

6. AMENDMENT TO THE 2025 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

The 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes the regional transportation planning activities that will be undertaken by the Houston-Galveston Area Council Metropolitan Planning Organization during fiscal year 2025. The current 2025 UPWP was adopted by the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) on August 23, 2024, and is available online here: <https://www.h-gac.com/unified-planning-work-program>.

CURRENT SITUATION

This amendment to the Unified Planning Work Program makes the following revisions to the 2025 Unified Planning Work Program:

- Page 66: Corrected FTA Funding Section to 5304 in Task III: Short-Range Planning – Funding Summary Table. (No fiscal impact).
- Page 76: Added two mobility studies requested by Montgomery County for Montgomery County Precinct 1 and Montgomery County Precinct 4, request letters attached. (No fiscal change. This addition will allow for staff to develop the projects. Funding will be added for these activities once further developed and scoped.)
- Page 109: Corrected Expected Products for Subtask 5.7.a – Corridor Planning to include the completion of Washington Avenue Corridor Study, Pearland FM 518 Corridor Study, and Cemetery Road Corridor Study, which are expected to be complete by the end of Federal Fiscal Year 2025.
- Page 111: Added an activity to Subtask 5.7.d – Transit Oriented Development (TOD) to reflect a partner activity to be completed by METRO. This activity is funded by a \$1,200,000 discretionary grant awarded to METRO by the Federal Transit Administration’s Fiscal Year 2024 Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning grant program, request letter attached. Listing the activity in the Unified Planning Work Program is a requirement of the grant. (No impact to funding allocated through the Metropolitan Planning Organization or Transportation Policy Council).
- Page 115: Task V: Special Planning Projects – Funding Summary Table updated to include the aforementioned \$1,200,000 FTA grant to METRO (“Other Federal Funds” column).
- Page 119: Table 6-1 Clarified to reflect FTA Funding included for Sections 5304 and 5307. (No fiscal impact).

The revised pages from the 2025 Unified Planning Work Program follow. Full copies of the 2025 Unified Planning Work Program reflecting the proposed UPWP 2025-02 Amendment outlined above will be available in hard copy at the Transportation Advisory Committee meeting and the Transportation Policy Council meeting, or distributed electronically upon request. Once approved, the amended 2025 Unified Planning Work Program will be posted to the link above.

ACTION REQUESTED

Transportation Advisory Committee recommendation for Transportation Policy Council Approval of Resolution UPWP 2025-01.



Resolution

No. UPWP 2025-01

ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE 2025 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA.

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council adopted the 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) on August 23, 2024; and

WHEREAS, this amendment makes the following changes to the 2025 Unified Planning Work Program;

1. Page 66: Corrected FTA Funding Section to 5304 in Task III: Short-Range Planning – Funding Summary Table.
2. Page 76: Added two mobility studies requested by Montgomery County for Montgomery County Precinct 1 and Montgomery County Precinct 4.
3. Page 109: Corrected Expected Products for Subtask 5.7.a – Corridor Planning to include the completion of Washington Avenue Corridor Study, Pearland FM 518 Corridor Study, and Cemetery Road Corridor Study.
4. Page 111: Added an activity to Subtask 5.7.d – Transit Oriented Development (TOD) to reflect a partner activity to be completed by METRO. This activity is funded by a \$1,200,000 discretionary grant awarded to METRO by the Federal Transit Administration’s Fiscal Year 2024 Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning grant program.
5. Page 115: Task V: Special Planning Projects – Funding Summary Table updated to include the aforementioned \$1,200,000 FTA grant to METRO.
6. Page 119: Table 6-1 Clarified to reflect FTA Funding included for Sections 5304 and 5307.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL, THAT REVISIONS TO THE 2025 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM, AS SHOWN IN THE AGENDA ITEM, ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND INCORPORATED INTO THE 2025 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM.

