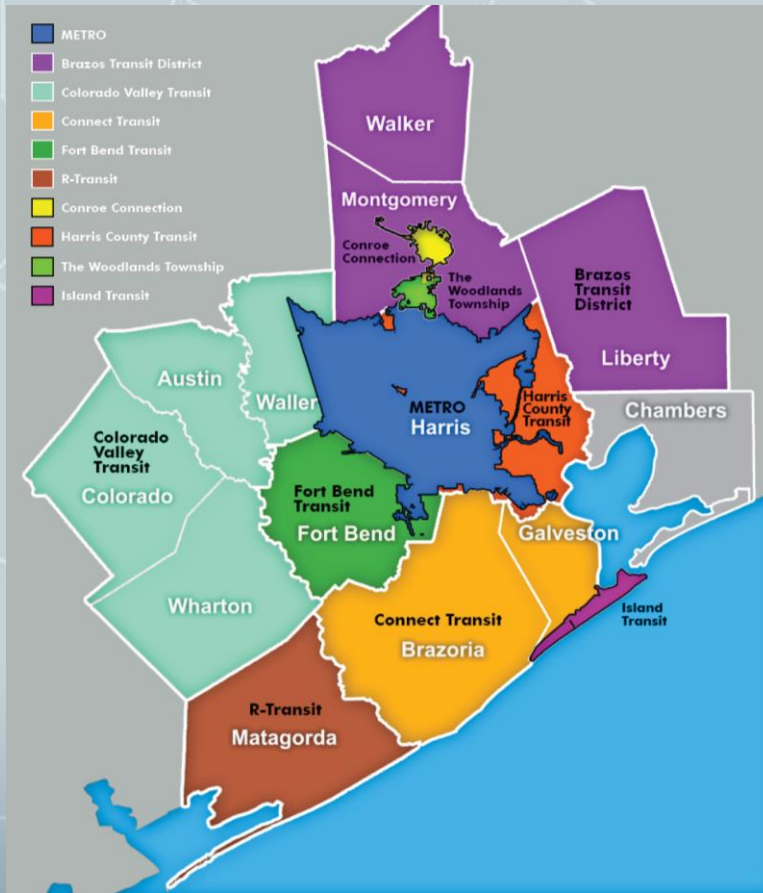


Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan Update

Agenda

- Project Overview
- Project Updates
 - Vision, Goals, Objectives
 - Provider Inventory
 - Needs Assessment
 - Gaps Analysis
 - Outreach
- Future Project Phases

Project Overview



- RCTP required to be updated every five years
- Covers 8-county MPO region plus five additional rural counties
- Emphasis on transit and coordination gaps

Project Updates

- Developed project vision, goals, and objectives
- A collaborative effort between H-GAC staff and the RCTP Workgroup

Project Updates

- Provider Inventory helps us understand ALL the transportation resources in the region
- Survey sent out to transit agencies, human service providers, and taxi companies
- Survey closed, results are being compiled
- Provider Inventory will be completed later this month

Project Updates

- Needs Assessment analyzes existing transit resources with a focus on who is seeking help getting around, when, and where they want to go
- Examining demographics and social/economic geography of the region
- This process is underway, but cannot be completed before the end of the first round of outreach

Project Updates

- Gaps Analysis builds on Needs Assessment, looking for places where there is unmet need
 - Spatial gaps
 - Temporal gaps
 - Information gaps
- This process is just getting underway, will be completed in the fall

Project Updates

- Public Outreach is beginning this month
- Asking the community to comment on their transportation needs and barriers to access
- Survey
 - Open to public this month
- Five Interactive Virtual Workshops
 - Will take place in the first two weeks of August
- Informs Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

