

6A. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA

DATE: Friday, December 20, 2024
TIME: 9:35 a.m.
PLACE: 3555 Timmons Lane, Conference Room B, Houston, Texas 77027

The presiding officer, Chair Justin Beckendorff called the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting of December 20, 2024, at 9:35 a.m. to order.

CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM, INTRODUCTIONS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chairman Justin Beckendorff recognized Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, for the Certification of the Quorum and she conducted the Roll Call of the TPC membership. Fifteen (15) members comprise a quorum. A quorum was declared present and recorded on the Roll Call, which is included with these Minutes as Attachment 1. Chairman Justin Beckendorff asked members of the Council to Declare Conflicts of Interest on any item on the agenda. Chair Justin Beckendorff introduced and welcomed the new TxDOT Houston District Engineer, Mr. Glenn Allbritton, P.E., to the TPC. Mr. Allbritton shared an overview of his background with TxDOT and thanked the TPC and looked forward to working with everyone. No TPC member declared a conflict of interest. The presentation, comments, questions and discussion are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, informed the Council that no written public comments were submitted before December 19, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Ms. Isbell announced that American Sign Language translation services would be provided online by Ms. Sherri Frost and Mr. Christian Escalera. and Spanish translation services would be provided by Ms. Lourdes Araiza. Two comments were provided in person. The presentation, comments, questions and discussion under Item 4 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 5. MPO DIRECTOR REPORT AND ORIENTATION OF AGENDA, MS. JAMILA OWENS, H-GAC

A. 2025 Nominations Process

Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, gave the Council a brief overview of the TPC Appointments and TPC Nominations Process and described the positions that would be nominated. Ms. Isbell also presented a demonstration of the nomination submittal portal and form. Appointment and Nomination forms are due by December 27, 2024.

B. Planning Activities Report

Ms. Jamila Owens, H-GAC, gave a brief recap of highlights on the planning activities report and summarized various activities to the Council.

C. Conformity Update

Mr. Andrew DeCandis, H-GAC, gave the Council an update on transportation conformity for the region and described the Clean Air Act requirement. He told the Council that we will likely be deemed nonattainment for the recently revised PM 2.5 Standard. Mr. DeCandis described what "triggers" Conformity to the council and gave an overview of upcoming conformity triggers from

2024 through 2027. Staff have consulted internally and with partners to determine available options and understand what flexibility is available. Review has identified three potential scenarios and gave a brief overview of those scenarios. Staff recommends three conformities:

- Conformity 1 – February 2025
- Conformity 2 – February 2025
- Conformity 3- November/December 2026

Provides the best balance of moving the work of the MPO forward and spending down funds vs. the risks associated with multiple conformities. Mr. DeCandis introduced a member of his staff, Dr. Maggie Isied, who will be managing Conformity activities. After the presentation, Dr. Isied introduced herself as requested by a TPC member and shared some details about her background to the Council.

D. H-GAC Board Update

Ms. Jamila Owens, H-GAC, briefed the Council on the Transportation related items that will be on the H-GAC Board Agenda on December 17, 2024.

The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 5 are included in the meeting recording: ITEM 5 A, B and D [HERE](#) ITEM 5 C. Conformity [HERE](#)

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Justin Beckendorff called for a motion to approve the items under the Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Mayor Joe Zimmerman and seconded. The Council voted and approved the November 15, 2024, TPC Meeting Minutes Summary. The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 6A are included in the meeting recording: [HERE](#)

ITEM 7. AMENDMENTS TO TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL BYLAWS, JUDGE MARK KEOUGH

Judge Mark Keough, gave the Council a brief overview of the proposed amendments to the TPC Bylaws. On November 20, 2024, the TPC Bylaws Committee convened to review and revise the TPC Bylaws in addition to other revisions completed previously and include the following:

1. The addition of Port Houston (1) position as a member.
2. The addition of a "Smaller Cities" (1) position will maintain an odd number of TPC members.
3. The permanent allocation of the Port Transportation (1) position to Port Freeport as a TPC member.
4. Composition of TPC Nominating Committee Members from 3 members to 7 members.
5. Change in the timeline of sending meeting notices, agendas, and additional documentation to TPC members has been adjusted.

