

**MEETING OF THE RTP SUBCOMMITTEE
HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL**

MEMBERS PLEASE USE TEAMS INVITATION

TELECONFERENCE CALL-IN INFORMATION:

[+1 346-262-0140](tel:+13462620140) United States, Houston (Toll)

Conference ID: 641 945 004#

October 21, 2020

9:30 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
Roll Call Attendance
2. Approval of Minutes
From meeting of September 9, 2020
3. Subregional Planning:
Staff will provide brief updates on the following:
 - a. Montgomery County Precinct 2 (Carlene Mullins)
 - b. Liberty County (Thomas Gray)
 - c. Southeast Harris County (Mike Burns)
4. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Update (Alan Rodenstein)
Staff will present the status of the CMP Update.
5. Project Evaluation Criteria Development (Adam Beckom)
Staff will provide an update on the status of evaluation criteria and investment categories.
6. RTP Amendment Process (Vishu Lingala)
Staff will provide an update on amendments to the RTP and the application process.
7. Air Quality Conformity (Graciela Lubertino)
Staff will provide an overview of the air quality conformity process.
8. Announcements
 - Transportation Policy Council Meeting (TPC) – October 23, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. (Teleconference)
 - Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting (TAC) – November 18, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. (Teleconference)
 - Next RTP Subcommittee Meeting – November 11, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. (Teleconference)
9. Adjourn

Regional Transportation Plan Subcommittee

		Primary			Alternate		
	Representing	First Name	Last Name	Organization	First Name	Last Name	Organization
1	Local Government	Monique	Johnson	City of Sugarland	Krystal	Lastrape	City of Sugarland
2	Local Government	Ruthanne	Haut	The Woodlands Township	John	Powers	The Woodlands Township
3	Local Government	Clay	Forister	Brazoria County	Karen	McKinnon	Brazoria County
4	Local Government	Adam	France	City of Conroe	Chris	Bogert	City of Conroe
5	Local Government	Christopher	Sims	City of League City	Chad	Tressler	City of League City
6	Local Government	Ricardo	Villagrand	City of Mont Belvieu	Francisco	Carrillo	City of Mont Belvieu
7	Local Government	Loyd	Smith	Harris County	Bryan	Brown	Harris County
8	Local Government	Nick	Woolery	City of Baytown	Frank	Simoneaux	City of Baytown
9	Local Government	Yancy	Scott	Waller County	Bobby	Pennington	City of Cleveland
10	TxDOT-Houston	Charles	Airiohuodion	TxDOT-Houston	Jeffrey	English	TxDOT-Houston
11	TxDOT-Beaumont	Lisa	Collins	TxDOT-BMT	Scott	Ayres	TxDOT-BMT
12	Transit	Alberto	Lyne	METRO	Priya	Zachariah	METRO
13	Transit	Perri	D'Armond	Fort Bend Transit	Stacy	Slawinski	Fort Bend Transit
14	Transit	Ken	Fickes	Harris County Transit	Vernon	Chambers	Harris County Transit
15	Environmental	Harrison	Humphrey	Air Alliance Houston	Stephanie	Thomas	Public Citizen
16	Planning	Maureen	Crocker	City of Houston	Jennifer	Ostlind	City of Houston
17	Citizens Interests	Jonathan	Brooks	LINK Houston	Bakeyah	Nelson	Air Alliance Houston
18	Business Interests	Elijah	Williams	The Energy Corridor District	Irma	Sanchez	Westchase District
19	Port	Bruce	Mann	Port Houston	Rohit	Saxena	Port Houston
20	Port	Roger	Rees	Port Galveston	Brett	Milutin	Port Galveston
21	Active Transportation	Janis	Scott	LINK Houston	Paulette	Wagner	OST/South Union
22	Toll Roads	John	Tyler	HCTRA - Toll Road	Vacant		
23	Airports	Bill	Zrioka	Houston Airport System	David	Leslie	Houston Airport System

**MEETING OF THE RTP SUBCOMMITTEE
HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
TELECONFERENCE PARTICIPATION VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

September 9, 2020

1:30 p.m.

Minutes

Member Attendance:

Primary Member	Present	Alternate	Present
Maureen Crocker, Chair	Yes	Jennifer Ostlind	No
Monique Johnson	No	Krystal Lastrape	Yes
Ruthanne Haut	Yes	John Powers	No
Clay Forister	No	Karen McKinnon	Yes
Adam France	Yes	Chris Bogert	No
Christopher Sims	No	Chad Tressler	No
Ricardo Villagrand	Yes	Francisco Carrillo	No
Loyd Smith	No	Bryan Brown	Yes
Nick Woolery	Yes	Frank Simoneaux	No
Yancy Scott	Yes	Bobby Pennington	No
Charles Airiohuodion	Yes	Jeffrey English	Yes
Lisa Collins	Yes	Scott Ayres	No
Alberto Lyne	No	Priya Zachariah	Yes
Perri D'Armond	Yes	Stacy Slawinski	No
Ken Fickes	Yes	Vernon Chambers	Yes
Harrison Humphrey	No	Stephanie Thomas	Yes
Jonathan Brooks	Yes	Bakeyah Nelson	No
Elijah Williams	Yes	Irma Sanchez	No
Bruce Mann	No	Rohit Saxena	No
Roger Rees	Yes	Brett Milutin	No
Janis Scott	Yes	Paulette Wagner	No
John Tyler	Yes	VACANT	-
Bill Zrioka	Yes	David Leslie	No

Others Present:

Andrew Mao, Shixin Gao

Staff Participating:

Adam Beckom, Eric Boulet, Mike Burns, Michelle Canton, Alan Clark, Jim Dickinson, Diane Domagas, Carrie Evans, David Fink, Stephan Gage, Thomas Gray, Donte Green, Veronica Green, Sandra Holliday, Allie Isabell, Susan Jaworski, Ayo Jibowu, Sharon Ju, Megan Kennison, Neely Kim, Justin Kuzila, Vishu Lingala, Patrick Mandapaka, Lucinda Martinez, Carlene Mullins, Karen Owen, Jamila Owens, Frank Pagliei, Alan Rodenstein, Cameron Stawicki, Chris Van Slyke, Kathryn Vo, Allison Wahl, Veronica Waller

1. Call to Order

Maureen C called the meeting to order at 1:30PM.

Mike B read a statement of how the meeting would be conducted via remote participation and the ground rules for any discussion.

Mike B conducted the roll call for attendance and confirmed a quorum was present.
Maureen C confirmed a quorum was present.

2. Approval of Minutes

Maureen C asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2020 meeting.
Perri D made a motion, seconded by Adam F, to accept the minutes.
The motion passed unanimously.

3. Subregional Planning: Montgomery County Precinct 2 Mobility Plan (Carlene Mullins)

Carlene M summarized the study scope, schedule, and reviewed the study area and important considerations for the study.
Brian B mentioned that Harris County is updating the thoroughfare plan and suggested there should be coordination between the Harris County study and Montgomery County study efforts.

Carlene M agreed and will ensure communication with Harris County staff.

No action was taken

4. Federal Performance Measures and Targets Update (Karen Owen)

Karen O mentioned staff is seeking a recommendation supporting updated performance targets and provided a summary of the target assessments and performance report following public review from July 8 to August 8. The summary included updated targets for pavement, congestion, air quality, transit assets, and safety.

Perri D mentioned a correction that's needed to the safety target reporting to note that 5 of 5 safety targets met instead of 4 of 5 targets.