Future Project Phases

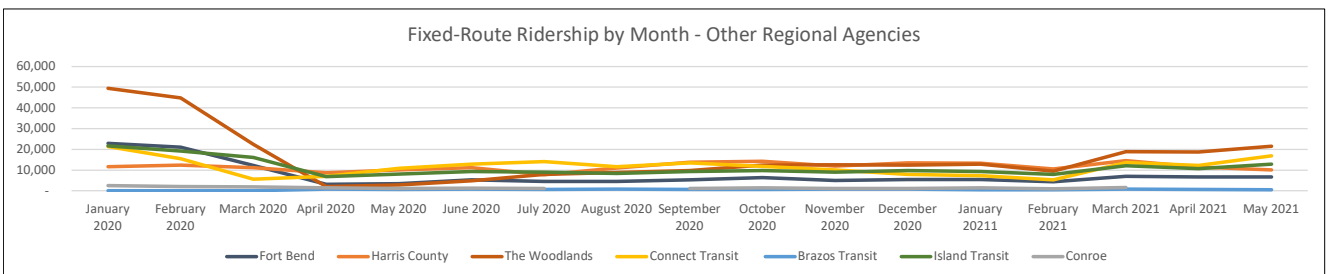
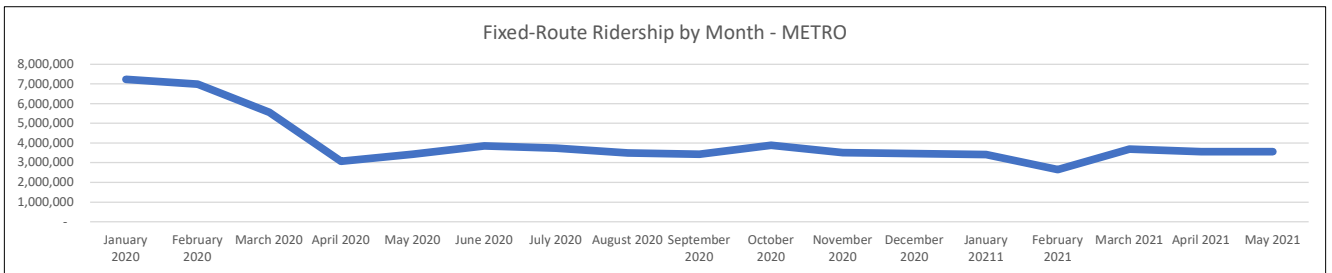
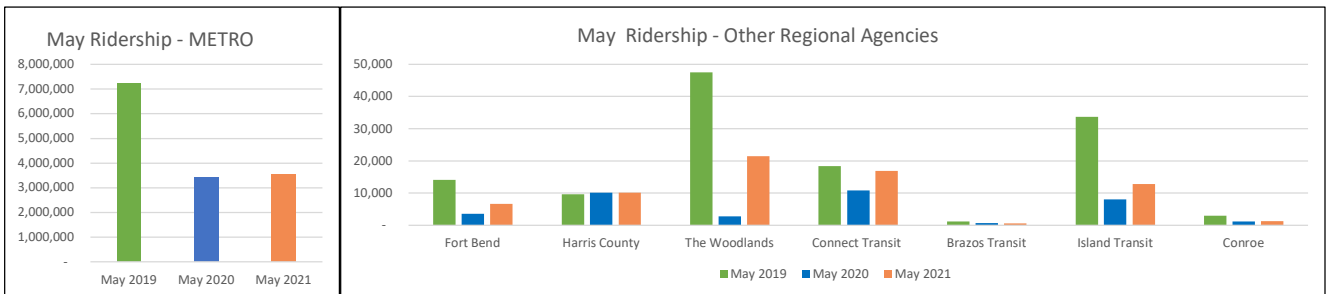
- Financial Analysis
- Outreach: Focus Groups
- Final Outreach: Public Meetings
- Final RCTP document

Monthly Ridership - Fixed Route Service

H-GAC 7/1/2021

Agency ¹	METRO	Fort Bend	Harris County	The Woodlands	Connect Transit	Brazos Transit	Island Transit	Conroe	Regional Total
March 2019	7,422,367	21,777	10,066	45,359	22,002	n/a	32,283	2,833	7,556,687
April 2019	7,277,922	22,747	9,453	48,222	16,145	987	31,842	2,801	7,410,119
May 2019	7,236,600	14,122	9,661	47,509	18,400	1,122	33,682	2,911	7,364,007
June 2019	6,773,260	21,290	9,375	44,083	17,849	1,149	36,260	2,620	6,905,886
July 2019	7,230,089	23,824	9,609	64,771	22,612	1,112	41,536	2,961	7,396,514
August 2019	7,560,461	24,209	9,245	61,423	14,389	888	39,214	n/a	7,709,829
September 2019	7,109,414	22,120	8,188	53,352	17,251	888	27,913	2,559	7,241,685
October 2019	8,014,205	17,211	10,584	61,331	21,130	1,161	31,500	3,011	8,160,133
November 2019	6,870,732	18,582	7,672	50,779	15,573	894	28,664	2,451	6,995,347
December 2019	6,810,341	18,319	10,678	48,871	12,226	1,016	29,160	2,596	6,933,207
January 2020	7,228,884	22,844	11,633	49,486	21,398	n/a	21,648	2,587	7,358,480
February 2020	6,989,217	21,057	12,481	44,780	15,432	n/a	19,210	2,119	7,104,296
March 2020	5,557,130	12,290	11,103	22,462	5,638	n/a	16,107	1,928	5,626,658
April 2020	3,078,548	3,111	8,629	2,029	6,891	718	6,770	1,373	3,108,069
May 2020	3,436,532	3,537	10,132	2,760	10,842	677	8,050	1,174	3,473,704
June 2020	3,858,757	5,238	11,205	4,857	12,803	772	9,253	1,248	3,904,133
July 2020	3,732,214	4,587	7,712	7,872	14,114	689	9,115	1,231	3,777,534
August 2020	3,505,987	4,557	10,923	8,833	11,672	734	8,380		3,551,086
September 2020	3,423,600	5,309	13,689	9,695	13,453	618	9,224	1,237	3,476,825
October 2020	3,886,668	6,429	14,162	12,453	11,720	684	9,698	1,335	3,943,149
November 2020	3,512,012	5,002	11,918	12,560	10,044	843	9,082	1,149	3,562,610
December 2020	3,466,686	5,401	13,497	12,491	7,890	825	9,660	1,220	3,517,670
January 2021 ¹	3,412,563	5,455	13,402	12,965	7,349	604	9,387	1,332	3,463,057
February 2021	2,646,690	4,331	10,507	9,474	5,334	530	7,951	1,015	2,685,832
March 2021	3,691,939	6,982	14,527	18,835	13,672	854	12,060	1,524	3,760,393
April 2021	3,561,016	6,761	11,395	18,696	12,273	683	10,722		3,621,546
May 2021	3,554,606	6,621	10,071	21,496	16,911	551	12,844	1,284	3,624,384
1 Year Change ²	103.4%	187.2%	99.4%	778.8%	156.0%	81.4%	159.6%	109.4%	104.3%
2 Year Change ³	49.1%	46.9%	104.2%	45.2%	91.9%	49.1%	38.1%	44.1%	49.2%

