

**MEETING OF THE RTP SUBCOMMITTEE
HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
TELECONFERENCE PARTICIPATION VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS
September 21, 2022
1:30PM
Minutes**

Member Attendance:

Primary-Name	Present	Alternate-Name	Present
Morad Kabiri	YES	Jildardo Arias	YES
Perri D'Armond	YES	Stacy Slawinski	NO
Joe Cutrufo	NO	Nikki Knight	NO
Bill Zrioka	YES	Marcel Allen	NO
Elizabeth Whitton	YES	Elijah Williams	NO
Andrea French	NO	Jonathan Brooks	NO
Harrison Humphreys	YES	VACANT	
Todd Stephens	YES	Ruthanne Haut	NO
Karen McKinnon	NO	Matt Hanks	NO
Hon. John Bowen	YES	Christopher Sims	NO
Robert Upton, P.E.	NO	Rajendra Shrestha	YES
David Fields	YES	Peter Eccles	NO
Loyd Smith, P.E.	NO	Brannan Hicks	NO
Monique Johnson	YES	Rick Ramirez	NO
Yancy Scott	NO	Hon. Jay Knight	NO
Katherine Parker	YES	Carol Lewis, PhD	YES
Bruce Mann	NO	Rohit Saxena	NO
Mike Wilson	YES	Rodger Rees	NO
Charles Airiohuodion	YES	Jeffrey English	YES
Lisa Collins	YES	Scott Ayres	NO
VACANT		VACANT	
Ken Fickes	YES	Vernon Chambers	YES
Taylor Marcantel	YES	Jose Pulido	YES

Others Present: Daniel Brassil, Cassandra Marshall, Sanford Klanfer, Jochen Floesser, Justin Kuzila, Stephen Keen, Allie Isbell, Sharon Ju, Christopher Whaley, Tim (Guest), Robyn Balaban, Craig Raborn, Anita Hollman, Yolci Ramirez, Thomas Gray, Heng Wang, Catherine Kato, Carlene Mullins, Carrie Evans, James Garland, Caroline Bailey, Karen Owen, Adam Beckom, Chelsea Young, Amy Skicki, Megan Kennison

Staff Participating:

Mike Burns

- 1) Call to Order
 - a) Chairman Morad Kabiri calls the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. and conducts roll call to ensure a quorum.
 - b) Chairman Morad Kabiri confirms there is a quorum.

- 2) Acceptance of Minutes from August 17, 2022, RTP Subcommittee Meeting
 - a) Chairman Morad Kabiri asks for motion to approve.
 - b) Perri D'Armond motions to approve.

- c) Vernon Chambers seconded the motion.
- d) Motion is approved unanimously.