PASSED AND APPROVED, this 20th day of December 2024, at a regularly called meeting of the Transportation Policy Council for the Houston-Galveston Metropolitan Planning Area.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Justin Beckendorff, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council

Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council



**FISCAL YEAR 2025
UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP)
HOUSTON-GALVESTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING
AREA**

APPROVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL ON:
August 23, 2024

**Amended by the Transportation Policy Council:
UPWP 2025-01 (20 December 2024)**

Task III Funding Table

Task III: SHORT-RANGE PLANNING - FUNDING SUMMARY

Subtask	Activity	Responsible Agency	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) ¹	Other Federal Funds ²	FTA Section 5304 Funds	Local ³	TOTAL FUNDS
			FY 2025	FY 2025	FY 2025	FY 2025	
3.1	Transportation Project Programming	H-GAC	\$1,115,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,115,000
3.2	Planning Support for Transit Service Implementation	H-GAC	\$330,000	\$0	\$250,000	\$0	\$580,000
3.3	Air Quality Planning	H-GAC	\$1,220,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,220,000
3.4	Evacuation Planning	H-GAC	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150,000
	TOTAL		\$2,815,000	\$0	\$250,000	\$0	\$3,065,000

Note 1: TPF includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 Funds. TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for TPF. As the credits reflect neither cash nor work hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

Note 2: "Other Federal Funds" may include Surface Transportation Block Grant (default), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality ("C"), or Discretionary Grant Funds ("G")

Note 3: "Local" funds include any local contributions, but also may include non-transportation Federal funds provided to H-GAC or partner agencies.

Task Three Activities or Projects with Consultant Spending

TASK / Sub-Task	ACTIVITY OR PROJECT NAME	LISTING TYPE	ACTIVITY TYPE	STATUS (as of UPWP adoption)	FUNDING
3 / 3.1.a	Consultant for STIP submittals review	New	Consultant	Initiate in FY2024	TPF
3 / 3.1.b	Call for Projects (Active Transportation-specific support)	Carryover	Consultant	Initiate in FY2025	TPF
3 / 3.1.b	Call for Projects Review Consultant	Carryover	Consultant	Initiate in FY2025	TPF
3 / 3.1.c	Project Selection Process and Programming Database	Carryover	Consultant/ Service/Software	In procurement	TPF
3 / 3.2.a	Transit Information Study (Coordinated Plan)	Carryover	Consultant or Staff	In Development	Other - FTA
3 / 3.2.b	Regional Fare Plan (METRO)	Carryover	Partner Activity	Currently Underway	TPF
3 / 3.3.a	Air Quality (Health Impacts of Air Quality)	Carryover	Consultant or Staff	Initiate in FY2025	TPF
3 / 3.3.c	GHG inventory and Related Planning (Multiple)	Carryover/ New	Consultant or Staff	Currently Underway	TPF

Task Three Activities or Projects with Pass-Thru Spending

TASK / Sub-Task	ACTIVITY OR PROJECT NAME	LISTING TYPE	ACTIVITY TYPE	STATUS (as of UPWP adoption)	FUNDING
3 / 3.4.a	Hurricane Zip Zone Campaign	Ongoing	Pass-Thru	Annual Activity	TPF

Expected Products:

- A. Freight Planning Data Clearing House & Dashboard** to facilitate freight information exchange and access including facilitating updates to the critical urban freight corridor network.
- B. Education-based training materials & best practices** for future local partner training and coordination including, but not limited, to distribution through the Greater Houston Freight Committee.

Subtask 4.2.c – Sub-regional Planning

Sub-regional planning projects provide local partners an opportunity to study a location in their jurisdiction, or sub-region of H-GAC’s MPO, to achieve a locally conceived transportation plan(s) that includes a vision, goals, and recommendations with an emphasis on implementation. These projects include data collection, analysis of the existing transportation network and land uses, stakeholder and public outreach, transportation modeling, scenario development, and development of recommendations for subareas to guide future transportation infrastructure investment. Recommendations include projects, programs and policies which inform potential project list considerations for the Regional Transportation Plan, future Capital Improvement Programs and other funding opportunities as defined by associated plan implementation chapters. Consultant(s) may be utilized to assist with the following studies below.

Staff Contact: Carlene Mullins

All activities will be funded by Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) unless noted otherwise.

Objectives:

- A. Develop sub-regional local area plans** with continued emphasis on multimodal system analyses, alternative land use, and transportation system development scenarios, safety, and security related projects, goods movement, and regional public transportation need.
- B. Conduct consultant contract management** and oversight activities for active sub-regional studies. (TPF and STBG)
- C. Initiate mobility studies** over the next fiscal year in which a consultant may be utilized that include: (TPF and STBG)
 - i. Old Sixth Ward/TIRZ 13 Mobility Study
 - ii. Pearland Mobility Study
 - iii. Montgomery County Precinct 1 Mobility Study
 - iv. Montgomery County Precinct 4 Mobility Study
- D. Initiate NHCTPP**, or the North Houston Communities Transportation Priorities Plan. (TPF and STBG)
- E. Conduct outreach** including online engagement tools/platforms/software, including surveys and/or polling, may be used on various projects within the region to increase

programs and policies which inform potential project list considerations for the Regional Transportation Plan, future Capital Improvement Programs and other funding opportunities as defined by associated plan implementation chapters. Consultant(s) may be utilized to assist with the following studies below.

