

5A. MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA

DATE: Friday, March 24, 2023

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: 3555 Timmons Lane, Conference Room B, Houston, Texas 77027 and Video Conference

The presiding officer, Chairman David Robinson called the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting of March 24, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. to order.

Chairman David Robinson made a statement to TPC members and others that he was the presiding officer at a meeting of the Transportation Policy Council being held in-person or by a video conference on Friday, March 24, 2023 and he was physically present at 3555 Timmons Lane, Houston, Texas 77027. Chairman Robinson attested that the meeting was open and accessible to members of the public. Chairman Robinson reminded each member of the governing body participating in via Zoom they must be visible and audible to be considered a participant in this meeting, and they must enable their video and microphone when responding to a roll call, voting on action items and asking questions

ITEM 1 & 2 CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman David Robinson recognized Mr. James Garland, H-GAC, for the Certification of the Quorum and conducted the Roll Call of the TPC membership. Fourteen (14) members comprise a quorum. A quorum was declared present and recorded on the Roll Call, which is included with these Minutes as Attachment 1.

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

ITEM 3. DECLARE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Chairman David Robinson asked members of the Council to Declare Conflicts of Interest on any items on the agenda. No TPC members declared any conflicts.

ITEM 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. James Garland, H-GAC, began the presentation by informing the Council that Spanish translation services were available. Once public comment was received by the 5:00 p.m. deadline on March 23rd. Mr. Garland read it to the Council. Mr. Garland asked Ms. Lourdes McIntyre to introduce herself and she gave instructions to the public in Spanish on how to make comments online. Mr. Garland explained that American Sign Language services were available online in Zoom and introduced sign language interpreters Kenneth Niemietz and Antonio Ramos.

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

ITEM 5. APPROVAL OF FRIDAY, February 24, 2023 MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY

Secretary Nancy Arnold presented February 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes summary to the Council. Secretary Arnold asked the Council for any modifications or corrections as presented. There were no modifications or corrections. A motion was made by Secretary Nancy Arnold and seconded by Chuck Wemple. The Council voted and approved the minutes summary.

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

6. Recognition of Commendation for Greater Houston Freight Committee Outgoing Co-Chairs Judge Ed Emmett and Mr. Brian Fielkow

Chairman David Robinson and Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, recognized the Outgoing Co-Chairs Judge Ed Emmett and Mr. Brian Fielkow. Mr. Raborn told the Council that both Judge Emmett and Mr. Fielkow had served very honorably on the Greater Houston Freight Committee leading that committee's work since its inception in 2016. The committee has been valuable to the region and engaged in critical studies that were done prior to his arrival as well as the Regional Goods Movement Study that is ongoing.

Chairman David Robinson called for a motion approving the recognition of both the outgoing members. A motion was made by Mayor Joe Zimmerman and seconded by Judge Mark Keough. Chairman David Robinson read TPC Resolution No. 2023-12 for Judge Ed Emmet and TPC Resolution No. 2023-13 for Mr. Brian Fielkow to the Council and invited them to stand before the Council. Comments were made by members of the TPC commending Judge Ed Emmett and Mr. Brian Fielkow on their service to the Houston-Galveston region. Judge Ed Emmett and Mr. Brian Fielkow both thanked the Council for this recognition. The current Co-Chairs of the Greater Houston Freight Committee Mr. Billy Combs and Bruce Mann were invited to take a photo with the TPC officers and Outgoing members. The Council voted and approved TPC Resolution No. 2023-12 and TPC Resolution No. 2023-13.

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

ITEM 7. AMENDMENTS TO THE 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AND THE 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2023-14, MR. JIM DICKINSON, H-GAC

Mr. Jim Dickinson, H-GAC, gave a presentation on the Amendments to the 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). A summary of the proposed revisions to the 2023-2026 TIP and 2045 RTP are included below for the Council's review:

- Program METRO's Federal Transit Administration Transit Oriented Development Planning award (MPO ID 18884) with \$376K of federal Section 5309 Transit Capital Investment Program funds which will be matched with \$94K of local funding in FY 2023. (+ \$470K)

