

6A. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA

DATE: Friday, November 15, 2024  
TIME: 9:32 a.m.  
PLACE: 3555 Timmons Lane, Conference Room B, Houston, Texas 77027

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The presiding officer, Chair Justin Beckendorff called the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting of November 15, 2024, at 9:32 a.m. to order.

CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM, INTRODUCTIONS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chairman Justin Beckendorff recognized Ms. Jamila Owens, H-GAC, for the Certification of the Quorum and she conducted the Roll Call of the TPC membership. Fifteen (15) members comprise a quorum. A quorum was declared present and recorded on the Roll Call, which is included with these Minutes as Attachment 1. Chairman Justin Beckendorff asked members of the Council to Declare Conflicts of Interest on any item on the agenda. No TPC member declared a conflict of interest. The presentation, comments, questions and discussion are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Jamila Owens, H-GAC, informed the Council that no written public comments were submitted by November 14, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Ms. Owens announced that members of the public who wanted to provide public comment online could access a link posted on the H-GAC livestream page. Ms. Owens also let the public know that Spanish translation services were available and introduced Ms. Lourdes Araiza who provided instructions on how to make public comments in Spanish. American Sign Language Interpretation services were posted on a slide in Zoom and provided by Robert Helms and Sherri Swan. One comment was made in person. The presentation, comments, questions, and discussion under Item 4 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 5. MPO DIRECTOR REPORT AND ORIENTATION OF AGENDA, MS. JAMILA OWENS, H-GAC

- A. 2025 Nominations Process  
Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, gave the Council a brief overview of the TPC Nominations Process and described the positions that would be nominated. Nomination forms are due by December 27, 2024.
- B. Planning Activities Report  
Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, gave a brief recap of highlights on the planning activities report and summarized various activities to the Council.
- C. H-GAC Board Update  
Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, briefed the Council on the Transportation related items that will be on the H-GAC Board Agenda on November 19, 2024.
- D. 2025 TPC Meeting Schedule  
Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC informed the Council that a 2025 TPC Meeting schedule was included in the meeting packet.

The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 5 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

#### ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

Secretary Nancy Arnold called for a motion to approve the items under the Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Mayor Kevin Cole and seconded by Mayor Joe Zimmerman. The Council voted and the item was passed.

#### ITEM 7. APPOINTMENT OF TPC 2025 NOMINATING COMMITTEE, ALLIE ISBELL, H-GAC

Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, presented the list recommended by Chair Justin Beckendorff to be members of the 2025 TPC Nominating Committee. This committee will be responsible for reviewing and recommending the nominations mentioned in Item 5A. The recommended members are as follows:

- Council Member Sally Branson - Friendswood
- Judge Mark Keough – Montgomery County
- Commissioner Lesley Briones – Harris County
- Dr Carol Lewis – Gulf Coast Rail District
- Mayor Joe Zimmerman – Sugar Land
- Commissioner Ryan Dagley – Chambers County
- Council Member Howard Wood - Conroe
- Council Member Sallie Alcorn - Houston

Ms. Isbell requested TPC approval of the recommended 2025 TPC Nominating Committee. A motion was made by Mayor Joe Zimmerman and seconded by Judge Mark Keough. The Council voted and approved the 2025 TPC Nominating Committee. The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 7 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

#### ITEM 8. 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS, CALLIE BARNES, H-GAC AND JIM DICKINSON, H-GAC

##### A. Carryover Spend Down CMAQ TIP Amendments

Ms. Callie Barnes, H-GAC, gave the Council a presentation on CMAQ Carryover Spend Down Projects. Ms. Barnes provided details on projects submitted, methodology, current recommended CMAQ projects. Ms. Barnes informed the Council on a pause requested by TxDOT on CMAQ projects. TxDOT will review the projects and give comments by November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Staff expects to present them for action at the December TPC meeting. A comment period occurred after the presentation.

##### B. TIP Amendments

Mr. Jim Dickinson, H-GAC, presented A summary of the proposed revision to the Texas Department of Transportation Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Program is included below.

- Program an additional \$993K of federal Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funds, matched with local funds by the City of Bellaire, to cover the increased cost estimates that are due to inflation. The project scope will also be modified to use the most appropriate technology.

A summary of the proposed revision to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program is included below.

- Program 3.7M Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) in lieu of matching funds for the Uptown Management District's Transportation Alternative Set-Aside (TASA) funded West Loop Shared-Use Path construction project.

