

9. PUBLIC INPUT FROM THE REGIONALLY COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RCTP)

Background

As the MPO for the Houston-Galveston region, H-GAC is required to develop and update its Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan (RCTP) every five years. This plan, covering a 13-county region, provides an inventory of transportation assets in public and human service transportation. It also assesses needs, gaps and opportunities for increased efficiencies and provides recommendations for improvements. H-GAC's current RCTP was last updated in 2017 for the period 2017-2021. Several recommendations from the 2017 update have already been implemented or are in the process of being implemented, including Mobility Links, which provides a searchable database of all transportation options in the region, and the Regional Fare Initiative. The 2021-2022 update will build on this work, finding cost-effective ways to further expand access to transportation in the 13-county region and help existing transportation options better meet the region's needs.

Current Situation

The RCTP Update is in progress. In Spring 2021, H-GAC staff and the RCTP Update Steering Workgroup collaboratively developed a project vision, and a set of goals and objectives. In recent months, H-GAC staff completed a Provider Inventory and Needs Assessment. Additionally, a first round of outreach took place in late summer, including a public survey and a set of geographically targeted virtual interactive outreach events. A Gaps Analysis is nearing completion, and a second round of outreach, consisting of a set of focus groups, is taking place in the last two weeks of October 2021. A Financial Analysis is underway. A final round of outreach, a set of public meetings at which draft recommendations will be presented for public feedback in January 2022.

The report is expected to be presented for information and action by early Spring of 2022. More information on the RCTP Update is available at: engage.h-gac.com/rctp

Action Requested

Information only.