- 1. Months affected by pandemic are shaded.
- 2. May 2021 ridership as percentage of May 2020 ridership
- 3. May 2021 ridership as percentage of May 2019 ridership



Monthly Ridership - Demand Response & ADA Paratransit Service

Agency ¹	METRO ²	Fort Bend	Harris County	The Woodlands ³	Connect Transit	Brazos Transit ⁴	Island Transit ³	Conroe	Regional Total
March 2019	200,000	11,248	8,284	n/a	3,007	244	n/a	360	223,143
April 2019	178,662	11,562	8,324	n/a	2,010	253	n/a	395	201,206
May 2019	179,395	11,535	8,190	n/a	2,454	245	n/a	519	202,338
June 2019	173,516	8,103	8,483	n/a	2,424	240	n/a	366	193,132
July 2019	181,328	11,829	9,811	n/a	2,271	394	n/a	392	206,025
August 2019	185,939	12,324	9,969	n/a	2,322	413	n/a	n/a	210,967
September 2019	167,000	10,078	9,023	n/a	1,946	363	n/a	362	188,772
October 2019	195,692	9,390	13,410	n/a	2,597	428	n/a	420	221,937
November 2019	169,304	9,860	7,019	n/a	2,435	380	n/a	395	189,393
December 2019	173,212	9,777	7,005	n/a	1,785	381	n/a	379	192,539
January 2020	200,000	11,765	9,226	n/a	2,998	388	n/a	430	224,807
February 2020	200,000	12,767	9,868	n/a	3,254	467	n/a	355	226,711
March 2020	100,000	6,795	7,085	n/a	1,675	329	n/a	357	116,241
April 2020	66,908	1,640	4,675	n/a	1,975	251	n/a	225	75,674
May 2020	88,650	2,250	6,530	n/a	2,001	267	n/a	270	99,968
June 2020	93,783	3,346	6,352	n/a	2,648	310	n/a	324	106,763
July 2020	92,519	3,438	6,476	n/a	2,214	293	n/a	337	105,277
August 2020	88,305	3,788	4,648	n/a	2,144	243	n/a	n/a	99,128
September 2020	93,000	4,330	4,950	n/a	2,879	297	n/a	428	105,884
October 2020	104,515	5,927	6,970	n/a	3,364	264	n/a	446	121,486
November 2020	89,224	5,927	4,340	n/a	2,396	247	n/a	426	102,560
December 2020	97,795	4,895	4,537	n/a	2,653	238	n/a	397	110,515
January 2021	97,000	4,696	6,159	n/a	2,492	188	n/a	358	110,893
February 2021	77,000	4,109	5,124	n/a	788	133	n/a	290	87,444
March 2021	110,000	6,351	4,842	n/a	3,426	212	n/a	523	125,354
April 2021	110,208	6,112	4,706	n/a	2,992	239	n/a	n/a	124,257
May 2021	85,456	6,761	4,275	n/a	3,139	209	n/a	460	100,300
1 Year Change ⁵	96.4%	300.5%	65.5%	n/a	156.9%	78.3%	n/a	170.4%	100.3%
2 Year Change ⁶	47.6%	58.6%	52.2%	n/a	127.9%	85.3%	n/a	88.6%	49.6%