Karen O mentioned the correction will be made to the report.

Perri D asked if removing non-interstate roadways from the pavement condition measures of would have resulted in achieving the performance target.

Karen O mentioned that the overall system would have been closer to achieving the target if non-interstate roadways were not included.

Maureen C mentioned that she is encouraged by the references to the Vision Zero policies and that the region is using the TxDOT approach to Vision Zero and asked when update safety analysis and measure would be presented for review.

Patrick M mentioned that the safety performance measures will be presented to TAC and TPC for action in October.

Maureen C mentioned the Texas House Committee on Transportation is reviewing safety issues and goals towards Vision Zero and suggested HGAC provide comments.

Karen O requested action to recommend the updating of performance targets as presented.

Charles A made a motion, seconded by Ruthanne H, to recommend to TAC that the Federal performance measures be considered for approval.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Update (Alan Rodenstein)

Alan R provided a summary of the status of updating the CMP, including the recommended network and strategies to reduce congestion. The next steps include

presenting draft report to subcommittees and TPC in October, public review in November and December, and action to approve CMP by TPC in January 2021.

Alan C suggested consideration of home delivery service trends and its impact as a Transportation Demand Management strategy.

Charles A requested clarification on using the conformity network as the CMP network.

Alan R responded that CMP network will be the same as the conformity network and as the conformity network changes over time, the CMP will be updated to be consistent.

No action was taken.

6. Project Evaluation Criteria Development (Vishu Lingala)

Vishu L provided a summary of the Project Evaluation Workgroup efforts to update evaluation criteria, including investment categories and consideration of cost and counter measures.

It was noted that evaluation criteria would not be finalized until May 2021.

Maureen C mentioned the appreciation of the updating process and asked if the benefit/cost of delay reduction of projects needs to be reconsidered.

Bruce M asked about the comparison of scores under existing and proposed scoring strategies.

Vishu L responded that it is possible and the effort to provide the comparison is on-going.

No action was taken.

7. RTP Amendment Process and Air Quality Conformity (Mike Burns)

Mike B presented a draft framework for amending the current RTP to add projects sponsored by TxDOT and METRO. The framework included requirements for a requested amendment, including project description, cost, year of expenditure, public outreach efforts, and evaluating need to update the air quality conformity determination. Two timelines were suggested for approving the amendment, including approval prior to the air quality conformity determination being completed by HGAC staff and approval following the air quality conformity determination.

Alan C clarified that the regional cannot amend the plan to include projects that are subject to conformity until the conformity determination has been completed.

Ken F agreed that he was not aware that the plan could be amended until the conformity determination was completed, and noted that many projects have not progressed in a long time and may need to have data on conditions updated and public support confirmed.

Maureen C mentioned the need to include a description of outreach efforts in an amendment request.

Mike B responded that criteria for an amendment and additional public outreach effort for an RTP amendment should be described in the Public Participation Plan.

Charles A mentioned that the TPC could approved the amendment prior to the Federal acceptance of the air quality conformity determination and amendment.

Maureen C noted that there needs to be more clarity on the requirements for an amendment.

Jonathan B mentioned the need to describe the public engagement used to develop a project that is being considered for inclusion into the RTP through an amendment.

Maureen C clarified that comments can be used for a formal recommendation at the October meeting.

Alan C mentioned that procedures for project development and amending program documents are summarized in a Transportation Process Briefing Book prepared by the Federal Highway Administration.

Maureen C mentioned the need review the Briefing Book and to consider the federal requirements.

Charles A mentioned that some coordination and public outreach has already taken place and that the 610 West project has been identified as one of the more congested roadways in the state.

Maureen C requested that any material related to coordination efforts be provided as part of the request to amend the RTP.

No action taken.

8. Announcements

- Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting (TAC) – September 16, 2020 at 9:30 a.m., Teleconference.
- Transportation Policy Council Meeting (TPC) – September 25, 2020 at 9:30 a.m., Teleconference.
- Next Regional Transportation Plan Meeting – October 14, 2020 (Teleconference)

Maureen C mentioned the upcoming meetings and asked if anyone has a conflict for the next subcommittee meeting to please notify staff.

9. Adjourn

Maureen C declared the meeting adjourned at 3:11PM.

Minutes submitted by: Mike Burns



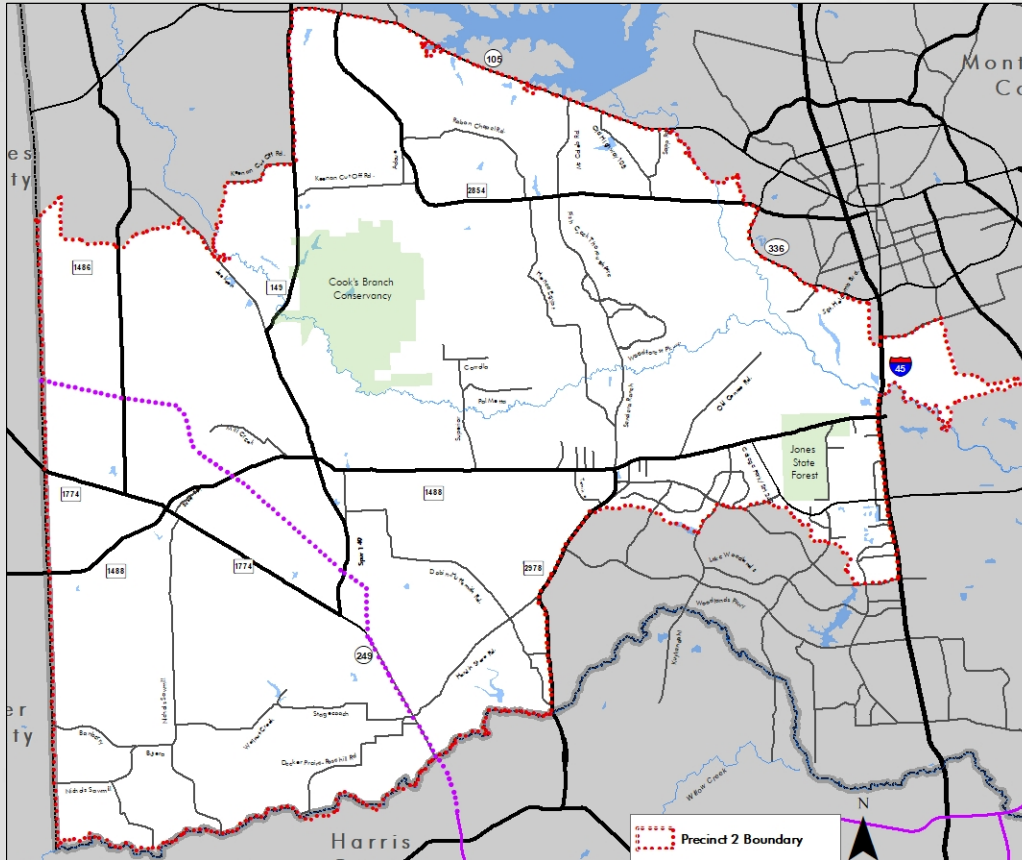
Subregional Planning Update: Montgomery County Precinct 2 Mobility Study