Mr. Dickinson requested approval of TPC Resolution No. 2024-42 and TPC Resolution No. 2024-43. A discussion period occurred after the presentation. A motion was made by Mayor Joe Zimmerman and seconded by Mayor Kevin Cole. The Council voted and approved TPC Resolution No. 2024-42 and TPC Resolution No. 2024-43. The presentation, comments, questions, answers and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

#### ITEM 9. PROPOSED STRATEGIC HIGHWAY NETWORK (STRAHNET) DESIGNATION LOCATIONS, ALLIE ISBEL, H-GAC

Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, provided a presentation on the Proposed Strategic Highway Network Designation locations. The STRAHNET is a 62,792- mile system of roads deemed necessary for emergency mobilization and peacetime movement of heavy armor, fuel, ammunition, repair parts, food, and other commodities to support U.S. military operations. 14 routes were added in Texas, 1 within the H-GAC region. Ms. Isbell requested TPC concurrence to enable submission to the Federal Highway Administration. Ms. Isbell requested approval of TPC Resolution No. 2024-36. A motion was made by Mayor Zimmerman and seconded by Mayor Kevin Cole. The Council voted and approved TPC Resolution No. 2024-36. The presentation, comments, questions, answers and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

#### ITEM 10. REGIONAL GOODS MOVEMENT WORKSHOP UPDATE, SYDNI LIGONS, H-GAC

Ms. Sydni Ligons, H-GAC, provided an update to the Council on the Regional Goods Movement Workshop. The Regional Goods Movement Plan is a long-range plan for a system of movement of goods in the Houston-Galveston Region. The plan is designed to ensure the region can continue playing a critical role in national and international supply chains while meeting many goals in the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan. Ms. Ligons proceeded to inform the Council that H-GAC hosted a RGM Plan Lessons Learned Workshop in September where the plan was reviewed, recommendations were made and next steps discussed. The presentation, comments, questions, answers and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

#### ITEM 11. UPDATE ON MPO DIRECTOR RECRUITMENT, CHUCK WEMPLE, H-GAC

Mr. Chuck Wemple, H-GAC, provided an update on the MPO Director position recruitment. Mr. Wemple informed the Council that he attended a great meeting with the TPC Executive Committee prior to the November TPC Meeting to discuss the recruitment process. The TPC Executive Committee discussed recruiter selection, which should be complete by the Thanksgiving break and a recruiter should be engaged by the first week in December. A very active approach which will include a national search and will involve the TPC Executive Committee and the team from H-GAC. Mr. Wemple looks forward to updating the Council next month. The presentation, comments, questions, answers, and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 12. FUTURE AMENDMENTS TO THE 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN, JIM DICKINSON, H-GAC

Mr. Jim Dickinson, H-GAC, provided a summary of the proposed revisions to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program is included below:

- Program the remaining \$43.2M of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds approved as part of the 2018 Call-for-Projects, matched with 10.6M Transportation Development Credits, in Houston-Galveston Area Council's FY 2026 Regional Freeway Incident Management project (MPO ID 18856). Advance from FY 2026 to FY 2025 and group in TXDOT's Statewide Safety Program.

The presentation, comments, questions, answers, and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJORNMENT

Transportation Advisory Committee, December 11, 2024 – 9:30 a.m. – In person

Transportation Policy Council, December 20, 2024 – 9:30 a.m. – In person

Nomination and Appointment Forms Due, December 27, 9:30 a.m. – N/A

Chairman Justin Beckendorff adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

The presentation, comments, questions, and discussion are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

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Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary  
Transportation Policy Council

**Attachment 1**  
MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC)  
FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON  
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA  
**November 15, 2024**

ROLL

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Baytown, City of	_____ Honorable Brandon Capetillo Mayor <u>  X  </u> Jason Reynolds – Alternate	City of Baytown
Conroe, City of	<u>  X  </u> Honorable Howard Wood Council Member _____ Norman McGuire – Alternate	City of Conroe
Galveston, City of	<u>  X  </u> Honorable Marie Robb Council Member _____ Hon. David Finklea - Alternate	City of Galveston
Houston, City of	<u>  X  </u> Honorable Sallie Alcorn Council Member _____ Honorable Abbie Kamin- Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	<u>  X  </u> Honorable Carolyn Evans-Shabazz Council Member _____ Honorable Joaquin Martinez - Alternate	City of Houston
Houston, City of	_____ Randy Macchi Chief Operating Officer -Public Works _____ Steven David - Alternate	City of Houston
League City, City of	_____ Honorable Tommy Cones Council Member _____ Honorable Andy Mann - Alternate	City of League City
Missouri City, City of	<u>  X  </u> Shashi Kumar, P.E.. Director of Public Works _____ Marcus Snell – Alternate	City of Missouri City
Pasadena, City of	_____ Sarah Benavides, P.E. Sr. Assistant Public Works Director _____ Mark Gardemal – Alternate	City of Pasadena