1. Months affected by COVID-19 pandemic are shaded. The following provider did not respond to the March 2021 survey: Colorado Valley Transit

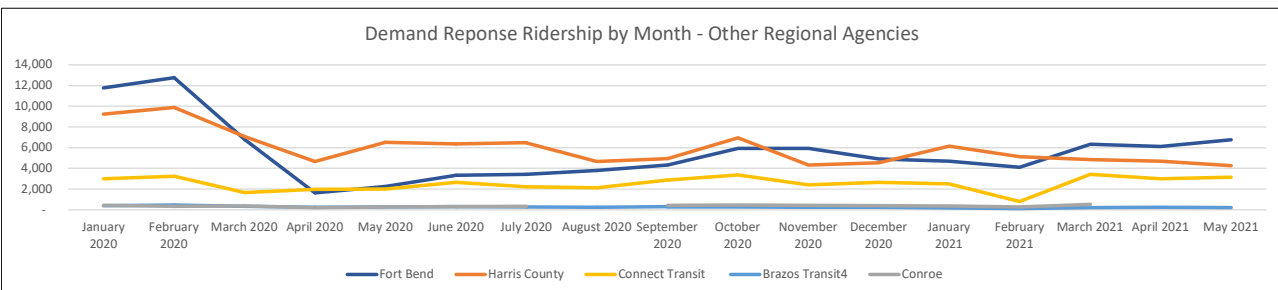
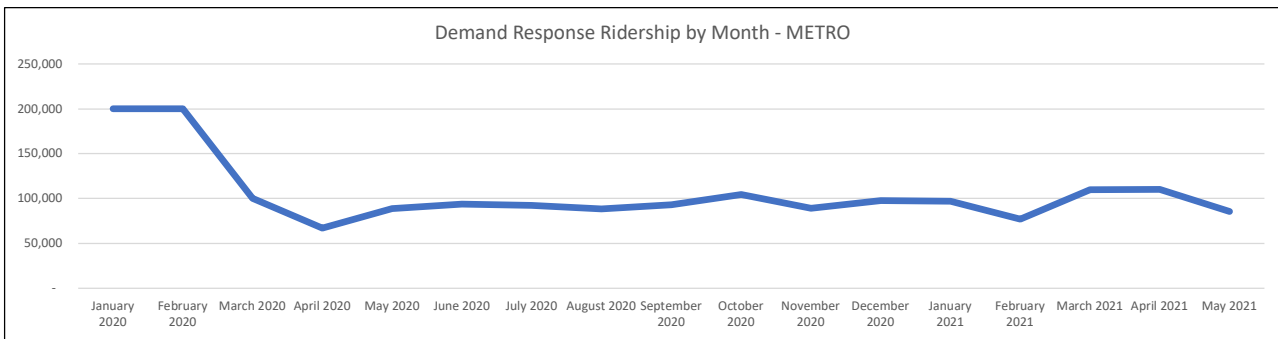
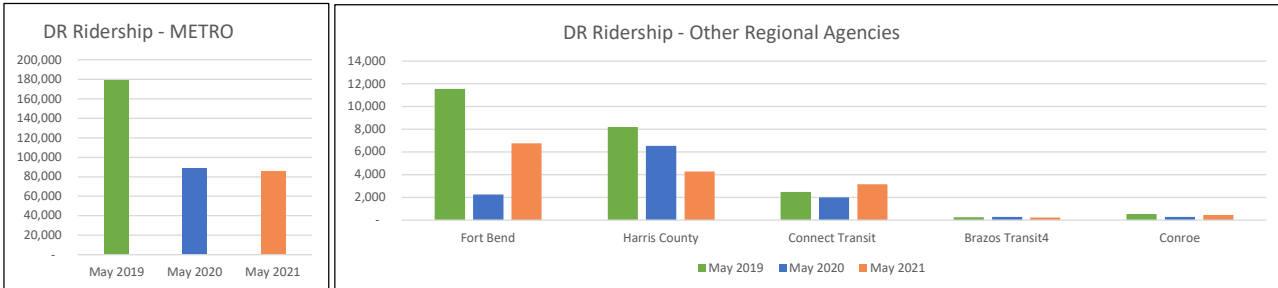
2. Staff estimates or METRO monthly Board Report figures