Carlene Mullins
H-GAC Project Manager



Project Overview – Purpose and Study Area

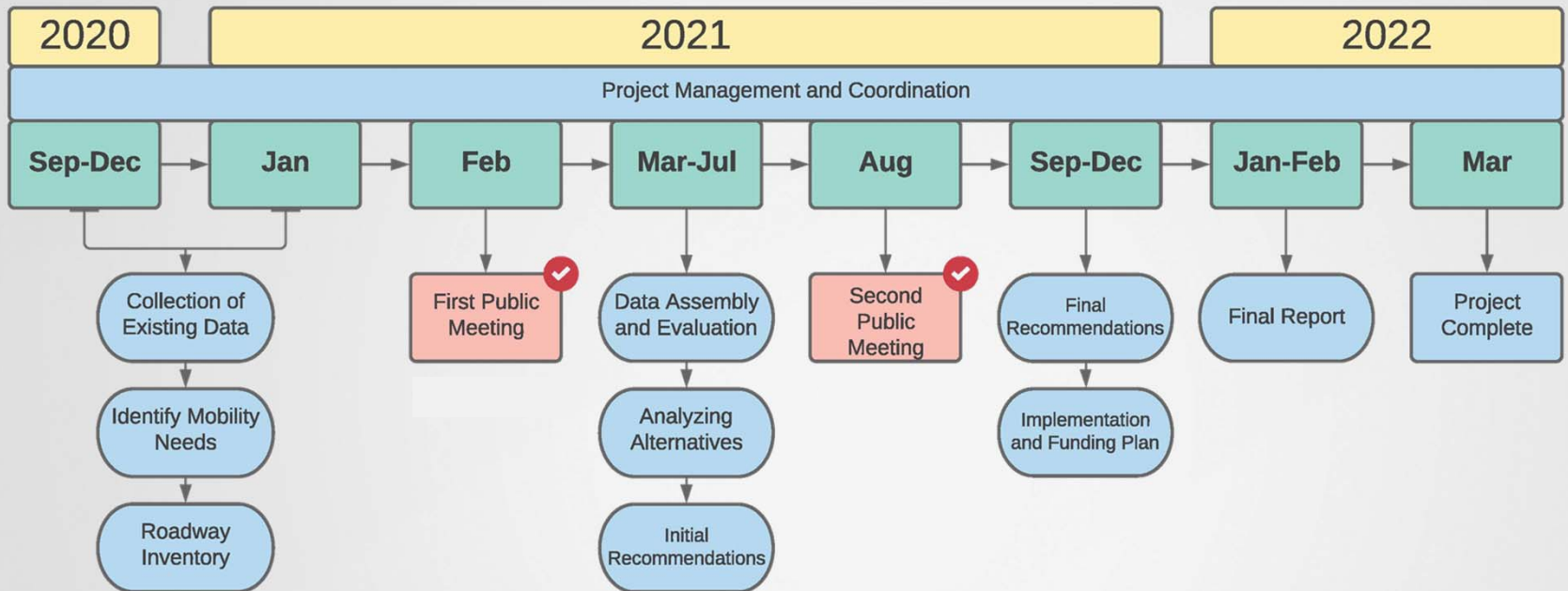


Purpose: Conduct a comprehensive transportation study that will identify and analyze existing and future transportation needs that result in a list of short, medium and long-range transportation projects.

A **main goal** of the study will be to mitigate congestion while providing mobility solutions for the residents, visitors and businesses

Consulting Team:
GUNDA Corporation

Project Management - Schedule



Outreach – Steering Committee



- ❖ City of Conroe
- ❖ City of Magnolia
- ❖ City of Montgomery
- ❖ City of Shenandoah
- ❖ Magnolia Chamber of Commerce
- ❖ Magnolia ISD Transportation Dept.
- ❖ Magnolia Police
- ❖ Montgomery County Engineer's Office
- ❖ Montgomery County Precinct 2
- ❖ Montgomery County Sheriff
- ❖ The Woodlands Township
- ❖ TxDOT Conroe Office
- ❖ TxDOT Houston Office
- ❖ Westwood Magnolia Parkway Improvement District
- ❖ Woodlands Chamber of Commerce

Recent Activity



- **Steering Committee Meeting – Oct. 15**
 - Study overview
 - Reviewed committee responsibilities
 - Reviewed schedule
 - Presented new developments, identified issues, major trip generators
 - Received input on additional developments, issues, road projects and trip generators
- **Website:** h-gac.com/go/mp2

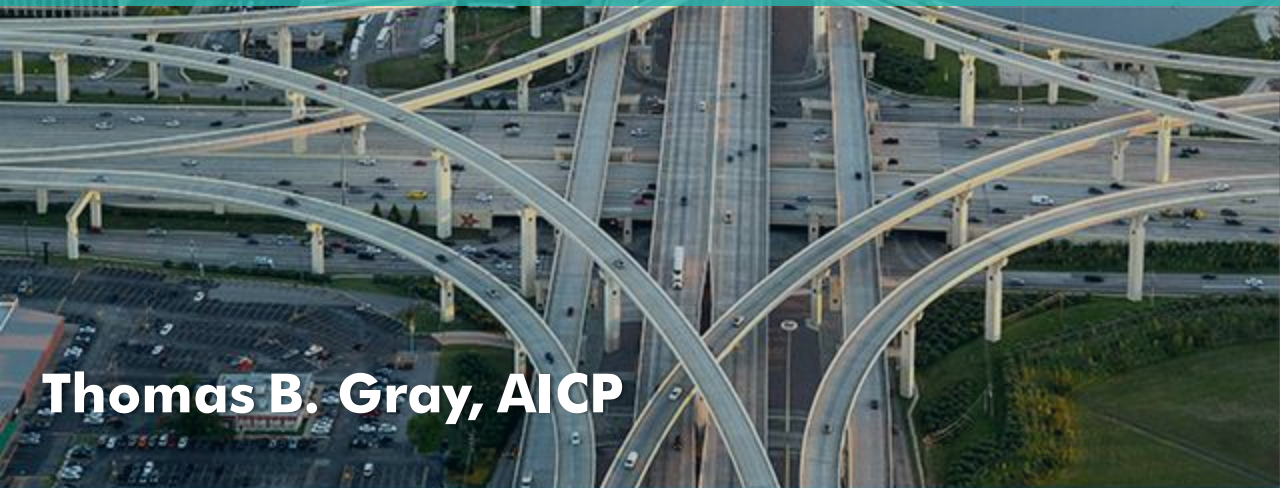
Next Steps



- **Steering Committee Workshop – November**
 - Develop Study Vision
 - Review Existing Data
 - Review Identifies Issues
- **Focus Group Meetings – December**
- **Public Meetings – February**