- Program the Near Northwest Management District's FY 2022 Congressional Community Projects earmark award (MPO ID 18885) with \$1.0M of federal Category-10 funds which will be matched with \$250K of local funding in FY 2023. (+\$1.3M)
- Clarify the limit of the TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation) Houston District SH 99 Segment B-2 tollway construction project (MPOID 18872), change the sponsor to Brazoria County and delay the letting to FY 2027 of the Ten-Year Plan to allow more time to evaluate the financing. (Total Cost: \$604.9M)
- Clarify the limit of the TxDOT Houston District SH 99 Segment-B tollway construction project (MPOID 257) due to multiple intersections with FM 1462. (Total Cost: \$203.2M)
- Add \$24M total (\$19.2M Federal and \$4.8M State Match) of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding to the TxDOT Houston District SH 99 Segment-D tollway construction project (MPOID 18022) for construction of sound walls, frontage road intersection improvement and detention ponds required by Atlas 14 standards. (+\$24.0M; Total Cost: \$83.0M)
- Add \$6.4M (\$5.1M Federal and \$1.3M State Match) of STBG funding to the TxDOT Houston District SH 99 Segment-D tollway construction project (MPOID 18021) for construction of sound walls and a frontage road intersection improvement at Kingsland Boulevard. (+\$6.4M; Total Cost: \$26.5M)
- Advance the TxDOT Houston District SH 99 Segment B-1 tollway construction project (MPOID 283) to FY 2025 to align its letting date with the adjacent SH 99 construction project MPO 257 (Total Cost: \$257.0M)
- Add Right-of-Way ('ROW') as an authorized phase with \$1.7M of federal ROW funding to the TxDOT Houston District FM 517 reconstruction and widening project (MPOID 16320) per TxDOT ROW Division policy. Delay to FY 2028 due to Right-of-Way issues. (+\$1.7M; Total Cost: \$16.2M)
- Add Right-of-Way ('ROW') as an authorized phase with \$12.5M of federal and state ROW funding to the TxDOT Houston District FM 518 reconstruction and widening project (MPOID 10132) per TxDOT ROW Division policy. Delay to FY 2026 due to Right-of-Way and design issues. (+\$12.5M; Total Cost: \$53.7M)
- Add Right-of-Way ('ROW') as an authorized phase with \$1.1M of federal ROW funding to the TxDOT Houston District SL 336 widening project (MPOID 16343) per TxDOT ROW Division policy. (+\$1.1M; Total Cost: \$21.2M)
- Update the project description of the TxDOT Houston District IH 45 South reconstruction and widening project (MPOID 282) to incorporate the direct connector construction transferred from MPOID 15490. Delay to FY 2025 due to environmental permitting, Right-of-Way, and utilities issues. (Total Cost: \$108.6M)
- Update the project description of the TxDOT Houston District SL 8 frontage roads access management implementation project (MPOID 18035) with additional details to resolve a FHWA STIP 'Exception'. Delay to FY 2026 due to design issues. (Total Cost: \$9.0M)

- Advance TxDOT Houston District SH 99 Segment B-1 construction (MOD ID 283) to FY 2025 to coordinate letting with adjoining SH 99 project (Total: \$257.0M)

Proposed March 2023 TPC Amendments - TIP Budget Effects ¹				
Total Federal Funding Programmed	As of May 2022	As of February 2023,	Proposed Amendments (March Action)	Programming as of March 2023 (Pending TPC Approval)
Category 2 - Metro and Urban Area Corridors	\$1,453,610,240	\$1,113,706,072	\$0	\$1,113,706,072
Category 5 - Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ)	\$604,869,695	\$609,437,568	\$0	\$609,437,568
Category 7 - Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)	\$795,981,665	\$836,983,611	\$30,400,000	\$867,383,611
Category 9 - Transportation Alternatives - Set Aside (TASA) Program	\$52,939,485	\$50,035,485	\$0	\$50,035,485

Includes Grouped and TIP status Project Fund Amounts

Mr. Jim Dickinson, H-GAC, requested TPC approval of Resolutions 2023-14. A motion was by Mayor Joe Zimmerman and seconded by First Vice Chair Justin Beckendorff. The Council voted and approved TPC Resolution No. 2023-14.

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

ITEM 8. PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS, VISHU LINGALA, H-GAC

Mr. Vishu Lingala, H-GAC, updated the Council on the Project Selection Process. Mr. Lingala told the Council that staff received statements of interest for 622 projects and 32 sponsors of which 461 were to be included in the project selection process for a total of \$33 billion. Of the 461 projects submitted it includes some projects that are already programmed in the RTP, TIP and 10-year plan. Some agencies such as TxDOT, Counties or local governments submitted more than one project. Also included are projects that were not submitted previously. Mr. Lingala also described the short-term statements of interest by investment categories and funding instructions as well as the next steps for the Regional Goods Movement project evaluation and let the Council know that staff have shared it with the TIP Subcommittee and will share it on the H-GAC website. Mr. Lingala also described the Operational Improvements and Congestion Management investment category focused criteria and planning factors. Mr. Lingala concluded his presentation with the next steps to initiate the project selection process. Comments, questions and answers occurred after the presentation.