Judge Mark Keough made a motion to approve the Amendments to the TPC Bylaws and Mayor Kevin Cole seconded the motion. A lengthy discussion occurred after the presentation. A motion to amend was made by Judge Mark Keough and seconded by Kevin Cole. The amended motion shall read "Members shall serve a term of one calendar year beginning January 1, with the exception of positions appointed by the TPC, which will continue until new appointments are approved by the TPC." The Council voted on the amended motion and it was approved. 5 TPC members voted No. The Council voted on the Amendments to the TPC Bylaws and approved the revised TPC Bylaws. 5 members voted No.

The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 7 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 8. UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) AMENDMENT, ALLIE ISBELL, H-GAC.

Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, gave a presentation to the Council on the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment. The Unified Planning Work Program is a one-year plan that runs from October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025, and describes the regional transportation plans and programs. Current UPWP was adopted by the Transportation Policy Council on August 23, 2024. UPWP needs to include federally funded transportation planning activities. Also, include work by MPO and partners to address regional priorities. Ms. Isbell gave a brief overview of the revisions and provided a list of those included in the amendment and informed the Council the amendment would have no fiscal impact on the funding of the UPWP. Ms. Isbell requested TPC approval of the Resolution UPWP 2025-01. A motion was made by Mayor Joe Zimmerman and seconded by Judge Mark Keough. The Council voted approved UPWP Resolution No. 2025-01. The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 8 are included in the meeting recording: [HERE](#)

ITEM 9. 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS, CALLIE BARNES, H-GAC AND JIM DICKINSON, H-GAC

A. Carryover Spend Down- Recommended CMAQ Projects

Ms. Callie Barnes, H-GAC, gave the Council a presentation on the timeline for CMAQ Carryover spend down with specifics of that timeline. Ms. Barnes presented the changes that were requested:

- METRO change from Missouri City Park and Ride Project to 160 Diesel Bus Replacements Project (Slightly less - \$250) ~ \$34M
- TxDOT I-10 Projects Removed ~\$111M From Recommendation List

Ms. Barnes informed the Council that 15 projects were left worth \$150M of CMAQ which included TxDOT Beaumont District (3 projects) - \$15M and 9 local Government (12 Projects) - \$134M. Ms. Barnes requested TPC Approval of TPC Resolution No. 2024-44 and 2024-45 (TDCs.)

A discussion and comment period occurred after the presentation. A motion was made by Mayor Joe Zimmerman and seconded. A comment period occurred after the motion and a report was requested by the Chair from TxDOT in March. A clarification was requested by a TPC member from METRO on a project. Judge Mark Keough requested an amendment to the previous motion: "to apply 100% TDCs for local match to all Carry Over Spend Down approved projects so it would amend motions in the past that did not include that 100% TDC match and this one today." Mayor Joe Zimmerman made a motion on the amendment and Mayor Kevin Cole seconded. The Council voted and approved TPC Resolution No. 2024-44 and 2024-45. The Council voted on the amended motion and approved the amended motion.

B. Amendments to 2025 TIP & TxDOT Statewide Safety Program

Mr. Jim Dickinson, H-GAC, presented a summary of the proposed revision to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program. It is included below:

- Program additional \$43.2M STBG allocated in 2018 Call-for-Projects in H-GAC's FY 2026 Regional Freeway Incident Management project (MPO ID 18856). Advance to FY 2025 and move to TxDOT Statewide Safety Program. 10.6M TDCs as match. Total: \$53.2M

Mr. Dickinson requested approval of TPC Resolution No. 2024-46 and TPC Resolution No. 2024-47. A discussion period occurred after the presentation. A motion was made by Mayor Joe Zimmerman and seconded by Council Member Sally Branson. The Council voted and approved TPC Resolution No. 2024-46 and TPC Resolution No. 2024-47.

The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 9 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

10. CARRYOVER SPEND DOWN SUMMARY ANALYSIS, CALLIE BARNES, H-GAC

Ms. Callie Barnes, H-GAC, gave a presentation on the Carryover Spend Down Summary Analysis to the Council. The Carryover Spend Down Effort is a \$900M Total. Percentage above 2025 allocation Category 5 (CMAQ) – 63% and Category 7 (STBG) – 187%. Ms. Barnes gave an overview of the Carryover Spend Down and Project Selection Process and the Project Selection Process embedded in the Carry Over Spend down Policy and her interpretation of the policy. Ms. Barnes described the Category analysis and described specifics and the next steps to keep projects on track. A discussion period occurred after the presentation. The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 10 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 11. PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS DRAFT PROJECT LIST

