

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

Tuesday, February 22, 2022 – 1:30 P.M
Houston-Galveston Area Council
3555 Timmons Lane, Houston, TX 77027
Virtual WebEx Teleconference Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joshua Zuber – AAA-Texas
Cedric Collier– Harris County Sheriff's office
Robert Benz, P.E.– Texas A&M Trans. Institute
Ugonna Ughanze. – TXDOT Houston
Jason Miura – Port Freeport
Bruce Mann – Port of Houston
Sean Wright – Seabrook Police Dept.
David Stanton – Post Terminal Railroad Association
Jeff McKinney – JetCo Delivery
Anita Hollman– H-GAC

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Melody Galan – TXDOT
Lt. Kevin Duggan– City of Houston

STAFF PRESENT

David Fink – H-GAC
Cassandra Marshall – H-GAC
Patrick Mandapaka– H-GAC

OTHERS PRESENT

Payton Arens–PE-RSP

ITEM 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m.

ITEM 2. Introductions

Members and H-GAC staff introduced themselves.

ITEM 3. Public Comments

No public comments.

ITEM 4. Approval of Minutes for October 26, 2021

Meeting minutes were approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ITEM 5. Safety Performance Measures and Targets (David Fink)

Staff gave an overview of the recommendations for safety performance measures by FHWA. Discussion continued that Houston -Galveston Area Council has chosen to do vision zero fatalities by 2050. It was discussed with in 2022 the target level would be based on that linear line going to zero by 2050. A suggestion was made to take the last five years of useful information and use the historical crash information

and fatality records as a report card to see where we are at our target.

In further discussion, members questioned whether the targets were realistic. Discussion concluded that the committee and others can be a reliable source to gather more information and give a different perspective.

ITEM 6. Transportation Safety Improvement Program Details (David Fink)

H-GAC Staff updated members on the following items:

- A. **Goal of Program**-Staff gave an overview that a portion of the grant funds will be set aside for safety programs. Discussion continued that we will also look into systemic improvement or specific projects. A mixture of both can be done.
- B. **Set aside amount**-10 million / HSIP
- C. **Funding Source**-Staff discussed surface transportation block grant funds will be the funding source. Along with H-GAC other various set aside programs. Two that were mentioned: Tow and Go, and Regional fair collection.
- D. **Required Match**-Eligible federal G-match is 100%. (Ugonna was asked to update on this at the next meeting).
- E. **Project size**- Staff will get with TXDOT on the size and type.
- F. **Agreements**-Staff discussed that it will be determined if one agreement can be done with H-GAC or does TXDOT handle each individual funding.
Staff gave an overview to the members that they are developing the project selection process, which will include selecting projects over the next ten years. Discussion continued with the safety program that will be proposed this year. It was mentioned that a lot of the focus has been on larger efforts, but we would like to keep this effort moving with the other larger efforts. In further discussion, a tentative timeframe of January and February was mentioned to brainstorm more ideas. In addition, March and April was proposed for information and action, but a definitive schedule will be confirmed later.

ITEM 7. Call for Projects- Safety Scoring (David Fink)

Staff mentioned that we are waiting for feedback from Vishu. Discussion continued with finding out if anything needs to be added. Suggestions were made regarding maintenance activities. It was mentioned, a lot of things for intersection safety audits seem to be dealing with lack of maintenance. In closing, recommendation was made to anyone submitting a project, a maintenance plan must be included along with the project.

ITEM 8. Future Transportation Safety Campaigns Funding

Staff discussed with members to examine if we can fund Uber rides in the future. Questions were raised on how we leverage our local partners in the region. Discussion continued with how to provide educational resources to our partners in the region. To help them understand what the safety considerations are, and why do we look at this when you are considering your roadways and your intersection design. It was further discussed that recognizing that a potential program focused on our local partners and not just the general public could be a benefit to the region.

In closing, staff solicited members to produce ideas and send an email to David Fink.

Information Items

ITEM 9. Intersection Safety Audits Presentation (Payton Arens)

- Payton discussed with the members regarding the work to conduct intersection safety assessment in the

region. Discussion continued that safety assessment is a low-cost qualitative process to identify safety issues and improvements. Kimberly Horn was contracted to deliver Intersection Safety Assessment to 50 locations in 8 county regions. It was further discussed that H-GAC Team and TXDOT participated in field reviews and helped develop recommendations. In closing, the purpose of the Intersection Safety Audits is to save lives.

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Upcoming Events

- Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)-March 16, 2022, 9:30am -12:00noon
- Transportation Policy Council (TPC)-February 25, 2022, 9:30am-11:00am
- Transportation Policy Council (TPC)-March 25, 2022, 9:30am-11:00am

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Meeting Adjourned at 3:07 p.m.