

5A. MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024, 9:30 A.M. MEETING

INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Veronica Chapa-Gorczyński, called the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

A list of Committee representatives and alternates attending the meeting is included with these minutes as Attachment 1. There were 37 members in attendance; 32 are required for a quorum.

The meeting agenda and materials are available on the TAC website at:

<http://www.h-gac.com/transportation-advisory-committee/meeting-agendas-and-minutes.aspx>.

In addition, the livestream recording is available at: <http://www.h-gac.com/transportation-advisory-committee/meeting-livestream-archive.aspx>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no written public comments received.

To hear public comments made at the meeting, please click on the link [here](#).

ORIENTATION TO AGENDA AND MPO DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Craig Raborn gave a brief presentation on the Orientation to Agenda and MPO Director Report. For further details, please click on the link [here](#).

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Veronica Chapa-Gorczyński entertained a motion for approval of the Consent Agenda Items; 5A.) Meeting Minutes for January 17, 2024, 5B.) Amendments to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and 5C.) Safety Performance Measures.

A motion to approve was made by Ms. Sherry Weesner. The second motion for approval was made by Ken Fickes. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item is available on the TAC website [here](#).

AGENDA ITEMS

2024 TAC NOMINATING COMMITTEE & NOMINATION PROCESS

Ms. Allie Isbell presented on the 2024 TAC Nominating Committee and Nomination Process. The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Bylaws instruct the Chair of the TAC to select a Nominating Committee each year. The Nominating Committee is responsible for considering all nominations for TAC Officers, which include Chair, 1st Vice Chair, and Second Vice Chair. The Nominating Committee is also responsible for reviewing nominations and making recommendation for the subcommittees of the TAC, which include the following:

- Pedestrian-Bicyclist Subcommittee
- Regional Transportation Plan Subcommittee
- Regional Transit Coordination Subcommittee
- Transportation Air Quality Subcommittee
- Transportation Improvement Program Subcommittee
- Transportation Systems Management and Operations

To hear more details on this presentation, please click on the link below.

This item was for discussion only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item is available on the TAC website [here](#).

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Mr. Stephen Keen gave a presentation on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Project Development Process. H-GAC does not have an established avenue that primarily serves to add projects to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). H-GAC and the RTP Subcommittee have jointly developed the RTP Project Development Process, which goals are to increase the number of projects submitted to the RTP, increase planning activities for said projects, and enhance collaboration between H-GAC and its projects sponsors. The RTP Project Development Process proposal was developed to serve as the primary avenue to add projects to the RTP fiscally constrained project list.

H-GAC staff, guided by the Regional Transportation Plan Subcommittee, has developed the RTP Project Development Process. Its purpose is twofold: establish a primary avenue for projects to be submitted for inclusion into the RTP, and to ensure that projects added to the RTP align with the vision statement, goals, and desired outcomes of the Plan. The RTP Project Development Process, along with the Project Selection Process, will allow project sponsors to submit their projects to the appropriate plans and programs. After the overview, the Chair opened the floor for discussion. To hear the discussion and comments made on this item, please click on the link below.

Ms. Sherry Weesner made a motion to approve the RTP Project Development Process, subject to the definitions and evaluation criteria be brought back to the Committee and the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) for approval.

Mr. Morad Kabari clarified that the definitions will be vetted by the RTP Subcommittee and the Committee before approval is sent to the TPC.

The Committee continued to discuss the process and Staff addressed questions. After further discussion, the Chair entertained a motion to approve.

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Morad Kabiri. A second motion was made by Ms. Catherine McCreight. The Committee voted and the motion carried.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item is available on the TAC website [here](#).

REGIONAL PRIORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Mr. Andrew DeCandis presented on the Regional Priority Climate Action Plan. The 2022 Inflation Reduction Act provided an investment of \$5 billion to support efforts by states and governmental entities to develop and implement greenhouse gas reduction strategies. On March 1, 2023, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program. The primary goal of the program is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while supporting the creation of jobs, delivering cleaner air, and lowering energy costs for families. The CPRG is a two-phase grant program. The first phase of the CPRG provided \$250 million nationally in non-competitive grants to develop plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The second phase of the program will provide \$4.6 billion through a competitive grant process to implement strategies in the plan. The 13-county H-GAC region received a \$1 million planning grant to support this first phase. The work on this first phase is ongoing.

