

9. PEARLAND TRANSIT NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND PLAN

Background

The City of Pearland is a rapidly growing suburb of over 125,000 located directly south of Houston. Pearland does not currently have any commuter bus service to the Texas Medical Center or the Houston Central Business District. Community transit services within Pearland do not exist except for very limited demand response taxi service under contract with Harris County Rides.

In the Fall of 2019, H-GAC and the City of Pearland staff discussed the possibility of developing a transit needs assessment that would address intercity and intracity alternatives. A scope of services was developed by H-GAC which Pearland concurred. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was executed in June 2021 in which no funding was exchanged.

The eighteen- month project is scheduled to start in late June 2021 and should conclude in early 2023. All professional and technical assistance will be provided by H-GAC staff under the Unified Planning Work Program.

Current Situation

H-GAC staff will work on various technical tasks under the project including but not limited to demographics and existing conditions analysis, suburban peer analysis, best practice research and recent technological innovations, stakeholder and public involvement, and recommendations. Partnering with local stakeholders and the Pearland community is part of the transit needs assessment and the development of a transit plan. H-GAC has developed a robust outreach strategy that is designed to use surveys, interactive websites and other means to ensure the Pearland community is aware and engaged in the planning activity. The City of Pearland, TAC and TPC will receive updates on the Transit Needs Assessment and Plan.

Action Requested

Information only.