Staff Contact: Carlene Mullins

All activities will be funded by Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) unless noted otherwise.

Objectives:

- A. **Develop corridor plans** with continued emphasis on improving safety by analyzing identified mobility issues and land use. The recommendations will incorporate multimodal and safety solutions to mitigate congestion and improve safety for all.
- B. **Conduct consultant contract management** and oversight activities for active sub-regional studies. (TPF and STBG)
- C. **Initiate corridor studies** over the next fiscal year in which a consultant may be utilized that include: (TFP and STBG)
 - i. Washington Avenue Corridor Study
 - ii. Pearland FM 518 Corridor Study
 - iii. Cemetery Road Corridor Study
 - iv. Friendswood Lake Corridor Study
- D. Review recommendations from previous plans or studies to assess eligibility and competitiveness for discretionary grant programs. Review may include analysis of new factors for consideration and updating evaluations and rankings. (Consultants may be utilized.)
- E. **Conduct outreach** including online engagement tools/platforms/software, including surveys and/or polling, may be used on various projects within the region to increase regional residents' participation.

Expected Products:

- A. Washington Avenue Corridor Study
- B. Pearland FM 518 Corridor Study
- C. Cemetery Road Corridor Study

Subtask 5.7.b – Project-Level Planning

H-GAC will work with federal, state, and local agencies toward the on-time delivery of federal surface transportation projects selected by the TPC. Projects and plans will be selected through the H-GAC project selection process that are aligned with the current regional transportation plan and the associated air quality conformity determination. Projects identified in the project selection process will be monitored by staff to proactively identify project development concerns that may cause project delays or budget changes.

Expected Products:

- A. Phase One of Regional Complete Streets Plan
- B. Complete Streets Planning Website/page to facilitate complete streets planning information exchange and access including the development of the region-wide complete streets plan.

Subtask 5.7.d – Transit Oriented Development (TOD)

Conduct planning activities to support TOD in the region. The task will include coordination activities with local governments and public transportation providers to identify opportunities for Transit Oriented Design in conjunction with their plans for existing and proposed services. Consultant(s) may be utilized to assist with the following studies below.

Staff Contact: Thomas Gray

All activities will be funded by Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) unless noted otherwise.

Objectives:

- A. **Conduct TOD planning** to improve first-mile and last-mile connections, and to improve economic potential of station areas.
- B. **TOD Corridor Data Collection and Interactive Web Mapping** to capture accurate data related to demographics, employment, housing, transit, ridership, and land values in existing and future High-Capacity Transit corridors, high-ridership bus route corridors, and rail station areas to assist cities, transit agencies, developers, and other stakeholders in identifying development trends and opportunities.
- C. **Online engagement** tools/platforms/software, including surveys and/or polling, may be used on various projects within the region to increase regional residents' participation.
- D. **Support local sponsor/partner in TOD planning** efforts, including, but not limited to Tidwell Transit Center along the University Corridor that will enhance connectivity, promote walkability and sustainability, and support equity through economic development and affordable housing, and **Gulfton Corridor Transit Oriented Development Plan and Implementation Strategy that will identify community infrastructure needs including improved sidewalks, crosswalks, traffic signals, and bike infrastructure** (Partner activities to be completed by METRO.)

Expected Products:

- A. **TOD Planning Website** to facilitate Transit Oriented Development planning information exchange and access including the development of future TOD planning.
- B. Buffalo Bayou East Concept Final Report (Subtask 4.5.c) will provide recommendations to improve connectivity for active transportation in Second and Fifth Wards in the City of Houston. It will also provide a TOD plan for the Fifth Ward Transit Center.