Mr. Vishu Lingala, H-GAC, gave a presentation on the Project Selection Process Draft Project List. Mr. Lingala described the projects that are included in the five investment categories- Major Projects, High-Growth Area Needs, Operational Improvements, Congestion Management, Resiliency, State of Good Repair and Transit with Funding instructions and descriptions. Ms. Lingala gave a status update on the scored benefit cost analysis and described the methodology, gave specifics on action requested and next steps. The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 11 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 12. UPDATE ON MPO DIRECTOR RECRUITMENT, CHUCK WEMPLE, H-GAC

Mr. Chuck Wemple, H-GAC, provided an update on the MPO Director position recruitment. Mr. Wemple informed the Council that he attended a meeting with the TPC Executive Committee prior to the December TPC Meeting to update them on the MPO Director search. The TPC Executive Committee discussed desired characteristics in the next Director and visibility in the process, Mr. Wemple introduced Ms. Terri Ramsey, HR Director who will work with Mr. Wemple to screen candidates. The recruiter is under contract and will meet with Mr. Wemple on December 30th and with the TPC Executive Committee in January. Mr. Wemple anticipates a 90-day timeframe in filling the position. The presentation, comments, questions, answers, and discussion under [Item12](#) are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 13A FUTURE AMENDMENTS TO THE 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN, JIM DICKINSON, H-GAC

Mr. Jim Dickinson, H-GAC, provided a summary of the proposed revisions to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program is included below:

- Rescope METRO's FY 2025 \$29.2M Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funded bus replacement project (MPO ID 15243) from electric buses to compressed natural gas (CNG) buses.
- Update the City of Conroe's funding increase request for their FY 2029 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funded Old Conroe Road widening and extension project (MPO ID 17101).
- Program the City of Conroe's \$4.5M Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339, Bus and Bus Facilities Program, 'Lo-No Emissions' grant for procurement of four CNG buses (MPO ID 19239) in FY 2025 with 900K Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) in lieu of matching funds.
- Program \$666K of the Gulf Coast Transit District's FY 2020 and FY 2023 apportionments of FTA Sections 5307, 5310 and 5339 formula fund grants in FY 2025 (MPO IDs 19240, 19241, 19242, 19243, 19247) with 223K TDCs in lieu of matching funds.
- Program the FY 2023 \$710K FTA Section 5310 formula fund apportionment for Harris County Transit's purchase of services and mobility management projects in FY 2025 (MPO IDs 19245, 19246) with 142K TDCs in lieu of matching funds.
- Modify the descriptions and funding amounts of eleven (11) Gulf Coast Transit District FY 2021 - FY 2023 apportionments of FTA Sections 5307, 5310 and 5339 formula funded projects previously programmed in FY 2025 (MPO IDs 18932, 18952, 18953, 18954, 19140, 19144, 19145, 19146, 19147, 19152, 19153). Modifications are being made on the recommendation of METRO.

ITEM 13B. ADMINISTRATIVE MODIFICATIONS TO THE 2025-2028 TIP, MR. JIM DICKINSON, H-GAC

Mr. Jim Dickinson, H-GAC, provided a summary of the proposed Administrative Modifications to the 2025-2028 TIP.

- Modify the Total Project Cost table values of eight (8) TxDOT Houston District Right-of-Way projects to make them consistent with the associated Construction phase projects which were amended in October 2024
- Approved administratively in November 2024

The presentation, comments, questions, answers, and discussion under this Item 13A and 13B are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJORNMENT

Nomination and Appointment Forms Due, December 27, 9:30 a.m. – N/A

Transportation Advisory Committee, January 15, 2025 – 9:30 a.m. – In person

Transportation Policy Council, January 24, 2025 – 9:30 a.m. – In person

Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee (RAQPAC) January 30, 2025- 10:00 a.m. - Virtual

Chairman Justin Beckendorff adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

The presentation, comments, questions and discussion are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC)
 FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON
 TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA
December 20, 2024

ROLL

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Baytown, City of	_____ Honorable Brandon Capetillo Mayor <u> X </u> Jason Reynolds – Alternate	City of Baytown
Conroe, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Howard Wood Council Member _____ Norman McGuire – Alternate	City of Conroe
Galveston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Marie Robb Council Member _____ Hon. David Finklea - Alternate	City of Galveston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Sallie Alcorn Council Member _____ Honorable Abbie Kamin- Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Carolyn Evans-Shabazz Council Member _____ Honorable Joaquin Martinez - Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Randy Macchi Chief Operating Officer -Public Works _____ Steven David - Alternate	City of Houston
League City, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Tommy Cones Council Member _____ Honorable Andy Mann - Alternate	City of League City
Missouri City, City of	<u> X </u> Shashi Kumar, P.E.. Director of Public Works _____ Marcus Snell – Alternate	City of Missouri City
Pasadena, City of	<u> X </u> Sarah Benavides, P.E. Sr. Assistant Public Works Director _____ Mark Gardemal – Alternate	City of Pasadena

