

**Regional Transit Coordination (RTC) Subcommittee
Houston-Galveston Area Council
Online Meeting/Conference Call
Thursday, August 15, 2024
9:30-11:00 AM**

Agenda

1. Introductions and Certification of Quorum (9) – Ruthanne Haut, The Woodlands Township, Chair
2. Public Comments
3. Action Items:
 - 3.1 Approval of RTC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2024
 - 3.2 Election of Subcommittee Officers
4. Information Items: (10 minutes or less each)
 - 4.1 Resources and Support
 - 4.1a Review of Subcommittee Purpose and Duties – Thomas Gray, H-GAC
 - 4.2 Coordinated Planning
 - 4.2a UPWP Transit Projects Status Report – Thomas Gray, H-GAC
 - 4.2b Provider Summit Recap – Alan Rodenstein, H-GAC
 - 4.2c Commute Solutions/Ozone Action Month Update – Robyn Egbert
 - 4.2d H-GAC Language Access Plan – Ayo Jibowu, H-GAC
5. Transit and Human Service Agency Reports (5 minutes or less each)

2024 RTC Subcommittee Meeting Dates:

October 10, 2024

REGIONAL TRANSIT COORDINATION SUBCOMMITTEE

SPECIAL CALL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 11, 2024 – 9:30-11:00am

Houston-Galveston Area Council

Virtual Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ruthanne Haut (Chair) – The Woodlands Township
Melanie Beaman – City of Sugar Land
Eleni Pappas – City of Houston
Paula Johnson – City of Houston
Philip Salerno – Greater Inwood SN
Jim Thompson – The Center for Pursuit
Miriam Guzman – Community Health Network
Perri D’Armond – Fort Bend County Transit
Vernon Chambers – Harris County Transit
David Hughes – METRO

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Danielle Fain – City of Missouri City
Sagnik Raha – City of Sugar Land
Thomas Holstein – BakerRipley
Nicole Mathews – The Woodlands Township
Sarah Coulter – Fort Bend County Transit

OTHERS PRESENT

Travis Madison – TxDOT
Brenda Bustillos – TxDOT
Thien Cao – Harris County Transit
De’Andre Guin – City of Conroe
Claudia Wicks – Colorado Valley Transit
James Oliver – City of Galveston/Island Transit

H-GAC STAFF PRESENT

Jamila Owens
Thomas Gray
Chris Whaley
Karen Owen
Alan Rodenstein
Sandy Klanfer
Susan Jaworski
Marcus Tucker
Ayo Jibowu
Carrie Evans
Diane Domagas

BRIEFING

Overview

RTCS Members and Alternates met virtually by teleconference. At this regular meeting, the Subcommittee received presentations regarding the upcoming Paratransit/Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Provider Summit and three ongoing or recently-completed suburban transit studies: The Woodlands Township Transit Study, the Fort Bend Transit Vision Plan, and the Pearland Transit Needs Assessment.

INTRODUCTIONS AND CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM

ITEM 1 – Ruthanne Haut, Chair, The Woodlands Township, convened the meeting at 9:32 AM. Roll was called by H-GAC staff and a quorum was certified.

PUBLIC COMMENT

ITEM 2 – There were no public comments presented to the Subcommittee.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM 3.1 – Approval of RTC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2024

Ms. Haut requested a motion to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2024 Special Call meeting of the Subcommittee.

Philip Salerno indicated that he did not receive the meeting packet. Other Subcommittee members indicated likewise. H-GAC staff apologized and promised to re-send the meeting packet to entire Subcommittee following the meeting.

Action Item Motion: moved by Perri D'Armond, seconded by Melanie Beaman. Action Item approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

ITEM 4.1a – Provider Summit Update – Sandy Klanfer, H-GAC

Sandy Klanfer provided the Subcommittee with an update on the upcoming Paratransit/Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Provider Summit. The purpose of the Summit is to bring regional Paratransit and NEMT providers together for discussion, coordination and training. The Summit will include both small group discussions and a panel discussion and will be held at H-GAC's office on June 25, 2024 from 11 am to 2 pm.

There were no questions or comments for Mr. Klanfer.

ITEM 4.2a – The Woodlands Township Transit Study – Ruthanne Haut, The Woodlands Township

Ruthanne Haut presented the results of The Woodlands Township Transit Study. The study was funded by a federal route planning grant and its purpose was to consider what transit services provided by The Woodlands would look like after the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Haut discussed potential operational improvements and service expansions for both the Town Center Trolley and The Woodlands Express commuter system. Some of these improvements have already been implemented, and others are under consideration for near-term implementation.