Subregional Planning Update: Liberty County



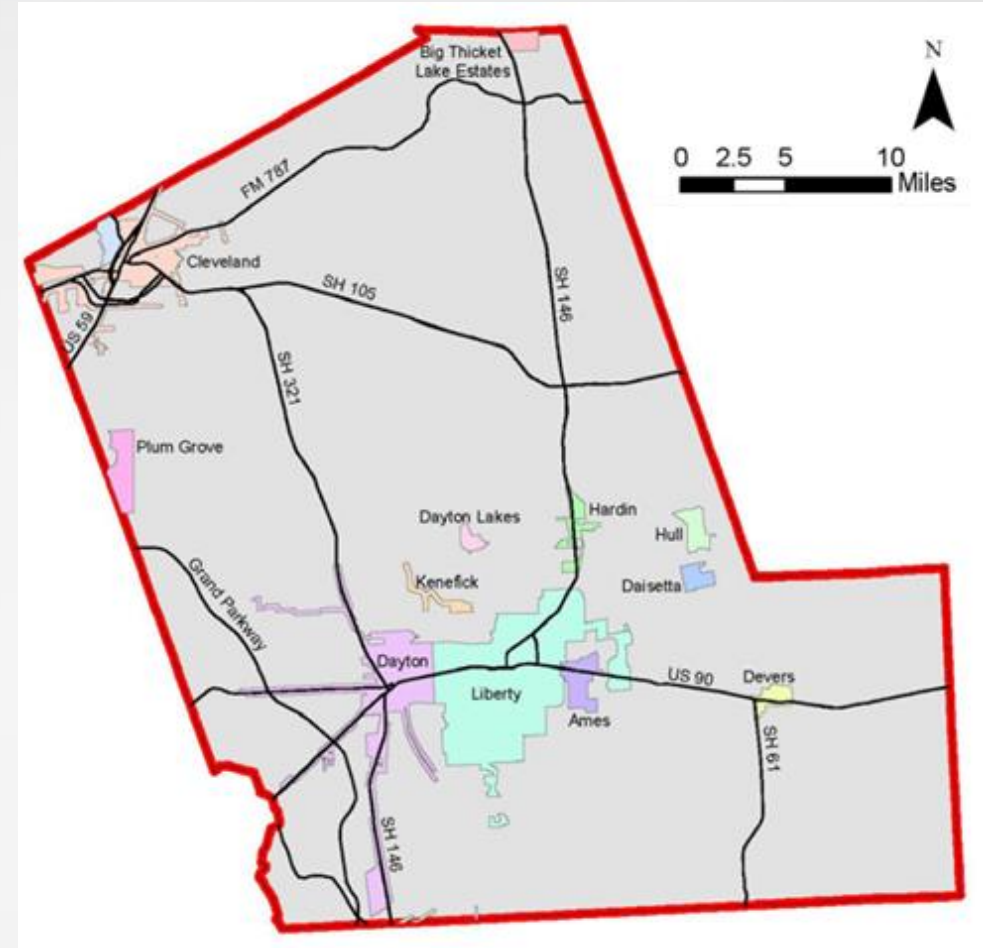
Thomas B. Gray, AICP

Project Overview – Purpose and Study Area



Conduct a study and develop a comprehensive mobility plan for Liberty County:

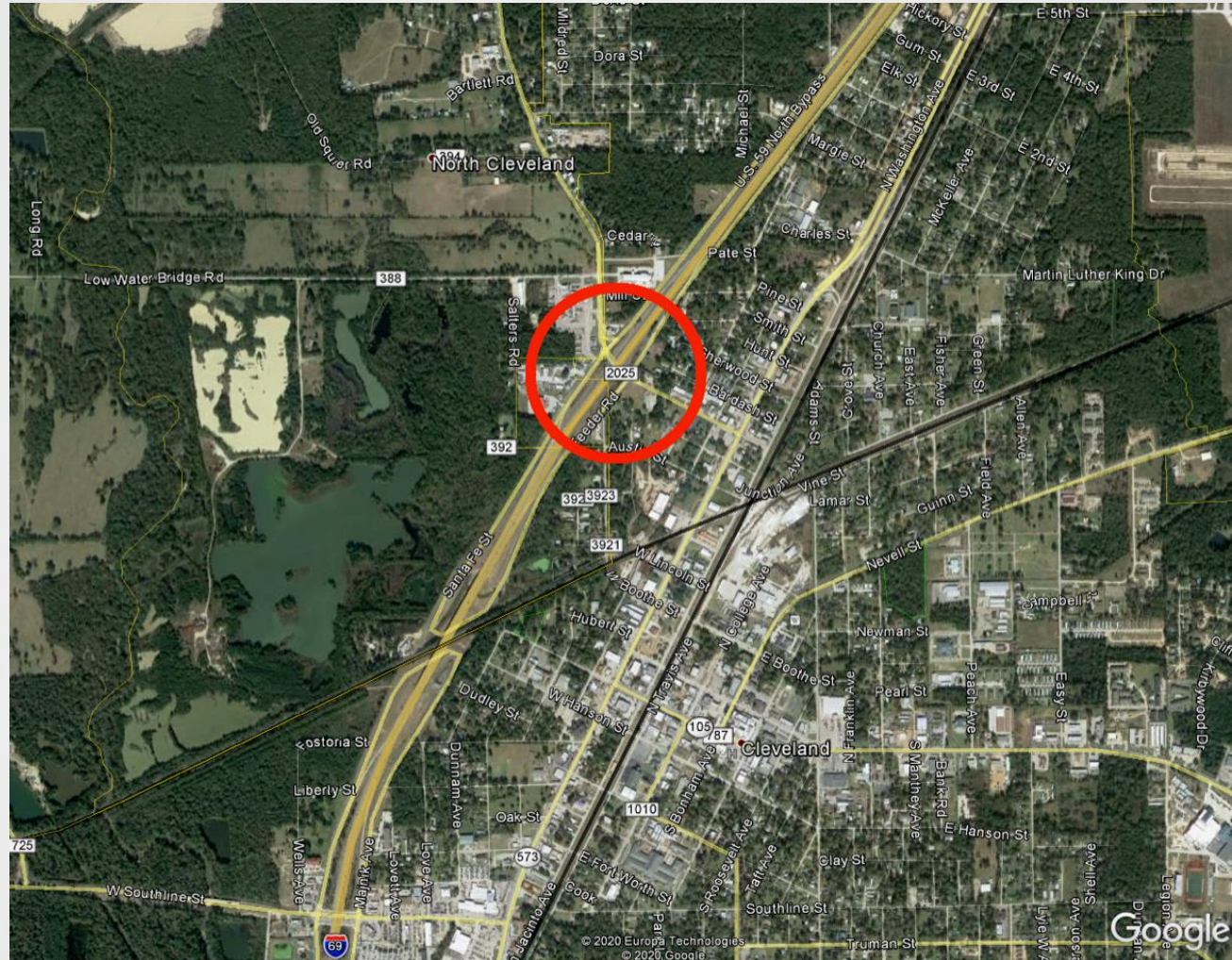
- Analyze the existing transportation network
- Consider existing and future land use and growth scenarios
- Recommend ways to improve transportation mobility for residents, businesses and visitors now and in the future



Example of Identified Concern

FM 2025 at
I-69/US 59

(Cleveland)



Project Management – Draft Schedule



	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21
	PHASE 1					PHASE 2										
Task 1 Project Management and Coordination																
1.1 Project Management Plan		•				•										
1.2 Project Reports and Invoicing		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
1.3 Subconsultant Management		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Task 2 Quality Assurance/Quality Control																
2.1 Quality Management Plan and Log		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Task 3 Identification of Issues/Needs																
3.1 Data Assembly		•	•	•	•											
3.2 Existing Needs Analysis				•	•	•	•	•	•							
3.3 Policies and Practices Assessment						•	•	•	•	•						
Task 4 Public Outreach																
4.1 Public Involvement Plan		•														
4.2 Public Messaging		•			•			•			•			•		
4.3 Steering Committee			•			•			•			•		•	•	
4.4 Stakeholder Meetings						•	•							•	•	
4.5 Public Meetings							•							•		
4.6 Online Involvement					•	•							•	•		
Task 5 Data Assembly and Evaluation																
5.1 Data Collection		•				•	•	•								
Task 6 Analysis																
6.1 Modeling Scenarios					•	•	•	•	•	•						
6.2 Analyzing Connectivity and Circulation					•	•	•	•	•	•						
6.3 Maximizing the Roadway Network								•	•	•	•	•	•			
6.4 Transit, Bicycle and Pedestrian								•	•	•	•	•	•			
Task 7 Implementation and Funding Plan																
7.1 Implementation Plan												•	•	•	•	
7.2 Funding Strategy												•	•	•	•	
Task 8 Final Report																
8.1 Final Report																•