Task V Funding Table

Task V: SPECIAL PLANNING PROJECTS - FUNDING SUMMARY

Subtask	Activity	Responsible Agency	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) ¹	Other Federal Funds ²	FTA Section 5307 Funds	Local ³	TOTAL FUNDS
			<i>FY 2025</i>	<i>FY 2025</i>	<i>FY 2025</i>	<i>FY 2025</i>	
5.1	Safety Planning	H-GAC	\$3,255,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,255,000
5.2	Congestion Management Planning and Operations	H-GAC	\$410,000	\$7,500,000 \$2,150,000 - C	\$0	\$0	\$10,060,000
5.3	Livable Centers	H-GAC	\$205,000	\$900,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,105,000
5.4	Transportation Innovation and Emerging Technologies	H-GAC	\$305,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$305,000
5.5	Air Quality Management and Operations	H-GAC	\$80,000	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$180,000
5.6	Resiliency Planning	H-GAC	\$155,000	\$600,000 - G	\$0	\$0	\$755,000
5.7	Corridor, Project-Level, and Special Studies	H-GAC; Partner Agencies	\$1,215,000	\$3,236,075 - G	\$2,270,000	\$437,000	\$5,958,075
	TOTAL		\$5,625,000	\$14,386,075	\$2,270,000	\$537,000	\$21,618,075
	Pass-Thru Total		\$0	\$9,650,000	\$0	\$0	\$9,650,000
	Partner Activities Total	See Sec. 5.7.e	\$0	\$3,236,075 - G	\$2,270,000	\$437,000	\$4,743,075
	TOTAL (MPO Planning Activities Only)	H-GAC	\$5,625,000	\$900,000 \$600,000 - G	\$0	\$100,000	\$7,225,000

Note 1: TPF includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 Funds. TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for TPF. As the credits reflect neither cash nor work hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

Note 2: "Other Federal Funds" may include Surface Transportation Block Grant (default), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality ("C"), or Discretionary Grant Funds ("G")

Note 3: "Local" funds include any local contributions, but also may include non-transportation Federal funds provided to H-GAC or partner agencies.

Table 6-1: 1-Year Funding Summary (TxDOT required format), showing only funds allocated for metropolitan planning. These include Transportation Planning Funds (described below), FTA Section 5307 Funds (provided to transit agencies for planning activities), and any required matching local funds.

Table 6-1: 2025 UPWP FUNDING SUMMARY (TxDOT required format)

UPWP Task	Activity	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) ¹	FTA Section 5304 & 5307 Funds	Local Funds	TOTAL FUNDS
		<i>FY 2025</i>	<i>FY 2025</i>	<i>FY 2025</i>	
Task I	ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT	\$8,020,000	\$0	\$0	\$8,020,000
Task II	DATA DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE	\$5,650,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,650,000
Task III	SHORT-RANGE PLANNING	\$2,815,000	\$250,000	\$0	\$3,065,000
Task IV	METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN	\$5,300,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,300,000
Task V	SPECIAL PLANNING PROJECTS	\$5,625,000	\$2,270,000	\$100,000	\$7,995,000
	TOTAL	\$27,410,000	\$2,520,000	\$100,000	\$30,030,000

Note 1: TPF includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 Funds. TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for TPF. As the credits reflect neither cash nor work hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

Combined Transportation Planning Funds ²	\$13,778,000
Estimated Unexpended Carryover	\$16,994,000
TOTAL TPF:	\$30,772,000

² Estimate based on prior years' authorizations



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Conroe, TX 77301
E-Mail: cojudge@mctx.org

MARK J. KEOUGH
COUNTY JUDGE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Conroe: (936) 539-7812
Houston: (281) 364-4285
Fax: (936) 760-6919

September 16, 2024

Ms. Allie Isbell
Transportation/MPO Assistant Director
Houston-Galveston Area Council
P.O. Box 22777
Houston, Texas 77227

Dear Ms. Isbell,

I am writing on behalf of Commissioner Robert Walker to request a transportation study for Montgomery County Commissioner Precinct 1. This precinct is experiencing rapid growth and urban development, which has led to significant transportation challenges.

We believe a comprehensive study is necessary to:

1. Analyze existing traffic data
2. Gather public and stakeholder feedback
3. Identify current transportation issues
4. Anticipate future mobility needs

The primary goal of this study is to develop actionable recommendations for future mobility improvements, similar to those resulting from the Precinct 2 and Precinct 3 Mobility Studies. Additionally, this study will enhance our project proposals for future H-GAC Project Selection Processes, potentially increasing our chances of securing federal funding for implementation and construction.