3. Service not provided (The Woodlands and Island Transit contract with other parties for ADA Paratransit service)

4. Ridership for some previous months amended per revised data from BTD

5. May 2021 ridership as percentage of May 2020 ridership

6. May 2021 ridership as percentage of May 2019 ridership



Changes in Service in Response to Coronavirus Pandemic

	METRO	Fort Bend	Harris County	The Woodlands	Connect Transit	Brazos Transit	Island Transit	Conroe
When the pandemic began (March 2020), did your agency curtail or limit service (for example, eliminating routes, reducing frequencies, or reducing service hours) in response to changing ridership patterns caused by the epidemic?	YES	YES	YES ¹	YES			YES	YES ¹
What determining factor(s) did your agency use in deciding to reduce or eliminate services? (Check all that apply)								
Actual or anticipated decline in ridership	YES	YES	YES	YES				YES
Request from authorities to reduce services to limit public movement/interaction				YES			YES	
Shortage of operator labor (e.g. due to more employees staying home to take care of family, etc.)	YES							
Shortage of available vehicles (e.g. due to increased cleaning and sanitizing requirements)								
Desire to limit operator interaction with public (to reduce potential of infection)	YES							YES
When the pandemic began (March 2020), did your agency implement or expand any specific services (for example, new routes to, or increased frequencies on services to, medical facilities) in response to changing ridership patterns caused by the epidemic?	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ²			YES
In May 2021, did your agency make any additional service modifications (for example, eliminating or adding back routes, adjusting frequencies, or adjusting service hours) in response to changing ridership patterns or other factors caused by the epidemic?³		YES						
If your agency made any service modifications during May 2021, what determining factor(s) did your agency use in deciding to make those adjustments? (Check all that apply)								
Actual or anticipated changes in ridership		YES						
Financial/budgetary concerns								
Request from authorities to reduce services to limit public movement/interaction								
Request from authorities to increase services to stimulate economy/return to normal								
Overcrowding or inability to maintain social distancing on certain routes		YES						
Request from authorities or other stakeholders to increase services to medical or social service facilities								
Desire to limit operator interaction with public (to reduce potential of infection)								
Shortage of available vehicles (e.g. due to increased cleaning and sanitizing requirements)								
Other								
During the months of May 2021, did your agency collaborate with any outside agency, non-profit or other business to provide additional service during the Coronavirus epidemic? If so, please describe the partnership and service.⁴								

1. Park and ride service only; local fixed and DR service continued as normal

2. Connect Transit did not add fixed-route service but did provide on-call vehicles to ensure proper social distancing would be adhered to without leaving riders at a stop to wait for the next scheduled bus.

3. Specific responses to this question:

Fort Bend County Transit: As requests for Demand Response service increased in May 2021, a few routes were added back to accommodate the increased ridership. The daily average Demand Response ridership for April of 316 spiked to a daily average ridership of 338 in May 2021. May did not reflect as high a daily average of commuters as April, so no additional runs were added to the Fort Bend Express. Contractor operator turnover led to reduction of a few runs daily for the Fort Bend Express in late May.

4. Specific responses to this question:

n/a

Mitigation Measures Taken to Reduce Spread of Coronavirus

	METRO	Fort Bend	Harris County	The Woodlands	Connect Transit	Brazos Transit	Island Transit	Conroe
What specific measures has your agency taken to reduce the spread of Coronavirus? Check all that apply:								
Temporarily suspended fare collection								YES
Required bus boarding by rear doors only								
Taped off seats on buses to ensure social distancing for passengers		YES	YES	YES	YES			YES
Enforced lower capacity restrictions (e.g. "half-full") on buses and vans		YES		YES	YES			
Trained employees on proper hygiene and social distancing techniques	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Required operators to wear Personal Protective Equipment, such as masks and gloves	YES	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Provided information about proper hygiene and social distancing techniques to patrons (e.g. signs or flyers on buses)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES			YES
Enhanced and/or more frequent cleaning/disinfection of buses and vans	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Required passengers to wear masks or face coverings while riding	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Enhanced and/or more frequent cleaning/disinfection of passenger facilities (bus stops, park and rides, light rail stations, etc.)	YES			YES	YES			
Installed plastic shields to separate operators from riders	YES		YES		YES		YES	YES
Other (please specify) ¹								
In May 2021, did your agency make any changes to its Coronavirus reduction measures (e.g. resume fare collection, add or eliminate barriers between drivers and passengers, change vehicle capacity limits, etc.)? If so, please briefly explain:²	YES							

1. Specific responses to this question: n/a
n/a

2. Specific responses to this question:

Based upon reductions in the threat level, METRO discontinued social distancing passenger loads for fixed-route services.