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

For Information Only. No action needed

ITEM 9. AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY AND 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTION PLAN (RTP) UPDATE, GRACIELA LUBERTINO AND ANITA HOLLMANN-MATIJCIO, H-GAC

Ms. Graciela Lubertino, H-GAC, gave a presentation on the Air Quality Conformity and 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update. Ms. Lubertino gave a recap on what Air Conformity is and how it links the air quality state implantation, regional roadway planning and ensures that transportation plans do not delay attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality standard. The emissions of transportation plans must conform to the emission budgets from the Air Quality State Implementation plan. The latest approved emission budgets:

Reasonable Further Progress budget for mobile sources found adequate by EPA June 9, 2021 – Serious Classification

RFP Demonstration Budget (ton/day)		
YEAR	NO _x	VOC
2020	87.69	57.70

NO_x- Nitrogen Oxides

VOC- Volatile Organic Compounds

Ms. Lubertino told the Council that the Regional Transportation Plan must be updated every 4 years. The 2045 RTP Update and amendments to 2023-2026 TIP must conform to certain requirements. Ms. Lubertino described the requirements, calculations, and draft air quality conformity results to the Council.

Ms. Anita Hollmann-Matijcio, H-GAC, gave a presentation on the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update. Ms. Hollmann-Matijcio proceeded to let the Council know that they are in the process the RTP update and described the completion of two phases of the update. The first phase was the Visioning phase which was completed in July 2022, the second phase was Prioritization and was completed in December 2022 and are now in the Public Review phase and will be completed in April 2022. She also described what Public Outreach had occurred as well as various activities and outreach strategy. A comment, question, answer period occurred after the presentation.

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

For Information Only. No action needed

ITEM 10. UPDATE ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AGENCY SAFETY PLAN MEASURES

Ms. Jamila Owens, H-GAC, provided a presentation on Public Transportation Agency Safety Measures. Transit agencies who receive federal funding are required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to develop a safety plan. Transit agencies develop these performance measures to ensure that transit is safe for the employees and their riders. As the MPO, we coordinate with transit providers to analyze data and form draft recommendations for regional measures. We are required to submit the recommendations by April 2023. The plans track over two tiers of agencies according to their size. Tier 1 (by size) and Tier 2 (all others.) The plan also tracks four safety categories (fatality, injuries, safety event, and mean distance between failures (revenue vehicles.) Ms. Owens described suggested Tier 1 and Tier 2 performance measures and the timeline for approval by the TPC in April. Comments, questions and answers occurred after this presentation.

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

For Information Only. No action needed

ITEM 11. METRORAPID INNER KATY PROJECT UPDATE, JAMILA OWENS, H-GAC AND MS. AMMAH COBBINAH, METRO

Ms. Jamila Owens, H-GAC, introduced Ms. Amma Cobbinah, METRO, who provided a presentation on the METRORapid Inner Katy Project and is one of the new rapid transit corridors identified in the METRONext Plan. Funding was received through the H-GAC 2018 TIP call for projects. It was evaluated as the top project in the TIP and was recognized as a high priority and regionally significant project by the TPC. Ms. Cobbinah gave an overview of the numerous forecasted benefits of the project and the project development process and also said the project is currently in the Conceptual engineering phase. Ms. Cobbinah described additional stations that have been added to the project. Ms. Cobbinah described a safety assessment conducted by METRO, the dedicated transitway for BRT/Regional Express, accommodation of North Houston Highway Improvement Project (NHHIP), coordination of TxDOT's White Oak Bayou Project, ongoing coordination of TxDOT's proposed 1-10 Inner Katy Managed/HOV Lanes project. Ms. Cobinnah concluded her presentation with a timeline of the project and the next steps for the METRORapid Inner Katy Project. Comments, questions and answers occurred after the presentation.

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

For Information Only. No action needed

ITEM 12. PLANNING ACTIVITIES

A. Future Amendments to the 2023-2026 TIP AND 2045 RTP

Mr. Jim Dickenson provided a presentation on 14 Future Amendments to the 2023-2026 TIP and 2045 RTP. Information was provided to TPC members in the meeting packet.