Chris Whaley asked if Woodlands Express buses operating between Greenway Plaza and downtown Houston could be ridden as a local trip for a reduced fare. Ms. Haut said that the Township's preference is to keep the fare structure as simple as possible but if there's capacity on the buses to handle such trips the suggestion might be worth consideration. Sandy Klanfer said that he was excited about the proposed improvements, including the operator retention strategies and the stop annunciators for the trolleys. Thomas Gray noted that the study was very comprehensive and "left no stone unturned."

ITEM 4.2b - Fort Bend Transit Vision Plan – Perri D'Armond, Fort Bend Transit

Perri D'Armond presented the results of the Fort Bend Transit Vision Plan. The plan's goals were to promote safety, implement sustainable outcomes, improve accessibility and enhance transit education. The plan's recommendations were broken into three phases: realign, renew and reimagine. Each phase contained components related to service planning, capital projects and technological investments.

Ruthanne Haut congratulated Ms. D'Armond on her study and noted that Fort Bend County and The Woodlands are both facing similar challenges to their transit services due to continued growth. She suggested regular discussions between the two providers. Ms. D'Armond agreed and added that technology is Fort Bend Transit's biggest challenge. In that regard, she said she appreciated H-GAC's work in implementing a regional fare system.

ITEM 4.2c – Pearland Transit Need Assessment Update – Alan Rodenstein, H-GAC

Alan Rodenstein provided the Subcommittee with an update on the Pearland Transit Need Assessment. He discussed the study tasks that have been completed, the transit alternatives currently being considered for recommendations, the costs and benefits associated with those alternatives, and next steps.

Ruthanne Haut noted that the entire region is growing and that it was good to see so many communities looking at how transit can grow as well. Thomas Gray agreed, noting that the three transit studies just presented to the Subcommittee represented three different ways to tailor transit to suburban communities, given limited funding and development patterns not suited to typical fixed-route bus. Mr. Gray said that this Subcommittee is important because it gives providers a chance to share experiences and best practices in a region that still has significant transit need. Ms. Haut noted that the demand for park and ride service was especially significant and that the more information regional providers can share, the better.

AGENCY REPORTS

Item 5 – Transit and Human Service Agency Reports

Vernon Chambers announced that the National Aging and Disability Transportation Center recognized Harris County Rides in their 2023 Innovations Showcase. Harris County Rides was one of 14 providers selected.

Thomas Gray announced that the National Center for Mobility Management is working on the Community Transportation Map, which was originally a record of FTA-funded transportation agencies across the nation but which now features mobility management and volunteer organizations. Mr. Gray provided the NCMM's website and encouraged providers, including human service and non-profit agencies, to access the map and submit their information.

Mr. Gray also announced that the regional transit ridership survey for the first quarter of 2024 will be sent out to agencies sometime next week.

Ruthanne Haut announced that the Texas Transit Association would be hosting a variety of trainings in San Antonio and encouraged providers to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Haut adjourned the meeting at 11:02 AM.

Next RTCS Meeting – 9:30 AM on Thursday, July 11, 2024

Election of Subcommittee Officers

Section E of the Bylaws and Operating Procedures of the Transportation Advisory Committee's Subcommittees (amended 5/13/2020) reads:

Each subcommittee shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair, each to serve for a term of one year and no more than 2 consecutive years in any single position. Elections shall be held at the first meeting of each calendar year after the appointment of the subcommittee. Preferably, the Chair and Vice-Chair will be members of the TAC. The current Chair shall bring before the subcommittee a slate of officers for consideration. In the event the Chair is unable to serve the entire term of office, the Vice Chair shall succeed to the office of Chair and the new Chair shall appoint a subcommittee member to serve as Vice Chair for the remainder of the term. This appointment shall be subject to approval by the majority of the subcommittee members present at the next called meeting.

This is the first meeting of the Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee following its appointment by the TAC. The incumbent Chair and Vice-Chair have both served one out of the maximum of two years in their roles as Officers.

Per the Bylaws, the incumbent Chair has brought before Subcommittee the following slate of officers for consideration:

Chair: De'Andre Guin, City of Conroe
Vice-Chair: James Oliver, City of Galveston

The Subcommittee may vote on this slate or make nominations for other members to serve as Officers. In order to be elected, Officer candidates require the approval of the majority of the Subcommittee members present at the meeting.

BYLAWS AND OPERATING PROCEDURES OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S SUBCOMMITTEES

(Amended, 05/13/20)

The following rules shall govern the procedures and composition of the Subcommittees of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC):

A. Purpose

The purpose of the subcommittees of the TAC is to advise the TAC in its development of the Unified Planning Work Program and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan as well as promote coordination of other transportation planning activities. The subcommittees assist with the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), including the review of and recommendations on candidate projects for the TIP. In addition, subcommittees also review various current and future transportation policies, programs, and projects specific to the topics and goals of each subcommittee.

B. Voting Membership

Each subcommittee shall be comprised of members of the TAC, their representatives or persons nominated to serve who have expertise or interest in transportation planning and related issues.