The following entities have been contacted regarding this request and are in support of the study:

1. City of Willis – Sheyi Ipaya, City Manager
2. City of Montgomery – Gary Palmer, City Manager
3. City of Panorama Village – Lynn Scott, Mayor
4. City of Conroe – Duke Coon, Mayor

We appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to working together to improve transportation mobility in Precinct 1.

Sincerely,

Mark Keough, County Judge

cc: Jamila Owens, Assistant Director
Carlene Mullins, Principal Planner

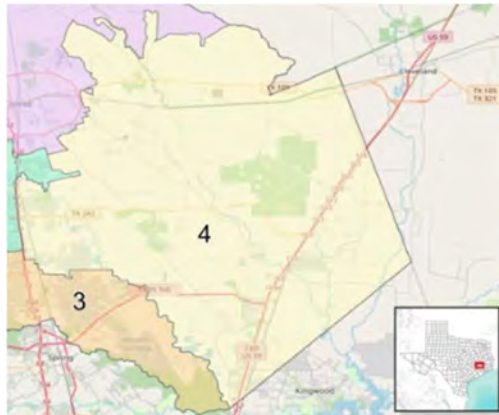


September 16, 2024

Mr. Craig Raborn
Transportation/MPO Director
Houston-Galveston Area Council
P.O. Box 22777
Houston, Texas 77227

Dear Mr. Raborn:

On behalf of Montgomery County, Precinct 4, I would like to request a transportation study be performed in my precinct (see map below). This study area is seeing rapid development and population growth. A mobility study is needed to ensure we are adequately planning for transportation infrastructure to meet this growing population. The goal of this study is to develop recommendations for long-term transportation improvements, such as road extensions, widenings, intersection improvements, and identifying where traffic signals may need to be added.



The following entities have been contacted regarding this request and are in support of the study: City of Roman Forest, City of Splendora, City of Patton Village, City of Woodbranch, City of Cut and Shoot, Texas Department of Transportation, Greater East Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, East Montgomery County Improvement District, Splendora Independent School District, and New Caney Independent School District.

I appreciate your consideration in adding this project to your workplan. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Pascua at Joshua.pascua@mctx.org or 936-597-4444.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matt Gray", with a large flourish extending to the right.

Matt Gray
Commissioner, Montgomery County Precinct 4

"After all the very highest and most fundamental work of good citizenship is to leave the next generation in right shape..." - Teddy Roosevelt

Mission Statement

"Provide safe, clean, reliable, accessible and friendly public transportation services to our region."

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November 15, 2024

Jamila Owens
Assistant Director of Transportation
Houston-Galveston Area Council
P.O. Box 22777
Houston, TX 77227-2777

RE: Request Amendment to the 2025 UPWP for the Gulfton BRT Transit Oriented Development Study.

Dear Ms. Owens:

METRO requests an amendment to the 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to include the Gulfton Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Transit Oriented Development study which was the recipient of federal discretionary funding under the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Pilot Program for Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Planning.

FTA's Pilot Program for TOD Planning supports community efforts to improve access to public transportation by helping organizations plan for transportation projects that connect communities and improve access to transit as well as affordable housing. On October 31, 2024, the FTA announced the award of \$1.2 million for METRO's TOD planning project.

Please present the attached items for approval of the Transportation Policy Council at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at 713-615-6340 or at ac27@ridemetro.org.

Sincerely,

Alan Clark

Alan C. Clark
Chief Strategy Officer

cc:

Allie Isbell, H-GAC
Thomas Jasien, METRO
Aly Alonso, METRO
Eduardo Miranda, METRO
Jose Pulido, METRO
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Contact Us

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Fiscal Year 2024 Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Projects

State	Project Sponsor	Project Description	Amount
CA	Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority	The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority will receive funding to plan for transit-oriented development near a downtown rail and bus station. The agency seeks to enhance accessibility and improve the area around Gilroy Station, currently served by Caltrain commuter rail and VTA buses that connect to San José and San Francisco.	\$900,000
HI	City and County of Honolulu	The City and County of Honolulu will receive funding to plan for transit-oriented development in the Iwilei-Kapālama neighborhood, which is anchored by the Niuhelewai and Kūwili rail transit stations. Part of the Honolulu Rail Transit project, the plan will examine potential redevelopment around the Niuhelewai-Kūwili rail station corridor. The Iwilei-Kapālama neighborhood is a historically disadvantaged community, both economically and from an environmental justice standpoint and is highly susceptible to the impacts of climate change and sea-level rise.	\$2,000,000