3) 2045 RTP Update – Mike Burns

a) Review Dashboard – Visioning Survey Responses

- i) Mike recaps Phase 1 of the public outreach, including response totals and engagement tools. He describes the 2045 RTP dashboard and how to navigate the page on the H-GAC website. Mike explained that zip code-based filters are unavailable due to limited responses in some areas. He mentions that some demographics were overrepresented or underrepresented proportionally to the demographics of the region. Trends related to geography, income, and age were highly visible in the responses. Geographic trends included preferences for more mode options closer to the loop and more emphasis on quality of schools further away from the loop. Income trends included higher teleworking rates for higher income respondents and more concern about congestion, while lower income respondents had more concern about affordability regarding their housing choices and had higher levels of walking and transit use. Age trends included younger respondents had higher preference for active transportation and older respondents were more concerned about proximity to shopping and healthcare.
- ii) Respondents generally liked the proximity to shopping, activities, and work, and the low cost of travel, while they were concerned with congestion, limited active transportation options, and pavement conditions.
- iii) Respondents preferred to travel safer over faster, especially those inside the loop and lower income. Respondents preferred better road quality over more road lanes. Those further from the loop were less likely to choose better road quality. Respondents generally preferred more space for biking, pedestrians, etc. Outside of Beltway 8, more space for cars was preferred. Higher income respondents preferred more space for vehicles. Respondents preferred more travel alternatives to driving alone rather than better on time delivery of goods. Outside Beltway 8, better delivery of goods on time was preferred. Lower income respondents preferred travel alternatives. Respondents generally preferred smaller homes and shorter commute to a bigger home and longer commute. Rural areas prefer the longer commute. Generally, respondents were most concerned about affordability and a convenient work commute.
- iv) Questions or Comments
 - (1) David Fields says that regardless of geography, demographic, etc., respondents would prefer safety and better road quality over faster and more road lanes. He recognizes differences by geography area and recognizes the implementation of region wide projects/initiatives and area specific projects/initiatives.
 - (2) Mike Wilson is interested in respondent locations for the housing choice question. Posits that more investments will be needed in the areas where respondents stated that their housing choice concerns are impacted by affordability, proximity to shopping and other services, and convenient work commute.
 - (3) Chairman Morad Kabiri says that housing choice will be impacted in the coming years thanks to changes in workplace alternatives.
 - (4) Perri D'Armond states that in her past economic development career, the quality of schools was always a very strong indicator of where people wanted to live. The fact that transit is so high as well, it's a new world we are living in. Because of fuel cost rising, there are options that are flexible enough for citizens. The region needs more options and flexibility, regardless of using these options once a week or once a month, we need to look at providing various travel alternatives.
 - (5) Charles Airiohuodion asks why traffic congestion is not as big of a concern as 2019? This survey says it's roughly 8% response. Why is that? Did we make a lot of investment?

- (a) Mike Burns responds that congestion was mentioned more frequently in 2019. This slide is purely from the survey's open comment portion, not indicative of the respondent's feelings toward congestion in the region. We had Daniel Brassil, a planner with the Regional Planner team at H-GAC, go through the comments.
 - (b) Daniel Brassil comments that most comments were regarding more travel options. Congestion was a concern in areas where construction was occurring. Respondents were interested in more travel options in our post-pandemic world.
 - (c) Chairman Morad Kabiri responds that survey responses are a function of what's been active recently.
 - v) Discussion closed. No action required.
 - b) Draft Vision Statement and Strategies
 - i) Mike Burns presents the draft vision statement. The RTP subcommittee mocked a draft vision statement. Mike shares a lightly edited version of the vision statement. The addition of livability is guidance from the federal level.
 - ii) Questions or Comments
 - (1) Charles Airiohuodion asks what is the difference between efficient and reliable?
 - (a) Mike Burns responds that reliability aligns better with performance measures. The word reliability is vocabulary used for federal performance measures for congestion and delay.
 - (2) No further discussion.
 - iii) Mike Burns presents six strategies: Safety, Reliability, Equity, Analytics, Livability, and Public Outreach and Participation. Strategies to emphasize safety in the region: Regional Vision Zero Policy, Safe System Approach, Complete Streets Policy, Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Grant, and Roadway Safety Audits. Strategies for Reliability: Congestion Management Plan, Freight Reliability Projects, and Regional Resilience Improvement Plan. Strategies for Equity: Regional Equity Action Plan, investments in underserved communities (SS4A Grant), and aligning investments with needs. Strategies for Analytics: performance-based and data-driven, Congestion Management Plan, Commute Smart, improve scenario planning, Regional ITS Plan, and improve how transportation is planned, operated, and experienced. Strategies for Livability: Transit-Oriented Development, Complete Streets Policy, Resiliency Improved Plan, and Safe Systems Approach. Strategies for Public Outreach: Update the Public Participation Plan to provide virtual and in-person participation.
 - iv) No further discussion
 - c) Phase 2 Outreach Schedule
 - i) Mike Burns mentions outreach will include seven in-person meetings and online participation through the Engage website to talk about the survey results and to ensure citizens and H-GAC are on the same page regarding the RTP.
 - ii) No further discussion. No action required
- 4) Announcements
 - a) Chairman Morad Kabiri says our next TPC Meeting is September 23rd, next TAC on October 19th, and next RTP Subcommittee Meeting will be October 12th.
 - b) Jeffrey English promotes three public meetings for the Texas Department of Transportation in October. Dates are specified on their website.
- 5) Adjourn
 - a) Chairman Morad Kabiri declares the meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Stephen Keen