Membership should reflect the diversity of transportation modes and interests affected by transportation policy decisions to assure transportation planning decisions are considered in their broadest context. Meetings of TAC subcommittees shall be open to public attendance. The voting membership for each subcommittee are defined in the subcommittee descriptions.

Members shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing agency for a term of one (1) year. Membership shall be appointed or confirmed by majority vote of the TAC in attendance at a regularly scheduled meeting with a quorum of TAC members. Engineering, planning, or other consultants, who are for-profit or have financial interest in transportation projects are not eligible to serve as a member due to potential conflict of interest.

C. Alternate Members

Each voting member may have a designated alternate member who may serve at any subcommittee meeting in the voting member's absence. Alternate members must be appointed in the same manner as the voting member. Appointed alternate members will have the voting rights and privileges of members when serving in the absence of the subcommittee voting member.

D. Ex-Officio Members

The Transportation Advisory Committee Chair may appoint such other nonvoting ex-officio representatives as may be appropriate, subject to approval of a majority of the voting

membership. Ex-officio members may include Railroads, Rail Districts, Ports, Transit Agencies, or other agencies as appropriate that are not already included in the voting members.

E. Officers

Each subcommittee shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair, each to serve for a term of one year and no more than 2 consecutive years in any single position. Elections shall be held at the first meeting of each calendar year after the appointment of the subcommittee. Preferably, the Chair and Vice-Chair will be members of the TAC. The current Chair shall bring before the subcommittee a slate of officers for consideration. In the event the Chair is unable to serve the entire term of office, the Vice Chair shall succeed to the office of Chair and the new Chair shall appoint a subcommittee member to serve as Vice Chair for the remainder of the term. This appointment shall be subject to approval by the majority of the subcommittee members present at the next called meeting.

F. Vacancies

Each member shall be eligible to serve during the term as long as the member occupies the position held at the time of his or her appointment to the subcommittee. In the event that a voting member becomes ineligible or unable to serve, a new member must be appointed in the same manner as the previous voting member.

G. Quorum

Fifty percent of the total committee voting membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings.

H. Meetings

Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern all meetings. Each subcommittee shall meet at least quarterly or more frequently as need arises. Notice of each meeting shall be provided to each member at least one week prior to the meeting. Opportunities for public comments shall be provided subject to the guidelines of the Transportation Advisory Committee.

I. Minutes

Minutes of all meetings shall be kept and recorded by H-GAC staff furnished to the Subcommittee for this purpose.

J. Administrative Support

H-GAC as the designated MPO, shall provide administrative support to the TAC subcommittees.

SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
DESCRIPTIONS AND MEMBERSHIP

(Amended, 05/13/20)

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS (TSMO)
SUBCOMMITTEE

Purpose

The Transportation Systems Management and Operations Subcommittee will provide guidance on the development of Regional ITS architecture and a Regional Automated and Connected Vehicle Strategy.

Meeting Schedule

Meetings will be held quarterly.

Membership

The OTF Subcommittee membership are nominated and appointed by the TAC and are representatives of the various stakeholders involved with Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). This shall include technically qualified professionals; local, county and state agency engineers and planners; as well as members of the TAC knowledgeable in ITS standards. A maximum of seventeen (17) voting members shall comprise the Subcommittee.

Table 1: Membership of the TSMO Subcommittee

Category or Organization	Agency Represented	Number
Local Governments	Cities and/or Counties, and other transportation management agencies	11
Transit Agency	Transit Agencies	2
Ports	Ports	2
State Government	TxDOT (Houston & Beaumont Districts)	2
Total Members		17

Staff Contact

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PEDESTRIAN-BICYCLIST SUBCOMMITTEE

Purpose

The Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee's purpose is to accomplishing the following tasks: review and approve the Active Transportation Plan, guide and review the FHWA Connectivity Measures Pilot, guide the Regional Safety Campaign, guide reinvigoration of counter program, guide the creation of and review the ATP Toolbox, and develop naming conventions for sidewalk layer.

Meeting Schedule

Meetings are held quarterly, or more frequently as needed.

Membership

Committee members are stakeholders involved with pedestrian and bicyclist issues. This shall include advocacy, safety, user groups, local, county representatives of economic development, developers or management districts, state agencies, engineers, land use planners, community organizations, and interested citizens. A maximum of twenty-two (22) voting members shall comprise the Subcommittee, which shall include any TAC representative.

