

# TRANSPORTATION AIR QUALITY SUBCOMMITTEE

---

## MEETING SUMMARY Wednesday, September 11, 2024 – 10:00 A. M. Houston- Galveston Area Council of Government Virtual Teams Meeting

---

### MEMBER PRESENT

Citizens Transp. – Dexter Handy  
Texas Southern Uni. – Gwen Goodwin  
H-GAC – Andrew DeCandis  
Baytran – Amy Skicki  
METRO – Edmund Petry  
Evolve Houston – Casey Brown  
The Woodlands Township – Shelley Sekula-Gibbs  
Houston Airport System – Keith Reihl  
TxDOT – Qing Li  
TCEQ – Sarah Thomas

### ALTERNATE PRESENT

University of Houston – Bruce Race  
Port Houston – Kelli Gallagher  
H-GAC – Pharr Andrews  
The Woodlands Township – Nicole Mathews  
METRO – Vincent Sanders  
Fort Bend County – Thomas Kuczynski  
Harris County Transit – Thien Cao  
City of Houston – Brandon Mosley  
TxDOT – Carolina Lopez-Herrera  
TCEQ – Elizabeth Sartain

### STAFF PRESENT

Houston-Galveston Area Council – Karen Owen  
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Cassandra Marshall  
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Vinny Polignano  
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Carlos Lugo  
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Sydni Ligons  
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Craig Raborn  
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Gloria Brown  
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Jamila Owens  
Houston-Galveston Area Council – M. Tucker  
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Maggie Isied  
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Qun Zhao  
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Rodney Siqua

### OTHERS PRESENT

Environmental Defense Fund – Phillip Martin

- a. The TAQ Subcommittee Members and Alternates were presented with action's items; no discussion items were presented; and the meeting concluded with agency reports and member announcements.
- b. Visit <http://www.h-gac.com/taq/transportation-committees/TAC/transportation-air-quality-subcommittee/agendas.aspx> to view the meeting materials for this meeting.

### CALL TO ORDER

#### ITEM 1A. Introductions

Amy Skicki called the meeting to order members and alternates introduced themselves.

#### ITEM 1B. Approval of Meeting Summaries (03-21-2024 & 08-08-2024)

Meeting Summaries approved.

### ACTION ITEMS

#### ITEM 2A. Reliability Congestion and Air Quality Performance Measures Request for Endorsement-Karen Owen

Karen Owen presented an analysis of reliability, congestion, and air quality performance measures, emphasizing the effects of construction, weather events, and demographic changes on traffic conditions. She outlined targets for reliability on highways and the truck reliability index, recommending future targets that consider population growth and shifts in work patterns due to the pandemic. The discussion shifted to congestion trends in the Houston urban area, where Karen noted the pandemic's significant impact on traffic patterns and the necessity of adjusting targets in light of ongoing construction and population increase. Karen also addressed the challenges in meeting emission reduction targets for NOX and VOCs, citing project delays and proposing a future target of 24% reduction in on-road mobile source emissions based on previous performance.

The meeting concluded with a motion to endorse this presentation to move up to the next committee.

1. First motion-Dr. Shelley Sekula-Gibbs
2. Second motion-Thien Cao

Motion passed

### DISCUSSION

None

### OTHER BUSINESS

#### ITEM 4A. Agency Announcements

Jamila notified the members an association called the Association for Commuter Transportation, and there is a Red River chapter covering Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. They're having a webinar next Wednesday, focused on car carbon reduction and transportation, specifically transportation demand management. And they're going to be three guest speakers, one from TxDOT talking about the statewide plan, a couple from private companies that are partnering with public agencies in Austin and in Houston to see if technology can be part of the solution. If you're interested in that, please consider attending. It's a free webinar and I will drop the information in the chat. And yes, it is Ozone Action Month. Thank you to all the transit partners who are participating in this pilot of doing a subsidized fare to see if we can increase transit ridership during the period when we typically have exceedance days.

#### ITEM 4B. Member Announcements

The State of Texas on October 1 will have a medium heavy duty charging report. State task force has been working on this for a while. Port Houston should receive information if they're getting their requested grant funding from the Clean Parts Program application, which includes many programs that involve regional coordination, a lot of vehicles, fueling, as well as workforce development that could be important to this group.

Next Meeting: October 23, 2024

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 10:58 A.M.