Steering Committee

- City of Cleveland
- City of Dayton
- City of Liberty
- Liberty County
- TxDOT

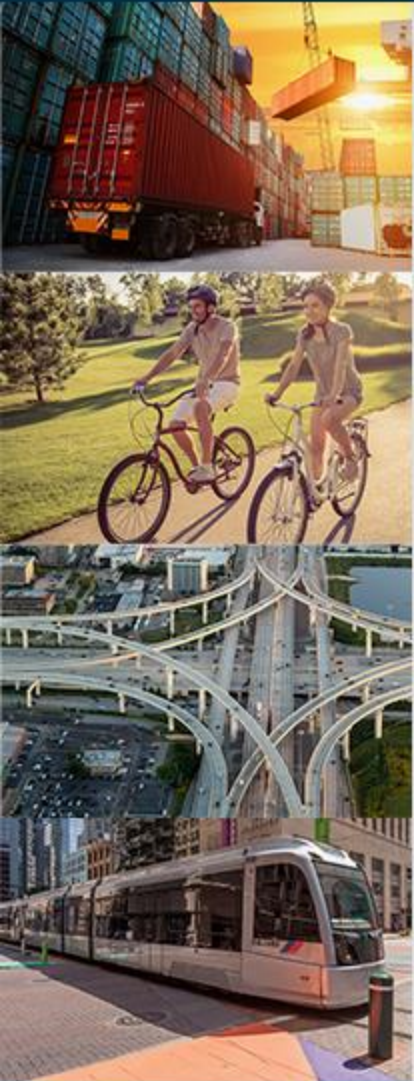


Recent Activity



- Greater Cleveland Chamber of Commerce Meeting – October 1, 2020
- Kickoff Meeting – October 1, 2020
 - HGAC staff
 - Consulting Team Lead – Kimley Horn
 - TxDOT
- Began data needs/sharing process with consultant

Next Steps



- Project Management Plan
- Public Involvement Plan
- Schedule Steering Committee
- Project Website
- Online Public Engagement Tool
- Data Dashboard

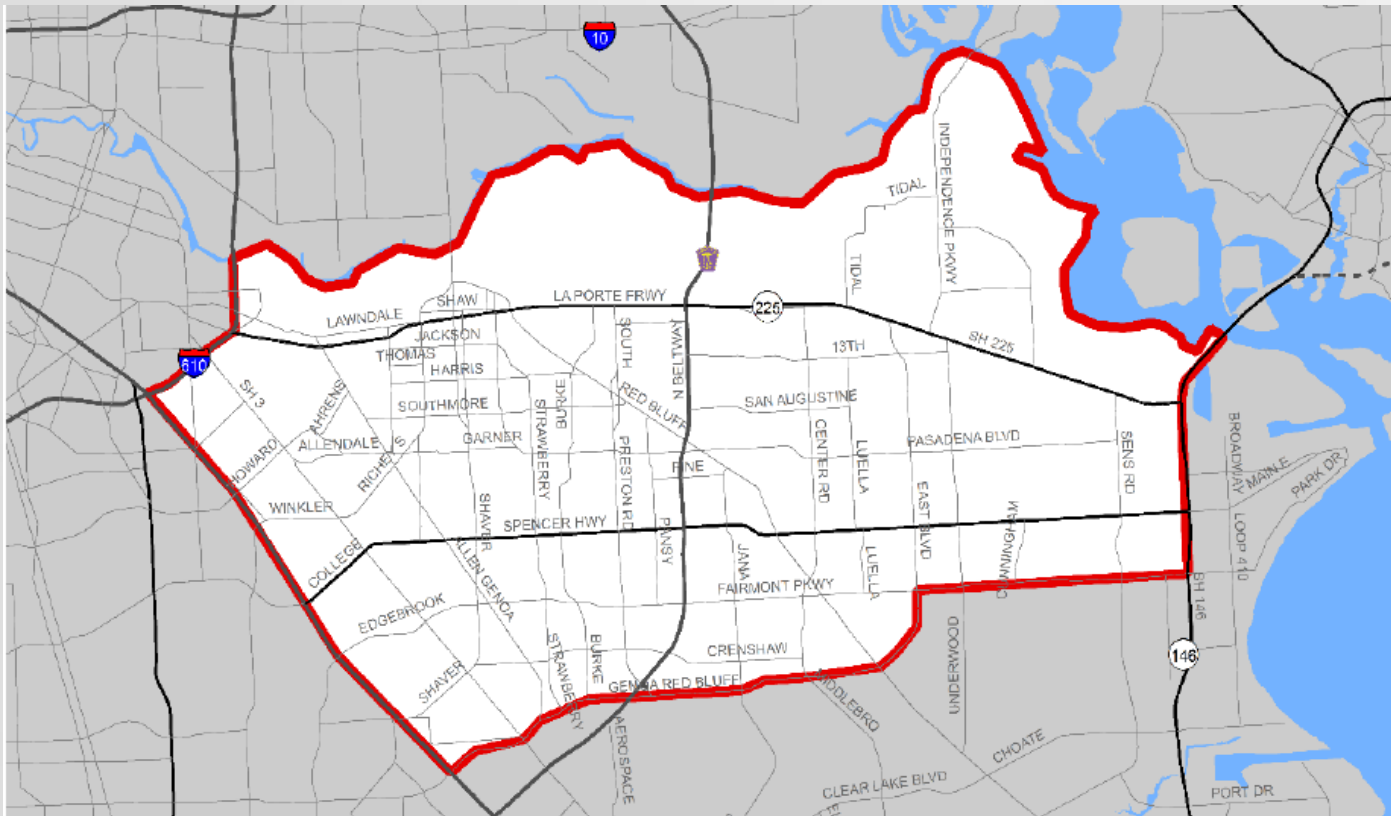


Subregional Planning Update: Southeast Harris County



Project Overview – Purpose and Study Area

Purpose: Identify multimodal transportation, development, and economic policy needs in the subregion, while meeting H-GAC's goals of mobility, safety, and enabling economic opportunity.



A main goal of the study will be to facilitate the flow of truck traffic while providing mobility solutions for the residents.