Table 2: Current Membership of the Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee

Category / Organization	Appointing Agency
Local Governments	Cities and/or Counties
Transit	Transit Authorities / Agencies
State Government	TxDOT (Houston & Beaumont Districts)
Management Districts	Management Districts
Citizen Advocates	Advocacy / Activity Groups
Non-Profit	H-GAC
Total Members	22

Staff Contact

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Manager

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REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) SUBCOMMITTEE

Purpose

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Subcommittee's purpose is to:

The purpose of the RTP Subcommittee is to:

- Provide guidance to TAC in the development of the RTP; and sub-regional plans
- Review and revise the performance measures and targets and outcomes used to measure the ability of potential projects/activities to support the vision, goals, objectives strategies of the RTP;
- Provide recommendations to TAC on fundamental planning assumptions, data and methodologies used in development of the RTP;
- Provide guidance on the development of a Congestion Management Plan; and
- Provide guidance for major amendments to the RTP.

Meeting Schedule

Meetings held quarterly or more frequently as needed.

Membership

The RTP Subcommittee shall be comprised of members of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) or their representatives who have expertise or interest in developing transportation and land use plans. A maximum of twenty-three (23) voting members shall comprise the Subcommittee.

Table 3: Membership of the RTP Subcommittee

Category or Organization	Appointing Agency	Number
Local Governments	Cities and/or Counties	9
State Government	TxDOT (Houston & Beaumont Districts)	2
Transit Agency	Transit Agencies	3
Environmental	TAC	1
Planning	TAC	1
Citizen	TAC	1
Business	TAC	1
Ports	TAC	2
Active Transportation	TAC	1
Toll Roads	TAC	1
Airports	TAC	1
Total Members		23

Staff Contact

Mike Burns

Principal Planner

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TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) SUBCOMMITTEE

Purpose

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Subcommittee's purpose is

- Provide guidance to TAC in the development of the 10-Year Plan, and the Transportation Improvement Program;
- Define strategies to link the RTP, the 10 Year Plan investment plan, and the TIP;
- Recommend strategies to create a predictable project development and delivery pipeline; and
- Provide guidance for major amendments to the 10 Year Plan/TIP.
- Review and tracking of the progress on performance measures and targets

Meeting Schedule

Meetings held monthly; Additional special meetings are called, as needed to address specific task items.

Membership

The TIP Subcommittee is composed of Transportation Advisory Committee members with project implementation experience who are appointed by the TAC. However, all members of the TAC, primary and alternate, may participate. A maximum of twenty-two (22) voting members shall comprise the Subcommittee.

- TIP Subcommittee members must be members of the TAC;
- Only official members of each subcommittee may vote during subcommittee meetings;

Table 4: Membership of the TIP Subcommittee

Category or Organization	Agency Represented	Number
Local Governments	Cities or Counties	13
State Government	TxDOT (Houston & Beaumont Districts)	2
Transit Interests	Transit Agency	3
Ports	TAC	2
Active Transportation	TAC	1
Planning	TAC	1
Total Members		22

Staff Contact

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TRANSPORTATION AIR QUALITY SUBCOMMITTEE

Purpose

The Transportation Air Quality Subcommittee’s purpose is to assist H-GAC staff in the:

- Identification and analysis of the most cost-effective on-road transportation emission reduction measures;
- Development of a list of committed Transportation Control Measures to be implemented by the deadline outlined in updated NAAQS for the next SIP;
- Development of a list of new or expanded on-road transportation VMEPs that must be accomplished in a strictly voluntary manner;
- Expansion of existing TDM programs and projects and the development of new programs for TIP consideration;
- Monitor implementation of those TDM projects or programs that are consistent with and meet or exceed the Clean Vehicle and Commute Solutions Cost-Benefit Analysis.
- Provide guidance to programs funded through CMAQ funds such as Clean Vehicles program.

Meeting Schedule

Meetings will be held quarterly or until SIP revisions are complete and approved by EPA.

Membership

The Transportation Air Quality Subcommittee will be comprised of representatives of the Regional Air Quality Planning Committee (RAQPC), local government, transit providers, private sector, and environmental, public interest or TDM professionals.

Table 5: Membership of the Transportation Air Quality Subcommittee

Category or Organization	Appointing Agency	Number
Local Governments	Cities and/or Counties	5
State Government	TxDOT (Houston & Beaumont Districts)	2
TCEQ	TCEQ	1
Transit Agency	Transit Agencies	2
Environmental/Public Interests/TDM Professionals	H-GAC	3
Private	TAC	3
H-GAC	TAC	2
Ports	TAC	1
Total Members		19

Staff Contact

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REGIONAL TRANSIT COORDINATION SUBCOMMITTEE (RTCS)

Purpose

The Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee's purpose is to:

- Provide guidance related to the implementation of regional transit coordination pilot projects that were identified in the regional transit coordination action plan;
- Assist with tasks related to the development of regional transit planning initiatives that focus on identifying opportunities for expanding transit services in the region for all, as well as improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the current regional transit system;
- Promote regional coordination among existing and future public and private transportation providers, social service and health and human service agencies.

