

## 6. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AGENCY SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGETS

### **Background**

In compliance with the federal laws Moving Ahead with Progress-21 (MAP -21) and Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) developed a Public Transportation Agency Safety Program on August 11, 2016, that adopted a Safety Management System as the foundation for developing and implementing a safety program. FTA is committed to developing, implementing, and consistently improving strategies and processes to ensure that transit achieves the highest practicable level of safety.

Transit agencies in the Houston-Galveston Region were required to submit a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) to the FTA by December 31, 2020. All regional agencies did, except for the City of Galveston (Island Transit), which was granted a waiver. Each agency developed seven performance targets in the areas of safety including the number and rate of fatalities, injuries, safety events, and the mean distance between mechanical failures. Agencies reported performance of past years' achievements along with targets for future goals. All agencies incorporated Vision Zero with respect to fatalities in their targets.

### **Current Situation**

H-GAC is required to set regional targets by June 30, 2021. H-GAC, consistent with FTA guidelines, divides transit agencies into two reporting tiers to develop aggregate targets. Tier I includes those agencies that operate rail (including Bus Rapid Transit), fixed route (and commuter) bus, and demand response/paratransit services. The Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO) and Island Transit fall within Tier I. Since Island Transit has not yet reported, the Tier I data is exclusively METRO's. Tier II includes five transit agencies that operate fixed route and/or demand response services including Fort Bend Transit, Harris County Transit, the Gulf Coast Transit District, The Woodlands Township and Conroe Connect. The level of fixed route and demand response service, as measured by vehicle revenue miles, varies considerably. As a result, H-GAC used weighted averages related to vehicle revenue miles to develop performance targets for Tier II agencies. Tier I and Tier II Public Transportation Safety Measures, Benchmarks and Targets are included on the following pages.

This information is available to review in the draft [Performance Measures - System Evaluation Report](#) on Page B-43. The draft benchmarks and performance targets were presented as informational items to TAC and the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) in May and those will be presented to TAC recommendation and TPC's action in June. Resolution 2021-19 was recommended by TAC in June for TPC's approval of the Public Transportation Agency Safety Performance Measures and Targets. After approval, the methodology, benchmarks, and targets will be amended to Appendix B of the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program and Appendix P of the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan, then submitted to FTA in compliance with the June 30, 2021 deadline.

**Action Requested**

TPC approval of Resolution No. 2021-19.

**Tier I\* - Public Transportation Safety Benchmarks and Performance Targets**

		<b>METRO</b>	
Rates are per 100K Vehicle Revenue Miles		<b>TIER I</b>	
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	Mode	Benchmarks	2021 Targets
Fatalities	Bus	2	0
Fatality Rates		0.003	0
Injuries		194	194
Injury Rates		0.37	0.258
Safety Events		136	136
Safety Event Rates		0.258	0.258
Mean Distance Between Failures		10,084	10,084
Fatalities	Rail	4	0
Fatality Rates		0.122	0
Injuries		50	50
Injury Rates		1.466	1.466
Safety Events		121	121
Safety Event Rates		3.51	3.51
Mean Distance Between Failures		9,292	9,292
Fatalities	Paratransit	0	0
Fatality Rates		0	0
Injuries		35	35
Injury Rates		0.174	0.174
Safety Events		39	39
Safety Event Rates		0.19	0.19
Mean Distance Between Failures		22,039	22,039

\*Tier I public transportation providers operate a rail fixed guideway transportation system or have 101 or more vehicles in revenue service during peak regular service.

**Tier II\* - Public Transportation Safety Benchmarks and Performance Targets**

Rates are per Vehicle Revenue Mile	SMALL TRANSIT PROVIDERS		
	TIER II		
	Mode	Benchmarks	2021 Targets
<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURE</b>			
Fatalities	Fixed Route	0	0
Fatality Rate		0	0
Injuries		0.58	0.49
Injury Rates		0.0000017	0.0000008
Safety Events		0.96	0.82
Safety Event Rates		0.0000030	0.0000020
Mean Distance Between Failures		82,544	82,544
Fatalities	Demand Response	0	0
Fatality Rate		0	0
Injuries		1.34	1.34
Injury Rates		0.0000013	0.0000013
Safety Events		2.53	1.93
Safety Event Rates		0.0000019	0.0000015
Mean Distance Between Failures		386,106	386,106

\*Tier II small public transportation providers have 100 or fewer vehicles in revenue service during peak regular service and do not operate a rail fixed guideway transportation system.



# Resolution

NO. 2021-19

## **AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF TARGETS FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES REQUIRED BY THE FAST ACT**

WHEREAS, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Houston - Galveston Transportation Management Area by the Governor of Texas in accordance with federal law, and;

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) is the regional transportation policy body, and;

WHEREAS, the federal law Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) assigns the MPO the responsibility for carrying out the metropolitan planning process, cooperation with the State and publicly owned transit service providers, and;

WHEREAS, the FAST Act assigns the MPO the responsibility for developing and approving regional performance measure targets and to incorporate these measures and a performance-based planning process into the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) documents, and;

WHEREAS, the FAST Act requires the adoption of regional Public Transportation Safety performance targets for the number and rate of fatalities, injuries, and safety events; and the mean distance between major mechanical failures, as shown in Attachment 1 for Tier I public transportation providers, and Attachment 2 for Tier II public transportation providers, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA ADOPTS THE REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR TIER I AND TIER II TRANSIT PROVIDERS, AS IDENTIFIED IN THE

ATTACHED TABLES, AND AMENDS THE PERFORMANCE MEASURES INTO THE 2021-2024 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND THE 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this 25th day of June 2021, at a regularly called meeting of the Transportation Policy Council.

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:  
*Kenneth Clark*  
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Hon. Kenneth Clark, Chairman  
Transportation Policy Council

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:  
*Grady Prestage*  
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Hon. Grady Prestage, Secretary  
Transportation Policy Council

## ATTACHMENT 1

### Tier I\* - Public Transportation Safety Benchmarks and Performance Targets

Rates are per 100K Vehicle Revenue Miles	Mode	METRO	
		TIER I	
		Benchmarks	2021 Targets
PERFORMANCE MEASURE			
Fatalities	Bus	2	0
Fatality Rates		0.003	0
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Fatality Rates		0	0
Injuries		35	35
Injury Rates		0.174	0.174
Safety Events		39	39
Safety Event Rates		0.19	0.19
Mean Distance Between Failures		22,039	22,039

\*Tier I public transportation providers operate a rail fixed guideway transportation system or have 101 or more vehicles in revenue service during peak regular service.

**ATTACHMENT 2**

**Tier II\* - Public Transportation Safety Benchmarks and Performance Targets**

Rates are per Vehicle Revenue Mile	SMALL TRANSIT PROVIDERS		
	TIER II		
	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	Mode	Benchmarks
Fatalities	Fixed Route	0	0
Fatality Rates		0	0
Injuries		0.58	0.49
Injury Rates		0.0000017	0.0000008
Safety Events		0.96	0.82
Safety Event Rates		0.0000030	0.0000020
Mean Distance Between Failures		82,544	82,544
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Fatalities	Demand Response	0	0
Fatality Rates		0	0
Injuries		1.34	1.34
Injury Rates		0.0000013	0.0000013
Safety Events		2.53	1.93
Safety Event Rates		0.0000019	0.0000015
Mean Distance Between Failures		386,106	386,106

\*Tier II small public transportation providers have 100 or fewer vehicles in revenue service during peak regular service and do not operate a rail fixed guideway transportation system.