

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

February 28, 2023 – 1:30 P.M
Houston-Galveston Area Council
3555 Timmons Lane, Houston, TX 77027
Second Floor Conference Room B

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joshua Zuber – AAA-Texas
Ken Fickes – Harris County Transit
Jason Miura – Port Freeport
Robert Benz, P.E.– Texas A&M Trans. Institute
Ugonna Ughanze – TxDOT
Bruce Mann – Port Houston
Bacuetes Brooke – Waller County
Mohammed Boukhriss – Metro
Gabe Lavine –City of Sugarland EMC
Jack Hannigraff –East End District
David Stanton – Post Terminal Railroad Association
Neely Kim – University of Texas Medical Branch
Brian Mansfield – City of Friendswood EMS
Jildardo Arias – City of Friendswood
Brian Cantrell– Waller County EMS-Fire
Kristen Beckworth –Texas Children’s

ALTERNATES PRESENT

STAFF PRESENT

Caroline Bailey – H-GAC
Cassandra Marshall – H-GAC
Veronica Waller– H-GAC
Laurie Chandler– H-GAC
Diane Domagas– H-GAC
Emanuel Andrews– H-GAC
Anita Hollman– H-GAC
Jamila Owens– H-GAC
Karen Owen– H-GAC
Stephen Keen– H-GAC
Allie Isbell– H-GAC
Carrie Evans– H-GAC
Carlene Mullins– H-GAC
Craig Raborn– H-GAC
James Garland– H-GAC

OTHERS PRESENT

Dominic Mazoch–Private Citizen
Payton Arens–PE-RSP

ITEM 1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

ITEM 2. Introductions

- Members and H-GAC staff introduced themselves.

ITEM 3. Public Comments

- One public comment from Dominic Mazoch.

ITEM 4. Approval of June 28, 2022, and October 25, 2022, Meeting Minutes Summary

- Meeting minutes approved.

ITEM 5. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

- **Chair**-Robert Benz
- **Vice Chair**-Bruce Mann

Discussion

ITEM 6. Intersection Safety Audit Contract Amendment-Payton Arens-Kimley Horn and Assoc. Inc, (Payton Arens)

Payton Arens gave an overview on the regional intersection safety audit project which is to save lives. Twenty-five percent of fatalities in the region occur at intersections and intersections are an emphasis area for H GAC and Texas. Discussion continued that fifty-eight audits were conducted last year across eight county regions. The project focused on a traditional approach to safety, which focused on identifying countermeasures at high crash locations. All tasks are scheduled to be completed in December of 2023.

ITEM 7. Public Transit Agency Safety Targets (Jamila Owens)

Jamila gave an update on Transportation agency safety targets that are set every other year with the help of our transit agencies. It was further discussed that each area of transit is required by FTA to develop safety plans and they need to do this by December 31. The reason for these plans is to really ensure the safety of their employees and their riders. Discussion continued that H-GAC is required to look at these categories and to develop regional targets based on agency plans and this must be completed by April 2023. The targets were developed in two distinct categories. One is a tier one which is really the main differentiator, and they provide fixed guideway service like trolley or rail and Tier 2.

In closing, it was discussed that the MPO is required to set future targets. But we also like to show you past targets and any associated data, just so you can get an idea of how we are doing in the region.

ITEM 8. Safety Task Force Update (Craig Raborn)

Staff gave an overview to the members that Transportation Policy Council established the Safety Task force last year to address safety issues. The discussion continued with trying to reach a goal of no fatalities for HGAC, the target is set for 2050 by our policy, some of the other local agencies have a target that's set for vision zero targets by 2030, so they're going to examine the problems and solutions likely to work, identify new and comprehensive approaches to Transportation Safety really intended to achieve. Moving on, what we have seen each year is an increase. About thirty fatalities a year. You can see the kind of divergences or disconnect for serious injuries, and then the fatality and serious injury rates. The task force will be looking at the safety performance measures and the targets that are set. Also, examining the potential for dedicated safety.

In closing, our goals are to investigate outreach training. As well as programs and then other topics that the task force produces.

ITEM 9. Update on Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Grant (Caroline Bailey)

Staff gave an overview on the three symbols for the grant program that was established by the bipartisan infrastructure law with the goal of improving roadway state team by reducing or eliminating roadway fatalities and theory of injury through safety action plan that will direct all transportation users. An application was submitted last year for \$4 million to complete it.

Upcoming Events

- Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)-March 15, 2023, 9:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m.
- Transportation Policy Council (TPC)-March 24, 2023, 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
- Transportation Safety Committee (TSC)-April 25, 2023, 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Meeting Adjourned at 2:32 p.m.