Meeting Schedule

Meetings quarterly or more frequently as needed.

Membership

The RTCS subcommittee membership will include appointees from the TAC for each of the implementing transit agencies in the region and representatives of social service agencies as well as other transit professionals. State government (TxDOT Houston, Beaumont, Yoakum, and Bryan Districts) shall serve as Ex-Officio members. A maximum of eighteen (18) voting members shall comprise the Subcommittee.

Table 6: Membership of the RTCS Subcommittee

Category or Organization	Appointing Agency	Number
Transit	Transit Agencies	9
Local Governments	Cities and/or Counties	3
Social Services/HHS Agencies	TAC and/or H-GAC	4
Citizen and Business Interests	TAC	2
Total Members		18

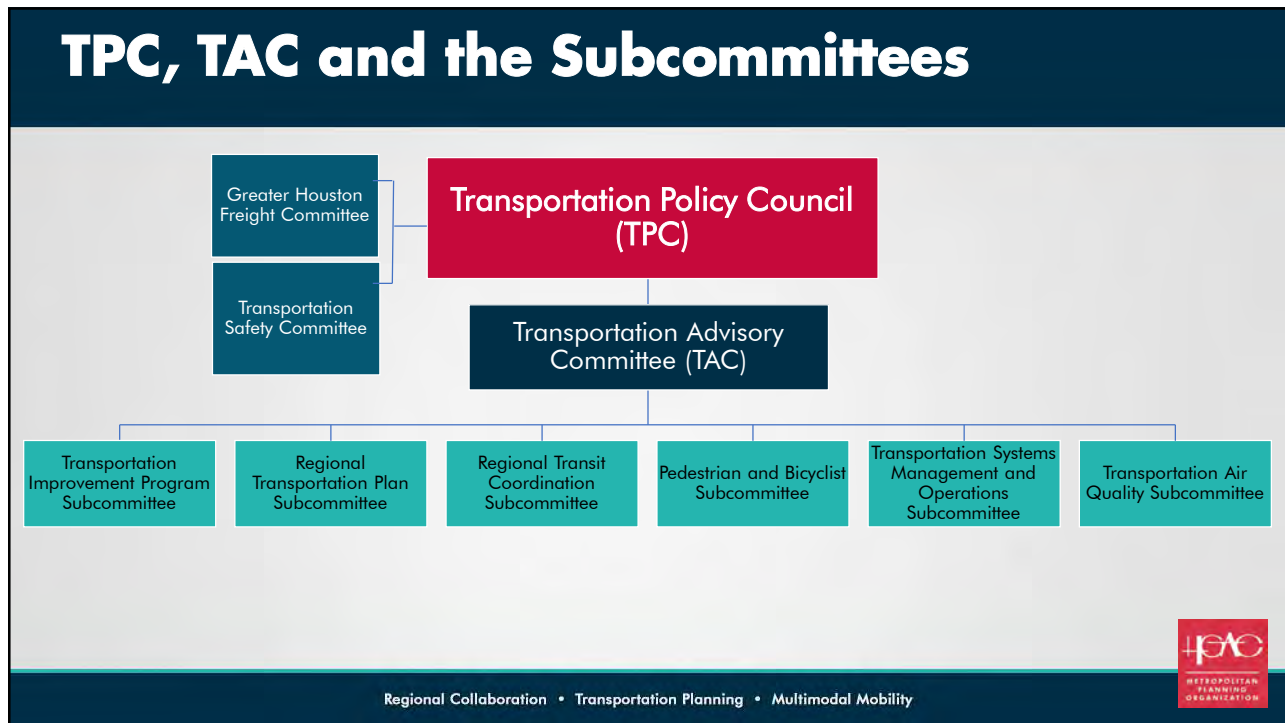
Staff Contact

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Transit Subcommittee Purpose



- Provide guidance related to the implementation of regional transit coordination projects that were identified in the regional transit coordination action plan;
- Assist with tasks related to the development of regional transit planning initiatives that focus on identifying opportunities for expanding transit services in the region for all, as well as improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the current regional transit system;
- Promote regional coordination among existing and future public and private transportation providers, social service and health and human service agencies.