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Pearland, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Kevin Cole- 2nd Vice Chair Mayor <u> </u> Trent Epperson-Alternate	City of Pearland
Sugar Land, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Joe Zimmerman Mayor <u> </u> Honorable Suzanne Whatley – Alternate	City of Sugar Land
Texas City, City of	<u> </u> Honorable Dedrick Johnson Mayor <u> </u> Jon Branson - Alternate	City of Texas City
Smaller Cities-Position 1-Primary	<u> </u> Hon. Nancy Arnold Council Member, Secretary	Smaller Cities Harris County
Smaller Cities Position 1-Alternate	<u> X </u> Honorable Sally Branson-Alternate	
Smaller Cities Position 2- Primary	<u> </u> Vacant	
Smaller Cities Position 2- Alternate	<u> </u> Vacant	
The Woodlands Township	<u> X </u> Dr. Ann K. Snyder Chair, The Woodlands Township Board <u> </u> Kyle Watson-Alternate	The Woodlands Township
Brazoria County	<u> X </u> Matt Hanks, JD, P.E. County Engineer <u> </u> Honorable David Linder – Alternate	Brazoria County
Chambers County	<u> X </u> Honorable Ryan Dagley County Commissioner <u> </u> Honorable Tommy Hammond. - Alternate	Chambers County
Fort Bend County	<u> X </u> Honorable Grady Prestage County Commissioner, 1st Vice Chair <u> </u> Stacy Slawinski, P.E. – Alternate	Fort Bend County
Galveston County	<u> X </u> Honorable Robin Armstrong County Commissioner <u> </u> Honorable Joe Giusti– Alternate	Galveston County
Harris County	<u> X </u> Honorable Lesley Briones County Commissioner, Pct. 4 <u> </u> Roberto Treviño, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBERSHIP/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Harris County	<u> </u> Honorable Adrian Garcia <u> X </u> County Commissioner, Pct. 2 <u> </u> Milton Rahman, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Liberty County	<u> </u> Honorable Bruce Karbowski <u> </u> County Commissioner, Pct. 1 <u> X </u> Honorable Jay Knight - Alternate	Liberty County
Montgomery County	<u> X </u> Honorable Mark Keough <u> </u> County Judge <u> </u> Commissioner, Matt Gray – Alternate	Montgomery County
Waller County	<u> X </u> Honorable Justin Beckendorff <u> </u> County Commissioner – Chair <u> </u> Commissioner, Kendric Jones- Alternate	Waller County
Houston Metropolitan Transit Authority	<u> </u> Elizabeth Gonzalez Brock <u> </u> METRO Chair <u> X </u> Thomas Jasien-Alternate	METRO
TxDOT-Houston	<u> X </u> Thomas G. Allbritton, P.E. <u> </u> District Engineer <u> </u> Varuna Singh, P.E.– Alternate	TxDOT Houston District
TxDOT-Beaumont	<u> X </u> Martin Gonzalez, P.E. <u> </u> District Engineer <u> </u> Ana I. Mijares, P.E. – Alternate	TxDOT Beaumont District
Port Transportation	<u> X </u> Phyllis Saathoff <u> </u> Executive Director, Port Freeport <u> </u> Charlie Jenkins-Alternate	Port Transportation
Gulf Coast Rail District	<u> X </u> Dr. Carol Lewis <u> </u> Chair, GCRD <u> </u> Jeff Ross - Alternate	Gulf Coast Rail District
	<u> 29 </u> Total Voting Membership <u> 27 </u> Voting Membership Present <u> 15 </u> Required Quorum	

AGENCY

EX-OFFICIOS

REPRESENTING

Texas State Senate
Texas State Legislator
Texas State Legislator
Wharton County
Freight Rail Interests

_____ Hon. Carol Alvarado
_____ Hon. Dennis Paul
_____ Hon. Ed Thompson
_____ Hon. Phillip Spenrath
 X Clint Schelbitzki

8-County Region
8-County Region
8-County Region
Wharton County
Freight Rail Interests

NON-VOTING

H-GAC
TxDOT-Houston

_____ X Chuck Wemple
 X Catherine McCreight

H-GAC
TxDOT-Houston