As part of H-GAC's participation in the CPRG program, staff has been working with regional partners to develop the first project deliverable: a Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) for our region. This plan includes a regional greenhouse gas inventory and outlines a broad suite of emission reduction strategies that can address greenhouse gases as well as associated criteria pollutants such as ozone, particulate matter, and toxic air pollution to amplify existing regional planning efforts and move the region towards meeting its air quality improvement goals. To hear more about this update, please click on the link below.

This item was for discussion only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item is available on the TAC website [here](#).

2024 LIVABLE CENTERS PROGRAM CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Ms. Sarai Osorio presented on 2024 Livable Centers Program Call for Proposals. The Livable Centers Program, administered by the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) since 2008, encourages a complementary mix of land uses that are designed to be walkable, connected, and accessible by multiple modes of transportation, including bus, bike, or walking. Livable Centers are defined as places where people can live, work, and play with less reliance on their cars. H-GAC and our local partners work with communities to identify a vision for the study area and make specific recommendations, such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Similarly, proposed policies and programs aim to promote economic development while cultivating a sense of identity within study areas.

One of the implementation strategies to reduce reliance on single vehicle occupancy in H-GAC's 2045 Regional Transportation Plan is the Livable Centers Program. Forty-three Livable Centers studies have been completed in our region, with three active studies. The Livable Centers Program features Livable Centers and Focused Livable Centers.

More information on the proposal process may be found at: [Livable Centers Call for Planning Study Partners | Houston-Galveston Area Council \(H-GAC\)](#). For questions, email LivableCenters@h-gac.com

This item was for discussion only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item is available on the TAC website [here](#).

TxDOT STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK PROGRAM

Mr. Dallas Teston with TxDOT-Austin, presented on the State infrastructure Bank (SIB) Program. The SIB is a federal revolving loan fund managed by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for federal aid eligible roadway and Title 23 projects. The SIB can lend funds for on or off system federal aid eligible roadway projects to cover items such as a local contribution or local match, construction and construction related costs, right of way acquisition, and utility relocation, when associated with an eligible project. Mr. Teston outlined the SIB program interest rates, incentives, and eligibility. For further details on this agenda item, please click on the link below.

This item was for discussion only.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item is available on the TAC website [here](#).

PLANNING ACTIVITIES

A. Project Selection Process Update

Mr. Vishu Lingala provided an update on the Project Selection Process. For a summary of this update, please click on the link below.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item is available on the TAC website [here](#).

B. Administrative Amendments

Mr. Jim Dickinson provided a brief overview of Future Amendments to the 2023-2026 TIP and 2045 RTP. For a summary of the Future Amendments, please view February 14, 2024, TAC Packet or click on the link below.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item is available on the TAC website [here](#).

C. Future Amendments to the 2023-2026 TIP and 2045 RTP

Mr. Jim Dickinson provided a brief overview of Future Amendments to the 2023-2026 TIP and 2045 RTP. For a summary of the Future Amendments, please view February 14, 2024, TAC Packet or click on the link below.

For Information Only. No action needed.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item is available on the TAC website [here](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were shown on the slide for the upcoming meetings:

Road Safety Audit Training Workshop	February 22	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	H-GAC Office
Transportation Policy Council (TPC) Meeting	February 23	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office
Transportation Safety Meeting	February 27	1:30 p.m.	Virtual
Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee (RAQPAC) Subcommittee Meeting	February 29	10:00 a.m.	Virtual
Greater Houston Freight Committee (GHFC) Meeting	February 28	1:00 p.m.	Virtual
TAC Subcommittee Nominations Due	March 1	5:00 p.m.	---
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Subcommittee Meeting	March 6	1:30 p.m.	Virtual
Transportation Air Quality Subcommittee Meeting	March 6	10:00 a.m.	Virtual
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting	March 13	9:30 a.m.	H-GAC Office
Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Subcommittee Meeting	March 13	1:30 p.m.	Virtual

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Chapa-Gorczyński adjourned the meeting of the TAC at 11:05 a.m.

A slide presentation and audio recording for this item is available on the TAC website [here](#).

1st Vice Chair
Transportation Advisory Committee

ATTACHMENT 1

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING ATTENDANCE (Roll Call)
February 14, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.**

NOTES:

1. Attendance is marked with “X” in the corresponding column for the Member and/or Alternate.
2. Where both the Member and Alternate are present, the Alternate is marked with an asterisk (*) after the “X” to indicate that this person does not count toward quorum or votes for this meeting.