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Subcommittee Bylaws Highlights



- Maximum 18 members (9 transit, 3 Local Governments, 4 Social Services, 2 Citizen and Business Interests)
- Members and Alternate Members - One year term
- Officers – One year term; may serve up to two years consecutively
- Vacancies must be filled by TAC
- 50% is a quorum

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Subcommittee Workgroups



- Mobility Management
- Paratransit/NEMT
- Regional Transit Connectivity
- Transportation Demand Management **NEW!**

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Transit Planning



- Federal Performance Measures
- Sub-regional Transit Studies
 - Pearland
 - Dayton
 - US 90 A
- High-Capacity Transit
- Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan
 - Mobility Links
 - Regional Transit Connectivity/Fare

Mobility Links

Find a Transportation Service Provider

Search for transportation service providers in the Houston-Galveston region by using any of the following search criteria:

County Service Area		
<input type="checkbox"/> Austin County	<input type="checkbox"/> Galveston County	<input type="checkbox"/> Walker County
<input type="checkbox"/> Brazoria County	<input type="checkbox"/> Harris County	<input type="checkbox"/> Waller County
<input type="checkbox"/> Chambers County	<input type="checkbox"/> Liberty County	<input type="checkbox"/> Wharton County
<input type="checkbox"/> Colorado County	<input type="checkbox"/> Matagorda County	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fort Bend County	<input type="checkbox"/> Montgomery County	

Service Type	Passenger Type
<input type="checkbox"/> All Trip Purposes	<input type="checkbox"/> General Public
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Emergency Medical Trips	<input type="checkbox"/> Disabled/Elderly
<input type="checkbox"/> Shopping/Recreation/Religious Trips	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Veterans, Youth)

Organization Name:

Search
Reset

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Transit Implementation



■ **Commuter and Transit Pilot Program**

- Commuter or First Mile/Last Mile Solutions
- Conroe Park and Ride (Successfully completed)
- Woodlands to Energy Corridor (2022)
- Fort Bend to Downtown (2023-2024)
- Sugar Land Microtransit **COMING SOON**

■ **Federal Formula Grant Funding**

- 5307 (Urbanized Area)
- 5310 (Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities)



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Transit Outreach - Commute Solutions



■ **Support for Transit:**

- TDM and Telework Plans for Employers and Property Managers
- Regional Marketing and Education Campaigns
 - Love To Ride
 - Woodlands to ECD
- Ozone Action
- Emergency Ride Home Expansion



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Contact Information



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4.b. UPWP Transit Status Report

Thomas B. Gray, AICP
August 15, 2024

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Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)



- Describes the transportation plans and programs and the transportation-related air quality planning activities
- Current UPWP covers fiscal year 2024
 - October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024

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Tasks: Short-Range Planning



- **TASK III Short-Range Planning**
 - **Subtask 3.2: Planning Support for Transit Service Implementation**
 - 3.2.a Transit Coordinated Planning
 - 3.2.b Regional Transit Agency Coordination

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Tasks: Long-Range Planning



- **TASK IV Metropolitan Transportation Plan**
 - **Subtask 4.4 Transit Planning**
 - 4.4.a Regional Transit Planning
 - 4.4.b Local Area Transit Studies

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Tasks: Special Planning Projects



- **TASK V Special Planning Projects**
 - **Subtask 5.2 Congestion Management Planning and Operations**
 - 5.2.e Travel Demand Management Operations



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Transit Project Status – Short-Range

Subtask	Description	Status
3.2.a Transit Coordinated Planning	Update the RCTP for 2022-2026	Implementing
3.2.a Transit Coordinated Planning	Transit Information Study	Predevelopment (close to implementing)
3.2.a Transit Coordinated Planning	Provide planning and coordination support to the region for recommendations resulting from the RCTP (Mobility Links, Regional Fare, Provider Summit, etc.)	Implementing



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Transit Project Status – Short-Range

Subtask	Description	Status
3.2.b Regional Transit Agency Coordination	Support planning and service coordination of regional transit agencies that include providing coordination and planning support for recommendations resulting from regional plans, and requirements related to federal funding programs	Implementing
3.2.b Regional Transit Agency Coordination	Support designated recipients of FTA formula funds (5307 and 5310) in developing their Programs of Projects	Implementing
3.2.b Regional Transit Agency Coordination	Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan Targets (set for 2026)	Completed

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Transit Project Status – Long-Range

Subtask	Description	Status
4.4.a Regional Transit Planning	US 90A Transit Corridor Study (in association with GCRD)	Implementing
4.4.a Regional Transit Planning	High-Capacity Transit Studies: Regional Bus	Predevelopment
4.4.a Regional Transit Planning	High-Capacity Transit Studies: Outer Westpark	Not Started
4.4.a Regional Transit Planning	Regional Ridership and Service Network Data Collection	Implementing
4.4.a Regional Transit Planning	Long Range Transit Plan	Not Started

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Transit Project Status – Long-Range & Special

