

6. PUBLIC TRANSIT AGENCY SAFETY PERFORMANCE PLAN MEASURES

BACKGROUND

In compliance with the federal laws Moving Ahead with Progress-21 (MAP -21) and the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) developed a Public Transportation Agency Safety Program on August 11, 2016, that adopted a Safety Management System as the foundation for developing and implementing a safety program. FTA is committed to developing, implementing, and consistently improving strategies and processes to ensure that transit achieves the highest practicable level of safety.

The Transit agencies in the Houston-Galveston Region were required to submit a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) to the FTA by December 31, 2022. Each agency developed performance targets or measures in the following safety areas, including the number and rate of fatalities, injuries, safety events, and the mean distance between mechanical failures. Agencies reported performance of past years along with measures identifying future goals. All agencies incorporated Vision Zero with respect to fatalities in their plans. Colorado Valley Transit and Brazos Transit completed their plans in coordination with the Texas Department of Transportation and are not included in H-GAC’s regional plan.

CURRENT SITUATION

H-GAC is required to set Regional Public Transportation Agency Safety Performance Measures by April 30, 2023. H-GAC, consistent with FTA guidelines, divides transit agencies into two reporting tiers to develop these measures. Tier I includes those agencies that operate fixed guideway service (including Rail, Bus Rapid Transit), fixed route (and commuter) bus, and demand response/paratransit services. The Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO) and Island Transit fall within Tier I. Tier II includes five transit agencies that operate fixed route and/or demand response services including Fort Bend Transit, Harris County Transit, the Gulf Coast Transit District, The Woodlands Township and City of Conroe. The level of fixed route and demand response service, as measured by vehicle revenue miles, varies considerably. As a result, H-GAC used weighted averages related to vehicle revenue miles to develop performance measures or targets. Past performance data is also included to allow H-GAC and the agencies to track how the regional measures align against actual performance.

ACTION

Recommend for Transportation Policy Council approval the 2023 Public Transportation Agency Safety Performance Measures.



Resolution

No. 2023-19

AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF FEDERAL PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES REQUIRED BY THE FAST ACT AND THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND JOBS ACT

WHEREAS, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Houston - Galveston Transportation Management Area by the Governor of Texas in accordance with federal law, and;

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) is the regional transportation policy body, and;

WHEREAS, the federal law assigns the MPO the responsibility for carrying out the metropolitan planning process, cooperation with the State and publicly owned transit service providers, and;

WHEREAS, the federal law assigns the MPO the responsibility for developing and approving regional performance measure targets and to incorporate these measures and a performance-based planning process into the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) documents, and;

WHEREAS, the federal law requires the adoption of regional Public Transportation Safety performance targets for the number and rate of fatalities, injuries, and safety events; and the mean distance between major mechanical failures, as shown in Attachment 1 for Tier I public transportation providers, and Attachment 2 for Tier II public transportation providers, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA ADOPTS THE REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR TIER I AND TIER II TRANSIT PROVIDERS, AS IDENTIFIED IN THE ATTACHED TABLES, AND AMENDS THE PERFORMANCE MEASURES INTO THE 2023-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND THE 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 28th day of April 2023, at a regularly called meeting of the Transportation Policy Council.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Hon. David Robinson, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council

Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

Attachment 1. Public Transportation Agency Safety Performance Regional Targets Tier I

Rates Per 100 K Vehicle Revenue Miles	Mode	2023 Measures
Fatalities	Bus	0
Fatalities Rate		0
Injuries		175
Injuries Rate		0.425
Safety Events		136
Safety Events Rate		0.33
Mean Distance Between Failures		6,750
Fatalities	Paratransit	0
Fatalities Rate		0
Injuries		35
Injuries Rate		0.174
Safety Events		39
Safety Events Rate		0.289
Mean Distance Between Failures		21,000
Fatalities	Rail	0
Fatalities Rate		0
Injuries		45
Injuries Rate		1.886

Safety Events		100
Safety Events Rate		4.715
Mean Distance Between Failures		15,000
Fatalities	Bus Rapid Transit	0
Fatalities Rate		0
Injuries		10
Injuries Rate		2.651
Safety Events		10
Safety Events Rate		2.651
Mean Distance Between Failures		4,000

Attachment 2. Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Measures Tier II

Rates Per Vehicle Revenue Mile	Mode	2023 Targets
Fatalities	Fixed Route	0
Fatality Rates		0
Injuries		0.28
Injury Rates		0.0000010
Safety Events		0.53
Safety Event Rates		0.0000020
Mean Distance Between Failures		150,207
Fatalities	Demand Response	0
Fatality Rates		0
Injuries		1.68
Injury Rates		0.0000015
Safety Events		1.90
Safety Event Rates		0.0000020
Mean Distance Between Failures		288,488