



H-GAC Air Quality Update

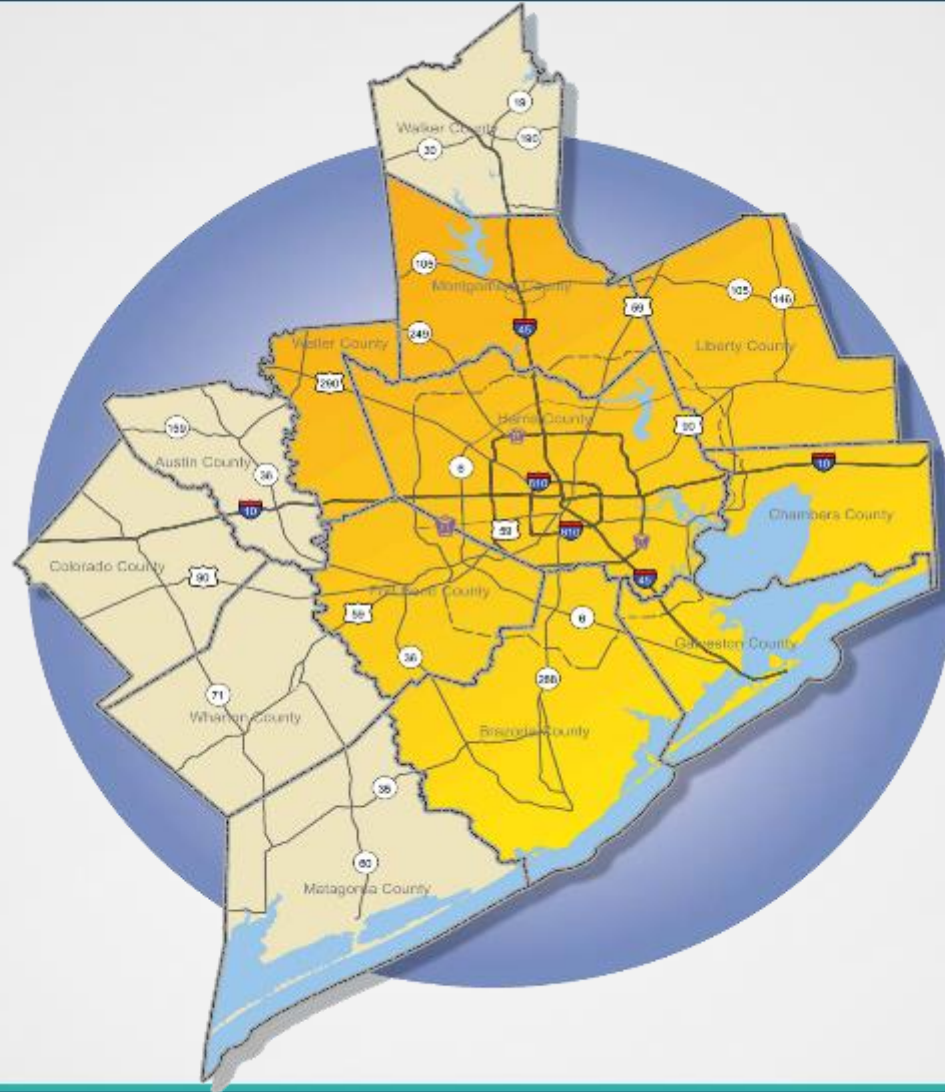


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H-GAC Region

MPO Counties

- Brazoria
- Fort Bend
- Waller
- Montgomery
- Liberty
- Chambers
- Galveston
- Harris



Additional COG Counties

- Austin
- Colorado
- Matagorda
- Walker
- Wharton

General Air Quality Topics

- Air Quality Planning Activities
- Air Quality Conformity
- Climate Pollution Reduction Grant
- Vehicle Replacement Programs
- Houston-Galveston Clean Cities Coalition

Air Quality Planning Activities

- Provide air quality support to enhance all MPO programs
- Ensure that regionally funded transportation projects do not increase emissions
- Support development of control strategies for SIP
- Work with stakeholders to develop and implement emission reduction programs
- Support and participate in research projects with local and statewide partners
- Develop funding sources for new air quality improvement programs
- Engage with citizens and stakeholders to educate and foster informed choices that support improved air quality and health

Air Quality Conformity

- Process required by Federal legislation
- Demonstrates that projected emissions from transportation projects are within emission limits established by the State Implementation Plan (SIP)
- Ensures federal funding and approval is applied to transportation projects that are consistent with air quality planning goals
- Occurs at least every four years OR triggered by adoption of new Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) or Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

- EPA-funded Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG)
- The primary goal of the program is to address the sources of greenhouse gases while creating new jobs, delivering cleaner air, and lowering energy costs
- Program is being implemented in two phases:
 - Phase I: Non-Competitive Planning Grant
 - Phase II: \$4.6 Billion Competitive Implementation Grant

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

Due: March 1, 2024



Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP)

An emissions inventory, an analysis of near-term, high-priority, implementation ready measures to reduce GHGs, and an analysis of achievable emission reductions

Due: September 2025



Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP)

For all significant sectors in a region, establish near-term and long-term emission reduction goals, provide strategies, and identify measures to achieve goals.

Due: September 2027



Status Report

Updated analyses, updates on implementation status, and next steps

Vehicle Replacement Programs

- Replaces older heavy-duty vehicles operating within the non-attainment region with new, cleaner models
- Three separate but related projects:
 - Clean Vehicles – Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funded through USDOT
 - Heavy Duty On-Road Vehicles
 - Heavy Duty Diesel Replacement Program (HDDRP) – EPA Funded
 - Drayage Truck Replacements
 - AERCO – Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) funded
 - School Bus Replacements
- Traditionally focused on diesel-to-diesel replacements
- Significantly constrained by Buy America rules

Houston-Galveston Clean Cities Coalition

- Coalition activities:
 - Develop education events: webinars, workshops, podcasts
 - Help regional fleets understand and apply for federal, state, and local funding opportunities
 - Connect with stakeholders with manufacturers, refueling sources, and success stories
 - Work with partners to promote IIJA and IRA related programs



Upcoming Projects



- GHG Implementation Projects
- Rider 7 Projects
- Developing a Regional ZEV Infrastructure Plan
- National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program
- EV-Ready Building Codes