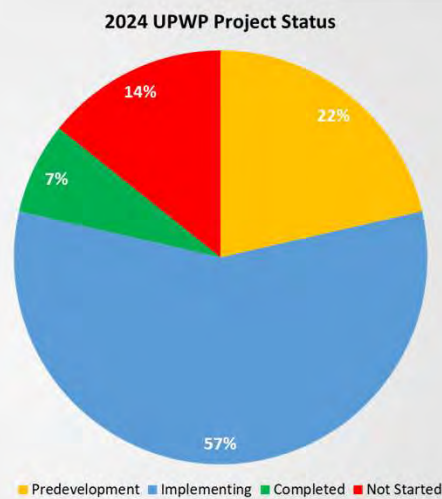
Subtask	Description	Status
4.4.b Local Area Transit Studies	Pearland Transit Needs Assessment	Implementing (close to completion)
4.4.b Local Area Transit Studies	City of Dayton Transit System Needs Assessment	Predevelopment (close to implementing)
5.2.e Travel Demand Management Operations	Commuter and Transit Pilot Program	Implementing



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Summary

Predevelopment	3	22%
Implementing	8	57%
Completed	1	7%
Not Started	2	14%
Total	14	100%



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Paratransit/Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Provider Summit

Alan Rodenstein, AICP
August 15, 2024

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Attendees



- 35 people, representing:
 - Transit agencies
 - Non-profit transportation providers
 - For-profit transportation providers
 - TxDOT staff
 - Local advocates and service providers
 - H-GAC staff



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Event Run of Show

- Sign-in
- Welcome Remarks
- Small Group Discussions
- Lunch and Networking Hour
- Panel Conversation with Q&A
- Concluding Remarks



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Small Group Discussions

- Three groups moderated by H-GAC staff
- Each included about 8-10 attendees
- Participants discussed:
 - Barriers and Opportunities
 - Coordination Efforts
 - How the Region Can Help



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Key Takeaways

- Staffing issues continue to pose a problem for transportation providers
- Providers cannot meet existing demand for trips
- Riders still struggle to understand the options available to them
 - Brokers sometimes make matters worse
- Uber & Lyft may help, but are not the cure-all
 - Inaccessible vehicles, untrained drivers



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Key Takeaways

- Providers need more money to get more vehicles and more operators
- Providers would benefit from additional opportunities to network and learn from peers



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Panel Conversation

- **Albert Lyne, Houston METRO**
 - 5310 funding in Houston UZA
 - Eligibility, selection criteria, application process
- **Vernon Chambers, Harris County Transit**
 - Harris County Rides
 - Success in coordination
 - Mobility Links



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Panel Conversation



- Kari Banta, TxDOT
 - Coordinated Transportation Planning process
 - 5310 funding outside Houston UZA
- David Somers, NADTC
 - Introduced agency's resources for providers
 - Research on coordination



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Next Steps

- Report to regional stakeholders
 - H-GAC Board/TAC/TPC
- Seek future opportunities to bring providers together



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Questions?



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Commuter Solutions Month

Breathe Easy September - An Ozone Action Campaign

Robyn Egbert
August 15, 2024

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Let's "Breathe Easy" in September!

- Commuter Solutions celebrates its' 30th anniversary with H-GAC this September
- Historically, September is one of the **worst months** for ozone levels in the Gulf Coast region.
- Ground ozone is a byproduct of NO_x, VOCs, and heat!
- Too much ground ozone **impacts how well we can breathe**; however those with pre-existing conditions such as asthma and emphysema, will experience it worse
- Goal of this campaign to **bring awareness** to the region on how residents can lower their ozone emissions during the month of September

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How Can WE Lower Ground Ozone Emissions?

- Grab a friend and try a new way to commute
 - Take transit
 - Ride a bike
 - Go for a walk
- Quit idling!
- Have you checked your tire pressure?
- Fill up later in the day
- Combine errands



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Marketing Partnership - Free Fare Fridays!

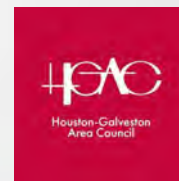
- Commute Solutions has partnered with 4 transit agencies
 - The Woodlands Express
 - Conroe Connection
 - Harris County Transit
 - Fort Bend Transit
- Each Friday in September, riders can ride for free on pre-selected routes



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Who Else is Excited About This Campaign?

- Air Alliance Houston
- Metro STAR Vanpool
- ConnectSmart
- H-GAC!



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How Can You Help Spread the Word?

- Share our social media posts
- Ask for flyers or bookmarks to hand out at your next event!
- Grab a friend and try a new way to commute



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Contact Me!