B. Summary of Transportation Planning Activities

Mr. Craig Raborn gave an update on various Transportation Planning Activities. Information was provided to the TPC members in the meeting packet.

C. H-GAC Board

Mr. Craig Raborn gave an update of Transportation items approved at the March 21, 2023 meeting of the H-GAC Board. Information was provided to the TPC members in the meeting packet.

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

For Information Only. No action needed.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADJORNMENT

All meetings below are conducted by Teleconference (TBD).

Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee	3/30/23	10:00 a.m.	Virtual
Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting	4/19/23	9:30 a.m.	Hybrid
Transportation Policy Council	4/28/23	9:30 a.m.	Hybrid

Chairman David Robinson adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m.

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For Information Only. No action needed.

Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

Attachment 1
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC)
FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA
March 24, 2023

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	_____ Honorable Howard Wood Council Member _____ Vacant – Alternate	City of Conroe
Galveston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Marie Robb Council Member _____ Hon. John Paul Listowski - Alternate	City of Galveston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable David W. Robinson Council Member – Chairman _____ Honorable Abbie Kamin- Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Carolyn Evans-Shabazz Council Member _____ Honorable Sallie Alcorn - Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<u> X </u> Carol Haddock, P.E. Director, Houston Public Works _____ Veronica O. Davis, P.E. – Alternate	City of Houston
League City, City of	_____ Honorable John Bowen Council Member <u> X </u> 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> Honorable Sarah Benavides, P.E. Council Member _____ 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 Mayor <u> </u> Trent Epperson-Alternate	City of Pearland
Sugar Land, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Joe Zimmerman Mayor <u> </u> Honorable Stewart Jacobson – Alternate	City of Sugar Land
Texas City, City of	<u> </u> Honorable Dedrick Johnson Mayor <u> X </u> Jon Branson - Alternate	City of Texas City
Waller, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Nancy Arnold Council Member, Secretary	Smaller Cities, Harris County
Vacant	<u> </u> Honorable Sally Branson-Alternate	
Brazoria County	<u> </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, 2nd 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> </u> Honorable Lina Hidalgo County Judge <u> X </u> Roberto Treviño, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Harris County	<u> X </u> Honorable Adrian Garcia County Commissioner, Pct. 2 <u> * </u> Milton Rahman, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Liberty County	<u> </u> David Douglas Engineering Administrator <u> </u> Honorable Jay Knight - Alternate	Liberty County

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Montgomery County	<u> X </u> Honorable Mark Keough County Judge <u> </u> Commissioner, Matt Gray – Alternate	Montgomery County
Waller County	<u> X </u> Honorable Justin Beckendorff County Commissioner – 1st Vice Chair <u> </u> Commissioner, Walter Smith - Alternate	Waller County
Houston Metropolitan Transit Authority	<u> X </u> Sanjay Ramabhadran METRO Chair <u> </u> Thomas Lambert	METRO
Houston-Galveston Area Council At Large	<u> X </u> Chuck Wemple Executive Director <u> </u> Onyinye Akujuo – Alternate	H-GAC
TxDOT	<u> X </u> Eliza Paul, P. E. <u> </u> District Engineer <u> </u> Varuna Singh, P.E.– Alternate	TxDOT Houston District
TxDOT	<u> X </u> Martin Gonzalez, P.E. <u> </u> District Engineer <u> </u> Ana I. Mijares, P.E. – Alternate	TxDOT Beaumont District
Other Transportation Interests	<u> X </u> Roger Guenther <u> </u> Executive Director, Port Houston <u> </u> Phyllis Saathoff, Port Freeport- Alternate	Other Transportation Interests
Gulf Coast Rail District	<u> X </u> Dr. Carol Lewis <u> </u> Chairman, GCRD <u> </u> Jeff Ross - Alternate	Gulf Coast Rail District
	<u> 28 </u> Total Voting Membership	
	<u> 25 </u> Voting Membership Present	
	<u> 14 </u> Required Quorum	

AGENCY

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

REPRESENTING

Texas State Senate	<input type="checkbox"/> Hon. Carol Alvarado	8-County Region
Freight Rail Interests	<input type="checkbox"/> Clint Schelbitzki	Union Pacific
Freight Rail Interests	<input type="checkbox"/> Hugh McCulley	BNSF Railway
Texas State Legislator	<input type="checkbox"/> Hon. Dennis Paul	8-County Region
Texas State Legislator	<input type="checkbox"/> Hon. Ed Thompson	8-County Region
Wharton County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hon. Phillip Spenrath	Wharton County