Program Update- Commute Solutions



**Regional Transit Subcommittee Meeting
Deborah Mayfield, Project Manager
July 8, 2021**



How We Support the Region

1. Promote Shared and Active Transportation
2. Lessen Peak Period Congestion
3. Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled
4. Improve Air Quality





Telework Week June 21-25

- **New Resources Section on the Commute Solutions Website**
<https://www.yourcommutesolution.org/resources/telework>
- **Telework Webinar Series that continues July and August**
 - June 24 - [Leveraging Telework in Your Return to the Office](#)
 - July 20- [Cloud Security and the Virtual Office](#)
 - August 2- [Managing the Hybrid Environment: Best Practices for Managers & Employees](#)
- **Announced 2021 Telework Champion Award Winners on Social Media**



Commute Solutions Month - September

- Awareness Campaign- Communications
- **Partnership Events**
 - Appreciation - Regionwide; Park and Rides? Bike Lots?
 - Pop Up Commute Stores - Downtown, Texas Medical Center

Seeking Partners!



Up Next

1. Mode Shift

- Connect Smart Launch – September 2021
- Emergency Ride Home Expansion Pilot - Fall/ Late 2021

2. Employer Survey - Was that Helpful to You?

3. Ozone Action 2022 - Would this be Helpful to You?

↔ Commute Solutions

Questions?

Deborah Mayfield
Deborah.Mayfield@h-gac.com
www.yourcommutesolution.org





Thank You





UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM UPDATE



Neely Kim, Program Manager
July 8, 2021

Regional Collaboration • Transportation Planning • Multimodal Mobility



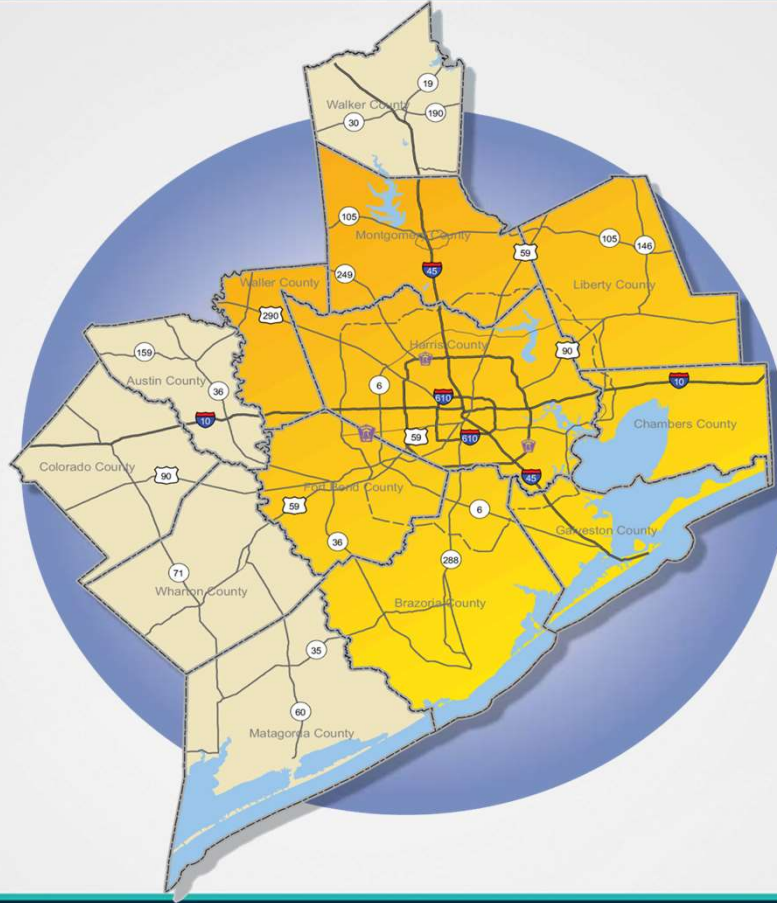
2020/2021 UPWP - MPO Basics

- Metropolitan Planning Organization includes eight H-GAC counties
- Eight-county population includes 6.7 million residents
- Has about 120 local governments
- Has the largest ports on the Gulf Coast

2020/2021 UPWP - MPO Basics

MPO Counties

- Brazoria
- Fort Bend
- Waller
- Montgomery
- Liberty
- Chambers
- Galveston
- Harris



Additional COG Counties

- Austin
- Colorado
- Matagorda
- Walker
- Wharton

2022/2023 UPWP Development

Introduction

- Recently, the MPO accepted proposals from local governments and agencies for projects to be included in the 2022/2023 UPWP
- 17 proposals were submitted and 15 were included into the 2022/2023 UPWP draft
- TAC and TPC have reviewed the current draft for feedback and comments, and the draft was submitted to TxDOT after the June TPC meeting

2022/2023 UPWP TASK HIGHLIGHTS

TASK I: Administration and Management

- Public Participation Plan development and implementation - received TPC approval to amend the current PPP (amendment date 1/2021)
- Development and implementation of the UPWP for Fiscal Years 2022/2023
- Overall administration and management of the MPO

UPWP TASK Highlights: TASK II

TASK II: Data and Modeling

- Continue development and work on Socioeconomic Data, Socioeconomic Models, and Informational Services and Analytical Supports.
- Modeling support for regional activity
- Review and assessments for base year data
- Development of web-based dashboards
- Collection of data

UPWP TASK Highlights: TASK III

TASK III: Short Range Planning (subtask 3.2)

UPWP 5307 Transit Formula Funds Eligible Activities:

- Eligible project activities include, but are not limited to, system planning, project planning and preliminary engineering, maintenance plans, asset management plans, safety plans, and management and operation studies.
- Example: special planning studies, major data collection/surveys, planning for specific capital projects, etc.