Robyn Egbert
Senior Program Coordinator
Robyn.Egbert@h-gac.com

www.yourcommutesolution.org/breathe

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Language Access Plan

Ayo Jibowu
August 15, 2024

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Limited English Proficiency



- Houston-Galveston Metropolitan Planning Area is one of most diverse in U.S.
- Of 7.1 million residents, more than 1.2 million are identified as Limited in English Proficiency (LEP), defined as:
 - Primary (“home”) language is not English, and
 - Limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand communication in English
- Drawbacks of language barriers
 - Restricts access to public services and benefits, vital information
 - Barrier to meaningful participation in H-GAC programs and activities
- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, E.O. 13166

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Language Access Plan (LAP) - Process



- LAP contains policies and procedures to facilitate meaningful access for stakeholders with LEP
- Four-Factor Analysis:
 - Number of LEP persons
 - Frequency of contact
 - Importance to people's lives
 - Available resources, service costs
- Safe-Harbor Test: 5% or 1,000 native speakers
- Community Roundtable Events
- Language and Engagement Survey

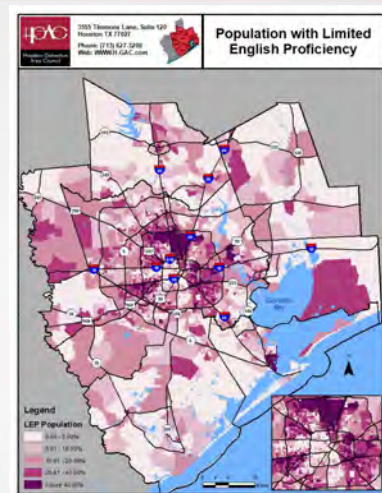
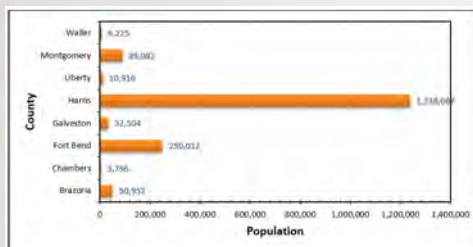


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Distribution of LEP Population



Foreign-Born Population



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Ongoing Action



- 30-day comment period open from July 22 – August 21, 2024
- Virtual public meeting on August 15, 2024
- Adoption in September 2024
- Draft Language Access Plan available at:
<https://www.h-gac.com/go/lap>

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Questions

Contact Information
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 (713) 993-2418
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Performance Measures Evaluation Updates



- Current performance period has ended
- Met w/staff from North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) in July
- Looking at use of National Transit Database (NTD) data in future reporting & target setting
- Any questions/comments/concerns do transit agencies are welcome
- A working group is something that staff is considering as part of this effort
- Email Christopher.Whaley@h-gac.com with questions

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Transit Ridership Survey Update



Through first six months of 2024

- Regional fixed-route ridership:
 - 11% higher than 2023
 - Still only 86.6% of 2019's ridership
 - In February, METRO achieved 99.9% of 2019 local bus ridership
 - METRO P&R ridership is only 46% of what it was in 2019
- Regional ADA/DR ridership:
 - 19% higher than 2023
 - 99.8% of 2019 ridership
 - Ridership likely reflects recently-implemented microtransit operations

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2024 Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee

Representing	Primary Name	Organization	Alternate Name	Organization
Local Government	Brian Jackson-Taylor	City of Missouri City	Danielle Fain	City of Missouri City
Local Government	Melanie Beaman	City of Sugar Land	Sagnik Raha	City of Sugar Land
Local Government	Eleni Pappas	City of Houston	Vacant	Vacant
Business Interests	David Kim	Urban Land Institute	Michael D. Jackson	Energy Corridor District
Citizens Interests	Philip Salerno	Greater Inwood Super Neighborhood	Huey German-Wilson	Northeast Houston Redevelopment Council
Social Services/HHS	Paula Johnson	City of Houston	Angel Ponce	City of Houston
Social Services/HHS	Ashley Newell	Mounting Horizons, Inc.	Breah Knape	Actions, Inc. of Brazoria County
Social Services/HHS	Jim Thompson	The Center for Pursuit	Thomas Holstein	Baker Ripley
Social Services/HHS	Miriam Guzman	Community Health Network	Ezreal Garcia	Community Health Network
Transit Agency	Ruthanne Haut	The Woodlands Township	Nicole Mathews	The Woodlands Township
Transit Agency	Perri D'Armond	Fort Bend County	Sarah Coulter	Fort Bend County
Transit Agency	Vernon Chambers	Harris County Transit	Robert Anders	Harris County Transit
Transit Agency	Donald Hughes	METRO	Tatyana Luttschlager	METRO
Transit Agency	De'Andre Guin, Sr.	City of Conroe	Shawn Davis	City of Conroe
Transit Agency	James Oliver	Galveston Island Transit	Jessica Hawkins	Galveston Island Transit
Transit Agency	Jo Marlow	Brazos Transit	Kaitlyn Mock	Brazos Transit
Transit Agency	Ted Ross	Gulf Coast Transit	Marcus Alexander	Gulf Coast Transit
Ex-Officio	Nancy Peron	TxDOT – BMT	Carolina Lopez-Herrera	TxDOT - BMT
Ex-Officio	Travis Madison	TxDOT – HOU	Brenda Bustillos, Ph.D., P.E.	TxDOT - HOU

Total: 20