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Pearland, City of	<u>  X  </u> Honorable Kevin Cole- <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair</b> Mayor <u>      </u> Trent Epperson-Alternate	City of Pearland
Sugar Land, City of	<u>  X  </u> Honorable Joe Zimmerman Mayor <u>      </u> Honorable Suzanne Whatley – Alternate	City of Sugar Land
Texas City, City of	<u>      </u> Honorable Dedrick Johnson Mayor <u>  X  </u> Jon Branson - Alternate	City of Texas City
Smaller Cities-Position 1-Primary	<u>  X  </u> Hon. Nancy Arnold Council Member, <b>Secretary</b>	Smaller Cities Harris County
Smaller Cities Position 1-Alternate	<u>      </u> Honorable Sally Branson-Alternate	
Smaller Cities Position 2- Primary	<u>      </u> Vacant	
Smaller Cities Position 2- Alternate	<u>      </u> Vacant	
The Woodlands Township	<u>  X  </u> Dr. Ann K. Snyder Chair, The Woodlands Township Board <u>      </u> Kyle Watson-Alternate	The Woodlands Township
Brazoria County	<u>      </u> Matt Hanks, JD, P.E. County Engineer <u>      </u> Honorable David Linder – Alternate	Brazoria County
Chambers County	<u>  X  </u> Honorable Ryan Dagley County Commissioner <u>      </u> Honorable Tommy Hammond. - Alternate	Chambers County
Fort Bend County	<u>  X  </u> Honorable Grady Prestage County Commissioner, <b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair</b> <u>      </u> Stacy Slawinski, P.E. – Alternate	Fort Bend County
Galveston County	<u>      </u> Honorable Robin Armstrong County Commissioner <u>      </u> Honorable Joe Giusti– Alternate	Galveston County
Harris County	<u>      </u> Honorable Lesley Briones County Commissioner, Pct. 4 <u>      </u> Roberto Treviño, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBERSHIP/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Harris County	<u>_____</u>	Honorable Adrian Garcia County Commissioner, Pct. 2	Harris County
	<u>X</u>	Milton Rahman, P.E. – Alternate	
Liberty County	<u>_____</u>	Honorable Bruce Karbowski County Commissioner, Pct. 1	Liberty County
	<u>_____</u>	Honorable Jay Knight - Alternate	
Montgomery County	<u>X</u>	Honorable Mark Keough County Judge	Montgomery County
	<u>_____</u>	Commissioner, Matt Gray – Alternate	
Waller County	<u>X</u>	Honorable Justin Beckendorff County Commissioner – <b>Chair</b>	Waller County
	<u>_____</u>	Commissioner, Kendric Jones- Alternate	
Houston Metropolitan Transit Authority	<u>_____</u>	Elizabeth Gonzalez Brock METRO Chair	METRO
	<u>X</u>	Thomas Jasien-Alternate	
TxDOT-Houston	<u>_____</u>	Vacant	TxDOT Houston District
	<u>_____</u>	District Engineer	
	<u>X</u>	Varuna Singh, P.E.– Alternate	
TxDOT-Beaumont	<u>X</u>	Martin Gonzalez, P.E. District Engineer	TxDOT Beaumont District
	<u>_____</u>	Ana I. Mijares, P.E. – Alternate	
Port Interests	<u>_____</u>	Phyllis Saathoff Executive Director, Port Freeport	Port Interests
	<u>_____</u>	Vacant-Alternate	
Gulf Coast Rail District	<u>X</u>	Dr. Carol Lewis Chair, GCRD	Gulf Coast Rail District
	<u>_____</u>	Jeff Ross - Alternate	
	<u>28</u>	<b>Total Voting Membership</b>	
	<u>20</u>	<b>Voting Membership Present</b>	
	<u>15</u>	<b>Required Quorum</b>	

AGENCY

Texas State Senate  
Texas State Legislator  
Texas State Legislator  
Wharton County  
Freight Rail Interests  
Freight Rail Interests

FHWA  
H-GAC  
TxDOT-Houston

EX-OFFICIOS

\_\_\_\_\_ Hon. Carol Alvarado  
\_\_\_\_\_ Hon. Dennis Paul  
\_\_\_\_\_ Hon. Ed Thompson  
\_\_\_\_\_ Hon. Phillip Spenrath  
\_\_\_\_\_ Clint Schelbitzki  
  X   Richard Zientek

**NON-VOTING**

\_\_\_\_\_ Jose Campos  
  X   Chuck Wemple  
  X   Catherine McCreight

REPRESENTING

8-County Region  
8-County Region  
8-County Region  
Wharton County  
Freight Rail Interests  
Freight Rail Interests

FHWA  
H-GAC  
TxDOT-Houston