UPWP TASK Highlights: TASK III

Planning Support for Transit Service Implementation:

- Micro-transit pilot project and project evaluation
- Procurement planning for electrification of fleet
- Route service planning and interagency and internal data collection
- Assessments and evaluations of transit program, project, and emergency
- Federal compliance and safety planning
- Continued rail study with Gulf Coast Rail District

UPWP TASK Highlights: TASK IV

TASK IV: Long Range Planning (subtasks 4.3d and 4.3e)

- Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Interactive Web Mapping
- TOD planning to improve first and last mile connections
- Automated Vehicles and freight shuttle research and analysis for emerging technologies
- Phase II of the Texas Southern University Automated Vehicle Project
- Work towards strategy and policy documentation for automated and connected vehicle technologies for the region

UPWP TASK Highlights: TASK IV

TASK IV: Long Range Planning (subtask 4.6)

Transit Planning

- Development of Long-range plans for regional transit coordination, integration, and implementation based on recommendations
- Conduct Feasibility Studies to support High-Capacity Transit Task Force recommendations
- Offer planning support to expanding transit in the region.

UPWP TASK Highlights: TASK IV

TASK IV: Long Range Planning (subtask 4.6)

Local Area Transit Studies

- Work with regional entities to provide transit feasibility studies.
 - City of Dayton - Transit Systems Needs Assessment
 - Gulf Coast Rail District - Update to the US90A Commuter Rail Study

Transit Coordination Planning

- Update to the RCTP 2022-2023
- Provide support for RCTP regional recommendations

UPWP TASK Highlights: TASK IV

TASK IV: Long Range Planning (subtask 4.6)

Regional Transit Agency Coordination

- Support planning and service coordination of regional transit agencies
 - Provide coordination and planning recommendations support (FTA 530y, 5310, and 5311 formula funding)

UPWP TASK Highlights: TASK V

- Region-wide Resiliency Plan
- Region-wide Low Impact Development Study
- Washington Avenue Corridor Study
- FM 518 Corridor Study
- Cemetery Road Corridor Study
- Friendswood Lakes Boulevard Extension Corridor Study

UPWP Draft Budget

UPWP Task	Description	TPF Funds		STBG		FTA Sect. 5304, 5307,5310		Other State Funds		Local Funds		Total Funds
		2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	Combined
1.0	Administration-Management	\$3,866,313	\$3,769,346	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	\$7,635,659
2.0	Data Development and Maintenance	\$3,873,778	\$4,041,235	\$374,028	\$374,028	----	----	----	----	\$400,000	----	\$9,063,069
3.0	Short Range Planning	\$1,560,181	\$887,872	\$5,380,000	\$8,380,000	\$1,583,010	\$1,780,982	\$4,000,000	----	----	----	\$23,572,045
4.0	Metropolitan Transportation Plan	\$3,492,713	\$3,694,043	\$3,617,053	\$2,663,856	\$100,000	----	\$16,000,000	\$5,600,000	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$35,517,665
5.0	Special Studies	\$1,854,206	\$790,269	\$875,000	\$875,000	----	----	----	----	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$4,514,475
TOTAL		\$14,647,191	\$13,182,765	\$10,246,081	\$12,292,884	\$1,683,010	\$1,780,982	\$20,000,000	\$5,600,000	\$635,000	\$235,000	\$80,302,913

Estimated Combined TPF \$27,829,956.00
 Estimated Unexpended Carryover \$11,500,000.00
 Total TPF \$39,329,956.00

UPWP-Development Schedule

Task	Timeframe
UPWP Call for Projects Open	March 2021
UPWP Call for Projects Closed	April 2021
Draft to TAC/TPC	June 2021
Initial Draft to TxDOT	June 2021
Public Comment Period Open	June 2021
Public Meeting	June-July 2021
Public Comment Period Closed	July 2021
Final Draft To TAC/TPC	August 2021
Submit to TxDOT	Sept 2021
UPWP Start	October 2021

UPWP-Informational Item

To review the Draft 2022-2023 UPWP please go to the following link:

<https://www.h-gac.com/unified-planning-work-program>



PEARLAND TRANSIT NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND PLAN



Alan Rodenstein, AICP
July 8, 2021

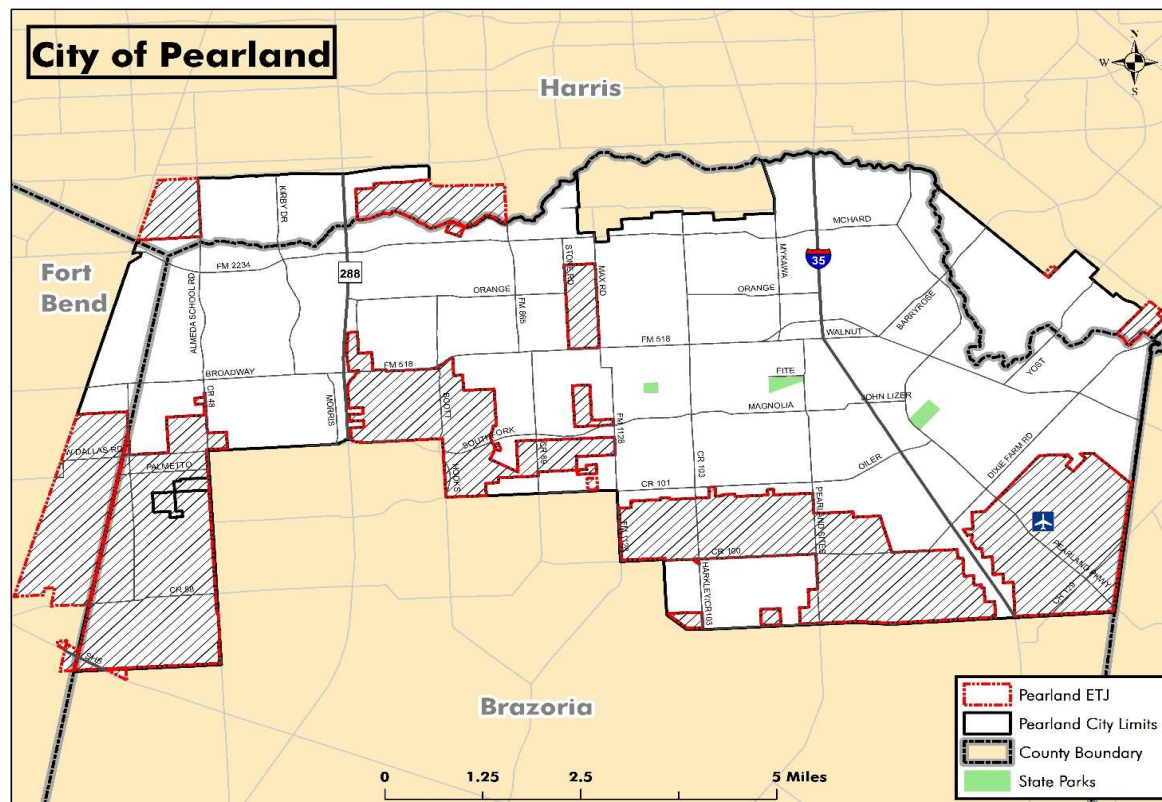
Regional Collaboration • Transportation Planning • Multimodal Mobility



Pearland Background

- Rapidly-growing suburban city of immediately south of Houston
- Challenged to provide commuter bus service, especially in SH 288 corridor
- Very limited community service
- Pearland Prosperity Committee seeks to develop Pearland transit mobility services
- H-GAC and City of Pearland have met to develop scope and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to start project in June 2021

Pearland Map



Challenges of Suburban Transit

- Community wariness towards public transit (especially fixed-route services)
- Little familiarity with public transit options
- Lack of dedicated local funding for transit services
- Sprawl, roadway and street configurations
- Jobs and destinations disbursement
- Different populations need different types of suburban transit service

Opportunities of Suburban Transit

- Commuter transit to large employment centers
- Possibility of future rail service in Kirby corridor
- Transit-oriented development and livable centers studies provide local opportunities
- New technologies and concepts such as microtransit can fit into suburbs
- Best practices with microtransit in North Texas can assist in developing possible pilots for Pearland

The Transit Needs Assessment Approach

- Study will be entirely conducted by H-GAC
- Will begin with strong technical study
- Will include robust public outreach effort
- Surveys, outreach through H-GAC online engagement platform
- Study will develop alternatives and preferred approach (recommendations)
- Final report expected at end of 2022

Scheduled Next Steps

- Late July/Early August – Steering Committee Kickoff
- Summer – Existing Conditions Review
- Late Summer – Interactive Internet Site Functional
- Fall – Development of Community Survey
- December – First Round of Public Meetings