<u>Member</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Present</u>
<i>Chair</i>				
Veronica Chapa Gorczynski	<u>X</u>	Business Interests	David Kim	
1 st Vice Chair				
Morad Kabiri, P.E.	<u>X</u>	Smaller Cities	Jildardo Arias	
2nd Vice Chair				
Perri D’Armond		Transit	Shawn Davis	
Dan Johnson, P.E., CFM		Smaller Cities	(Vacant)	
Joe Garcia	<u>X</u>	Smaller Cities	Janet Corte	
Ken Fickes	<u>X</u>	Transit	Vernon Chambers	
Ruthanne Haut		Transit	Todd Stephens	<u>X</u>
Shelly Sekula-Gibbs, M.D.	<u>X</u>	Environmental	Sue Theiss	
Katherine Parker	<u>X</u>	Environmental	Carl Woodward, P.E., CFM	
(Vacant)		Planning	Monique Johnson, AICP	<u>X</u>
David Wurdlow	<u>X</u>	Planning	Jennifer Ostlind, AICP	
Catherine McCreight	<u>X</u>	Planning	Brenda Bustillos, PhD	
Marlisa Briggs		Business Interests	Amy Skicki	<u>X</u>
Nikki Knight	<u>X</u>	Citizens Interests	Dexter Handy	<u>X*</u>
Sherry Weesner, P.E., CPM	<u>X</u>	Citizens Interests	Irma Sanchez	
Bruce Mann		Port of Houston	Rohit Saxena	
(Vacant)		Ports	Dean Corgey	
Brian Alcott		Toll Road	Amar Mohite	
Robert Castaneda		Toll Road	(Vacant)	
Stephen Gage	<u>X</u>	Active Transportation	Patricia Kievlan	
Aubin Phillips		Active Transportation	Joe Cutrufo	<u>X</u>
James Brown	<u>X</u>	Airport	Marcel Allen	
Joe Compian	<u>X</u>	Regional Planning	(Vacant)	
Clint Harbert		METRO	Alan Clark	

Member	Present	Representing	Alternate	Present
Lisa Collins, P.E.	_____	TxDOT-Beaumont District	Nancy Peron, P.E.	_____
Varuna Singh, P.E.	<u> X </u>	TxDOT-Houston District	Jeffrey English, AICP	_____
Wael Tabara, P.E.	<u> X </u>	Brazoria County	Karen McKinnon, P.E.	_____
Natalie G. Lopez	_____	Chambers County	Cory Taylor, P.E.	_____
Stacy Slawinski, P.E.	<u> X </u>	Fort Bend County	Rick J. Staigle, P.E.	_____
Michael Shannon, P.E.	<u> X </u>	Galveston County	Nancy Baher, P.E.	_____
Patrick Mandapaka, Ph.D, AICP	<u> X </u>	Harris County	Susan Fraser, P.E.	_____
David Douglas	<u> X </u>	Liberty County	Hon. Jay Knight	_____
Jean Mann	<u> X </u>	Montgomery County	John McKinney, Jr., Esq.	_____
Ross McCall	_____	Waller County	Luke Fortkamp	_____
Brant Gary	<u> X </u>	City of Baytown	Martin Scribner	_____
Jordan Cruz	<u> X </u>	City of Conroe	Chris Bogert, P.E.	_____
Robert Winiecke, P.E., CFM	_____	City of Galveston	Brandon Cook	_____
(Vacant)	_____	City of Houston	Fabio Capillo	<u> X </u>
Christopher Sims	<u> X </u>	City of League City	Cara Davis	_____
Marcus Snell	<u> X </u>	City of Missouri City	Joi Johnson	_____
Sarah Benavides	_____	City of Pasadena	Mark Gardemal	_____
Lorenzo Wingate	_____	City of Pearland	Rajendra Shrestha, P.E., CFM	_____
Melanie Beaman	<u> X </u>	City of Sugar Land	Sagnik "Nik" Raha, P.E.	_____
Kim Golden, P.E.	_____	City of Texas City	Jack Haralson, P.E.	_____
	<u> 44 </u>	Total Voting Membership		
	<u> 32 </u>	Total Voting Membership		
	<u> 22 </u>	Present		
	_____	Required for Quorum		