Consulting Team:
Kimley Horn

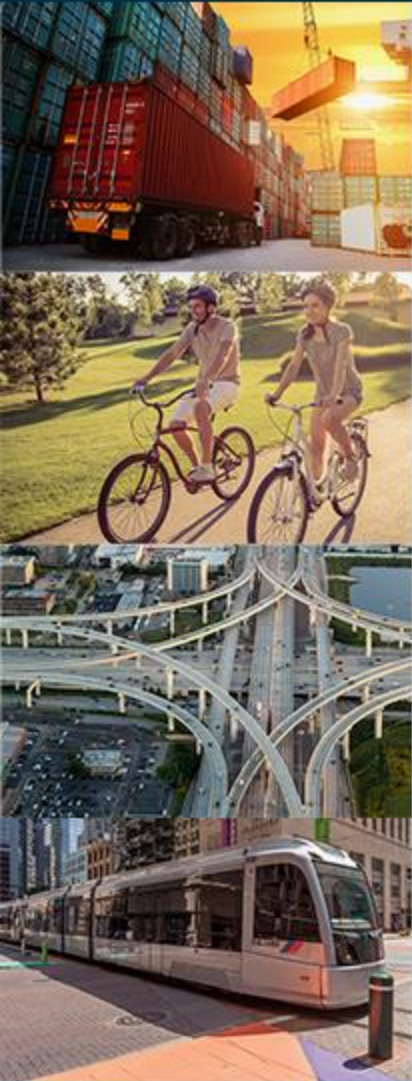


Project Management - Schedule

■ DRAFT:

	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22		
	PHASE 1							PHASE 2															
Task 1 Project Management and Coordination																							
1.1 Project Management Plan		X					X																
1.2 Project Administration	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
1.3 Subconsultant Management	X																						
Task 2 Public / Agency Involvement																							
2.1 Agency Coordination Kickoff		X					X																
2.2 Steering Committee			X	X	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X				
2.3 Stakeholders Outreach			X	X		X							X										
2.4 Public Meetings						X							X							X			
2.5 Website Social Media	X					X							X						X				
Task 3 Existing Conditions																							
3.1 Existing Conditions Analysis	X	PH1 Assemble Data, ID Data Needs					X	PH2 Peak HRCounts					X										
3.2 Needs and Deficiencies	X	PH1 Identify Service / Facility Gaps					X	PH2 Identify Additional Service / Facility Gaps					X										
3.3 Traffic Model	X	PH1 Traffic Model Development					X	PH2 Model Runs					X										
3.4 Corridor Overview	X	PH1 Identify Critical Corridors					X	PH2 Finalize Corridor Evaluatons					X										
Task 4 Project Development																							
4.1 Vision Goals	X	PH1 Identify Vision Goals Objectives					X	PH2 Evaluate Conformity with Vision Goals					X										
4.2 Future Assessment	X						X	PH2 Model and Performance Evaluations					X										
4.3 Identify Improvements	X						X	PH2 Development of Alternatives					X										
4.4 Recommend Improvements								PH2 Evaluate and Prioritize Alternatives															X
4.5 Implementation Matrix								PH2 Implementation Strategy															X
Task 5 Final Report																							
5.1 Final Report								PH2 Final Report															X

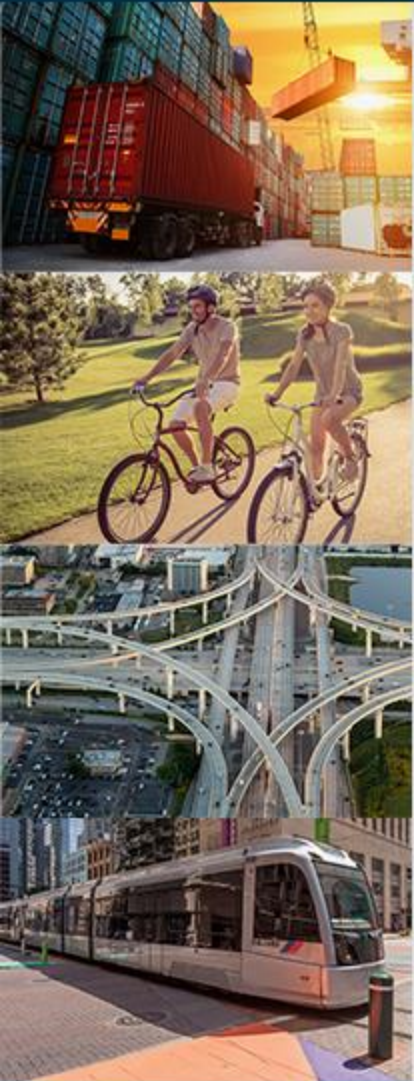
Outreach – Steering Committee



SE Harris Subregional Study - Steering Committee

Representing	Name	Title
Port Houston	Bruce Mann	Director, Freight Mobility
Harris County	Bryan Brown	Senior Planner - Engineering Dept
Economic Alliance Houston Port Region	Chad Burke	President and CEO
City of Houston Public Works	Donald Buaku	Principal Planner
TXDOT	Jeffrey English	TxDOT
Gulf Coast Rail District	Katherine Parker	Executive Director
Harris County Transit	Ken Fickes	Director - Transit Services
Harris County Precinct 2	Milton Rahman	Director of Engineering
La Porte Police Dept	Sgt Bennie Boles	Police Sergeant
La Porte	Teresa Vazquez-Evans	Planning & Development Director
City of South Houston	Arthur Olivera	Street and Bridge
Deer Park	Adam Ballesteros	City Engineer
Pasadena	Sarah Benavides	Senior Assistant Director, Public Works
Harris County	Loyd Smith	ALTERNATE - Harris County
City of Houston Planning	Melissa Beeler	ALTERNATE - City of Houston

Recent Activity



- Kickoff Meeting – October 1, 2020
 - HGAC staff
 - Consulting Team Lead – Kimley Horn
 - TxDOT
- Steering Committee Meeting - November 2020
 - Discuss Purpose
 - Discuss Vision/Goals
 - Discuss Areas of Concern

Next Steps



- **Schedule Stakeholder Meetings – To Be Determined**
 - Civic
 - Public Safety
 - Schools
 - Industry
- **Schedule Initial Public Meeting – To Be Determined**
 - Review Purpose, Tasks, and Schedule
 - Solicit Areas of Concern
 - Virtual First Meeting
 - Bilingual



CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS (CMP) 2020 UPDATE



Alan Rodenstein
Houston-Galveston Area Council
RTP Subcommittee October 21, 2020

Defining the CMP Process

Four key elements:

- Identify **congestion**, its causes **and measures** (in the region)
- Apply variety of mitigation strategies to improve system
- **Measure congestion at system, segment and project level**
- Evaluate strategies' effectiveness and adjust accordingly

Congestion Defined

The level at which transportation system performance is no longer acceptable to due traffic interference

Federal Highway Administration

Roadway Congestion

- Recurring Congestion
 - Bottlenecks
 - Excess Demands
 - Commuters
- Non-recurring Congestion
 - Accidents
 - Disabled Vehicles
 - Weather

The Importance of the CMP

- CMP required under Fix America Surface Transportation (FAST) Act
- In 2021 an approved CMP Update is required for MPO recertification
- Develop Performance Measures to analyze congestion
- Can analyze congestion at system, segment, and project level
- Develop multifaceted strategy (toolbox) to reduce congestion at system and segment levels
- Project selection options emerge from the CMP process
- Cyclical process and considered with RTP and TIP

The Eight Elements of The CMP

- 1. Develop Regional Objectives –
 - What are the goals and objectives?
- 2. Define Parameters of Regional Network –
 - Where is the congestion?
- 3. Develop Multimodal Performance Measures
 - What are the metrics for congestion?
- 4. Collect and Monitor System Performance
 - What sources are we using to measure congestion and how are they monitored?
- 5. Analyze Congestion Problems and Needs
 - What are the key challenges and how will changes be measured?
- 6. Identify and Assess Strategies
 - What are the multiple approaches to managing congestion on a systemwide and segment basis?
- 7. Program and Implement Strategies
 - How will the strategies be used in developing regional projects?
- 8. Evaluate Strategy Effectiveness
 - What worked and what needs adjustment and how will future changes to the CMP be considered?

2020 CMP Update Highlights

- Added freight to mitigation strategies for roadway congestion
- Using systemwide, segment, and project level congestion measures
- Near term update to this CMP proposed for 2021-2022
- Consider impacts of COVID - 19

Next Steps

2020

- Finish Draft Report – October – Final reviews and editing
- Present to TAC and TPC – November 11/ November 20
- Public Comment - November 23 – December 23
- Public Meeting – December 3

2021

- Review of Public Comment and prepare Final Report - December/January
- Recommendation and approval by TAC and TPC - February
- CMP 2020 Update included in MPO Recertification - Spring



Development of Project Evaluation Criteria



RTP Subcommittee
October 21, 2020

Project Evaluation Criteria Development

- Investment Categories and Definitions
- Total Project Cost
- Benefit/Cost Analysis
- Planning Factors

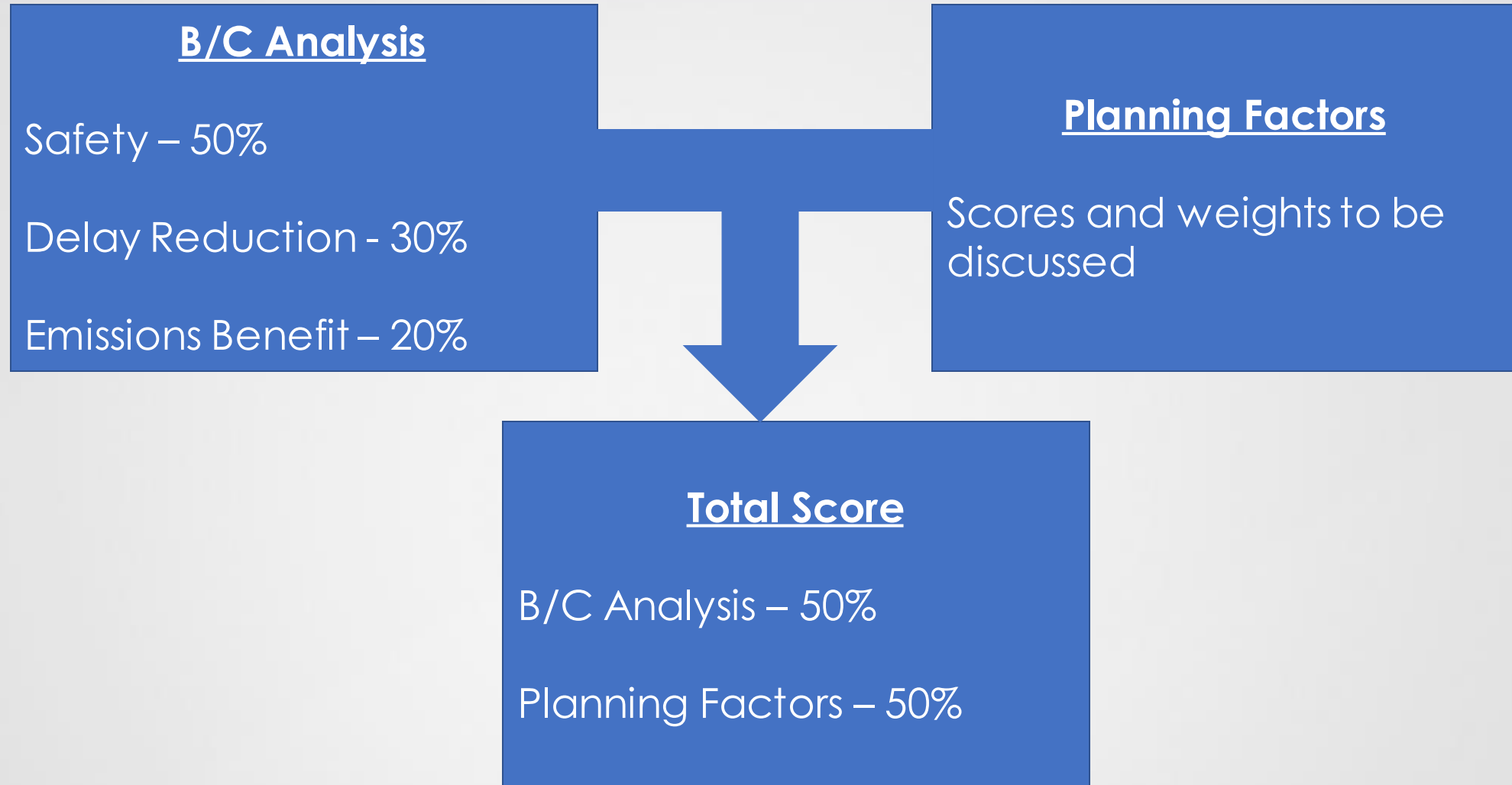
Investment Category Definitions

- **Expand:** All roadway, freight or transit projects that expand the network capacities.
- **Manage:** All roadway, freight or transit projects that improve operations of existing networks.
- **Maintain:** All roadway, freight or transit projects that extend the useful life of the existing networks or improves resiliency of the existing networks.
- **Active Transportation:** All projects that expand, manage or maintain bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure that provide alternative choices to essential trip making.

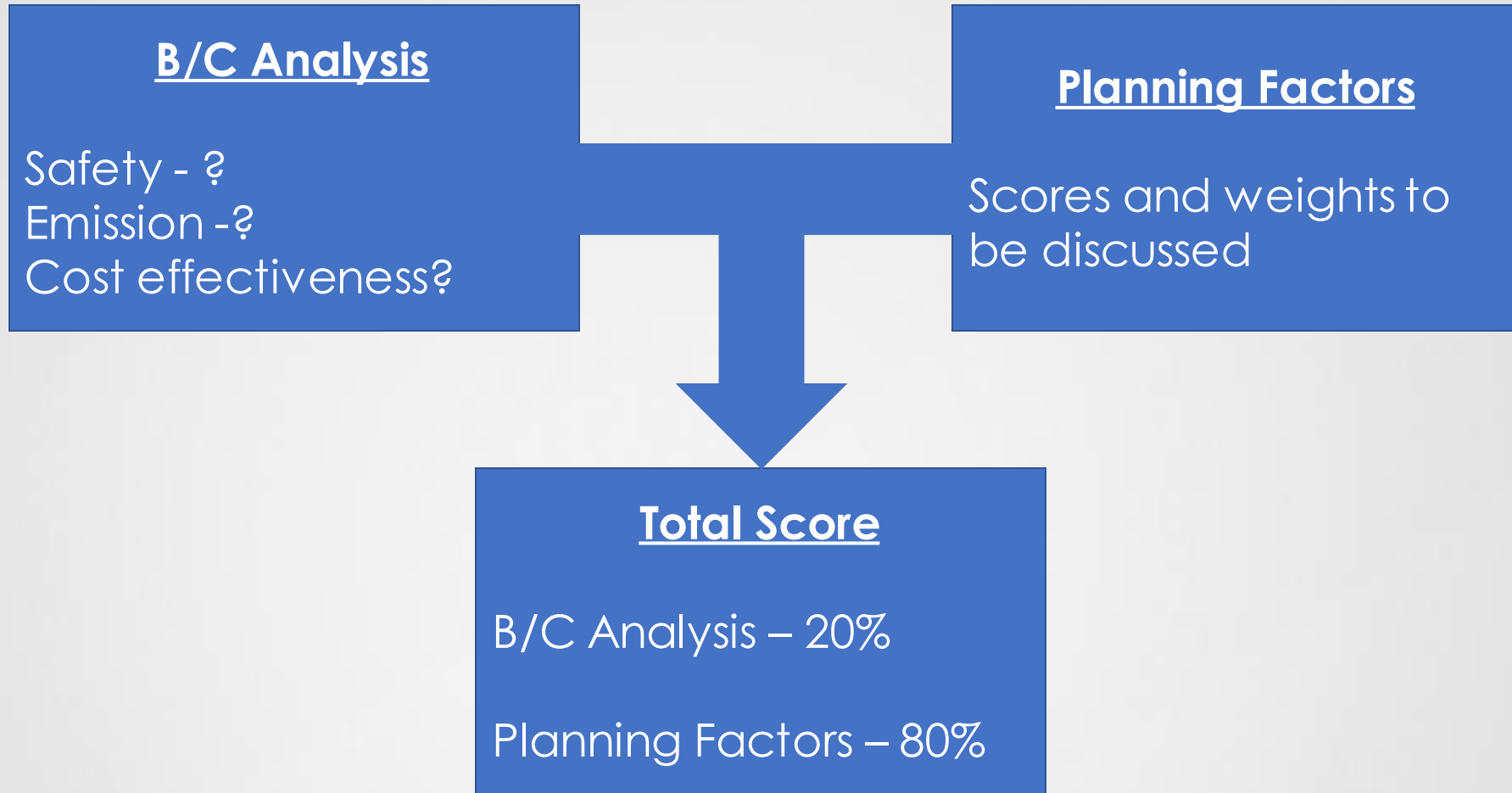
Total Project Cost

Total Project Cost = Federal Funding Request + Local Match			
	Right of Way and Utility Relocation Contributed by Sponsor	Engineering Phase including Environmental	Construction
Projects within the Existing Footprint (no additional Right of Way Required)	NO	YES (Even if engineering phase costs are not part of the federal request)	YES
Projects within existing ROW outside of existing footprint.	YES (Even if the ROW was previously acquired or was donated to the sponsor)	YES (Even if engineering phase costs are not part of the federal request)	YES
Projects requiring additional Right of Way acquisition	YES (Even if the ROW was donated to the sponsor or ROW is acquired by the sponsor with non-federal resources)	YES (Even if engineering phase costs are not part of the federal request)	YES

Total Scoring



Total Scoring (Active Transportation)



Planning Factors Criteria

- Planning Coordination
- Multimodal connectivity
- Connectivity to employment and other activity centers
- Equity in multimodal transportation networks
- Improve transportation resiliency
- Promote economic development
- Avoid/eliminate railroad grade crossings
- Accommodate automated/connected vehicles
- Expansion/improvement of ITS infrastructure
- Provide/improve access to developing areas (announced developments)

Draft Timeline

July	Begin discussions on investment criteria and establish working group
August-October	Continue discussions on investment criteria Update on the Benefit/Cost Analysis review Input from other Subcommittees
November	TAC Mid-point Progress Report (Information)
December-March	Continue development of draft evaluation criteria and selection process with TIP Subcommittee
April	TAC/TPC review of draft evaluation criteria and selection process (Information)
May-June 2021	Final draft evaluation criteria and selection process to TAC/TPC (Action)



Regional Transportation Plan Amendment Process



October 21, 2020

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Requirements per 23 CFR 450.324

- 20-year planning horizon (extending horizon not required for revisions)
- 4-year update frequency
- Required elements: existing/proposed conditions and projects; Financial Plan, etc.
- Outreach to stakeholders, including comparison with conservation and natural resource maps
- Aligned with statewide safety plans
- Air Quality Conformity Determination, required for non-attainment areas
- Can be revised any time without extending the horizon

RTP Amendment - Considerations

- Establish need
- Review of Project Description
- Align with RTP goals
- Fiscal Constraint
- Air Quality Conformity

RTP Amendment Process - Steps

- Submission of request to amend RTP in writing, including:
 - Solicitation frequency and format – to be determined
 - Project description
 - Alignment with regional goals
 - Total Project Cost estimate in Year of Expenditure value
- Public review period
 - Required 30-day review period per Public Participation Plan
- Conformity determination documentation, if needed (e.g., added capacity to Conformity Network)
- Approval of RTP Amendment by TPC

RTP Amendment Process – 2021

- Requested TxDOT Amendments:
 - Hempstead Highway
 - IH 10E
 - IH 10W
 - IH 610W Express Lanes
 - SH 35, Highway 36A, SH 288, SH 6, SH 99
- Requested METRO Amendments:
 - Align METRONext with the 2045 RTP
 - Two Way HOV improvements
 - IH 69 N, IH 69 S, IH 45 N, IH 45 S, US 290, US 249, US 90 A.

TxDOT Corridors

- Anticipated amendment in March-April 2021
- Anticipated conformity finding – 3 months later



Draft Timeline

- ✓ **August 2020:** TxDOT presentation
- **August - October 2020:** Coordination with local agencies
- **November 2020:** Draft Amendments list
- **December 2020:** Public meeting round 1
- **January 2021:** Final RTP projects list and conformity document preview.
- **February 2021:** Public comment and public meetings.
- **March 2021:** Draft RTP preview & Conformity document approval
- **April 2021:** Approval of RTP and TIP amendments.
- Receive Federal Approval – 3 months later.



Conformity Determination

Graciela Lubertino, PhD
October 21, 2020



What is Conformity?

- Process that links the air quality State Implementation Plan (SIP) with the regional roadway planning (RTP/TIP)
- Ensures that transportation plans do not delay attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)



The SIP
(State Air
Quality
Plan)

conformity

Transportation
Plan, and
Transportation
Improvement
Program (TIP)

Air Quality Status

- Our region is in nonattainment for the 8-hr Ozone Standard.

Classification:

Serious for the 2008 8-hr Ozone standard (75 ppb)

Marginal for the 2015 8-hr Ozone standard (70 ppb)

Emission Budgets

- The emissions of transportation plans must conform to the emission budgets from the Air Quality State Implementation Plan
- Latest approved emission budgets:
Reasonable Further Progress budget for mobile sources found adequate by EPA June 6, 2017

RFP Demonstration Budgets (t/d)		
<i>Year</i>	<i>NO_x</i>	<i>VOC</i>
2017	121.81	68.04

Calculations

Years selected:

- 2020 – attainment year for 2008 and 2015 8 hr. Ozone Standard
- 2030, and 2040 – intermediate years
- 2045 – horizon year

- Latest Planning available data: new vehicle registration, adjustment factors and fuel data.
- Latest air quality model: EPA MOVES2014b

Proposed Timeline

- **Mar., 2020:** First conference call with agency partners/TAC and TPC announcement.
- **Oct., 2020:** Review for model networks and Pre-Analysis Consensus document.
- **Nov., 2020:** Travel demand model runs.
- **Dec., 2020:** Air quality model runs.
- **Jan., 2021:** TAC and TPC preview.
- **Feb., 2021:** Public comment and public meetings.
- **Mar., 2021:** TAC and TPC recommends approval of conformity determination
- **Apr., 2021:** TAC and TPC approval of RTP and TIP amendments.
- Receive Federal Approval – 3 months later.

Announcements



- **Transportation Policy Council Meeting (TPC)**
 - October 23, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. (Teleconference)
- **Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting (TAC)**
 - November 18, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. (Teleconference)
- **Next RTP Subcommittee Meeting**
 - November 11, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. (Teleconference)

Adjourn

