

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

DATE: Friday, July 26, 2024
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
PLACE: 3555 Timmons Lane, Conference Room B, Houston, Texas 77027

The presiding officer, Chair Justin Beckendorff called the Transportation Policy Council (TPC) meeting of July 26, 2024 at 9:30 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. Diane Domagas, H-GAC, informed the Council and the Public on how to provide Public comment virtually. Ms. Domagas also introduced Maria Alegrett who provided Spanish translation upon request and introduced the American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters available as Jennifer Maker and Aimee Jordan on video. The public could access those services by following instructions on the screen via Zoom. One written comment was submitted by 5:00 p.m. on July 25th. Ms. Domagas read the comment to the Council. The Public was asked to come forward to provide public comments in person and can be heard in the meeting recording. No comments were provided online. 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, MR. CRAIG RABORN, H-GAC

A. Planning Activities Report

Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, informed the Council about the report on Planning Activities was provided to the Council in the meeting packet.

B. Project Selection Process Update

Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, gave a brief update on the Project Selection Process and informed the Council staff has completed scoring of all submitted projects and distributed them to the sponsors. Staff is in the process of validating scores. Projects that scored at least 50 points in draft scores and can submit a benefit cost analysis by August 23rd. Mr. Raborn gave a summary of the projects and investment categories. Total Cost \$21.5 B.

C. Language Access Plan

Mr. Ayo Jibowu, H-GAC, gave an update on the Language Access Plan and informed the Council the Houston-Galveston Metropolitan Planning Area is one of the most diverse in the United States. Of 7.1 million residents, over 1.2 million are identified as “Limited in English Proficiency” (LEP) defined as:

- Primary (“home”) language is not English, and
- Limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand communication in English

The Language Access Plan will facilitate meaningful access to H-GAC’s programs and activities for stakeholders with limited English proficiency. A 30-day public comments period open from July 22, 2024-August 21, 2024. A virtual public meeting is scheduled on August 15, 2024 and the TAC and TPC will take action in September 2024. The Draft Language Access Plan can be viewed at <https://www.h-gac.com/go/lap>. A question, answers and comment period occurred after the presentation regarding this agenda item and the Project Selection Process.

D. H-GAC Board

Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, gave the Council a brief recap of the Transportation related items presented and approved by the Board on July 16, 2024. The Board report was provided to Council in the meeting packet prior to the meeting. Mr. Raborn also informed the Council about upcoming board items that will be presented to the Board in August.

E. Carryover Balance Update – This item will be covered in Agenda Item 11.

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

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. TPC June 28, 2024 Meeting Minutes Summary

A motion was made by Secretary Nancy Arnold to approve the Meeting Summary of June 28, 2024. The motion was seconded by Chuck Wemple. The Council voted and approved the motion. The presentation, comments, questions, answers and discussion are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 7. AMENDMENTS TO THE 2025-2026 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND THE 2045 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN, ADAM BECKOM, H-GAC

Mr. Jim Dickinson, H-GAC, gave a presentation on the Amendments to the 2025-2026 Transportation Improvement Plan and the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan. A summary of the proposed revisions to the 2025-2026 TIP and 2045 RTP is included below:

- Program METRO’s State of Good Repair Vehicle Replacements project (19082) in FY 2025 funded with \$9.1M Federal Transit Administration FY 2023 Section 5339 formula funds and 1.8M Transportation Development Credits in lieu of matching funds. It was inadvertently left out of the FY 2025-2028 TIP.
- Program METRO’s State of Good Repair Vehicle Replacements project (19143) in FY 2025 funded with \$275K Federal Transit Administration FY 2021 Section 5339 formula funds and 55K

Transportation Development Credits in lieu of matching funds. These funds are being transferred from Gulf Coast Transit District to METRO to preclude from lapsing.

A motion was made by Mayor Joe Zimmerman and seconded by Mayor Kevin Cole. The Council voted and approved TPC Resolutions 2024-17 and 2024-18. The presentation, comments, questions and discussion are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 8. CARRYOVER SPEND DOWN PROJECTS UPDATE, CALLIE BARNES, H-GAC

Ms. Callie Barnes, H-GAC, proceeded to inform the Council that in December 2023 staff had 60 projects with 25 Sponsors and programmed \$335M. Projects will be let or transferred to FTA by August 2025 and if projects are successful we will generate \$23M for Regional Strategic Transportation Fund Program. One project has let to date from the TxDOT-Houston District for \$21M. Ms. Barnes gave the Council a recap of the ongoing tasks staff is working on now with specifics and presented a table of 7 additional carry over spend down projects for consideration with a total of \$44M and will generate \$5M for the Regional Strategic Transportation Fund. This presentation is a preview for the Council and will be brought back for approval in August. A brief question, answer and comment period after the presentation. The presentation, comments, questions, answers and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 9. DRAFT 2025 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM, CRAIG RABORN, H-GAC

Mr. Craig Raborn, H-GAC, gave a presentation on the Unified Planning Work Program and began with a brief overview and background of the program. The current UPWP was adopted by the Transportation Policy Council on September 8, 2023 and ends on September 30, 2024. Mr. Raborn outlined the basic structure of the UPWP and each task includes multiple subtasks, Summaries of previous, current, future planning activities, and Budget Summaries for each task. Mr. Raborn gave the Council a recap of the current UPWP Progress Status, specifics on the 2024 UPWP Overall Summary, the 2023 New Task IV description which was approved by the TPC in September 2023 and informed the Council on retained new elements from the 2024 version, any updates and changes to the Draft 2025 Unified Planning Work Program, an overview of the 2025 UPWP Budget detail, a timeline for approval and a brief overview of future updates and activities. A question, answer, and comment period occurred after the presentation. The presentation, comments, questions, answers and discussion under this item are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 10. FUTURE TIP AMENDMENTS TO THE 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN, JIM DICKINSON, H-GAC

Mr. Jim Dickinson, H-GAC, gave a presentation on the Future TIP Amendments to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Plan and The Regional Transportation Plan. A summary of the proposed revisions to the 2025-2028 TIP and 2045 RTP is included below for the Council's review.

- Delay the FM 528 4-lane widening project in Brazoria County (MPO ID 17209) from FY 2030 to FY 2035 in the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan to allow for environmental clearances. (Total Project Cost: \$8.5M)
- Add \$4.2M of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding to the TxDOT Houston District's IH 45 North frontage road construction and operational improvements project in Montgomery County (MPO ID 17221) to cover updated cost estimates. (+\$4.2M; Total: \$18.0M)
- Add the \$7.0M federal Community Projects HR 4366 award (Category 10) to Montgomery County's FY 2025 Ford Road 4-lane widening project (MPO ID 18120). (+\$7.0M; Total: \$44.5M)
- Convert all State District Discretionary (Category 11) funding of TxDOT Houston District's US 290 truck parking lot construction project at FM 2920 in Harris County (MPO ID 18917) to a state contribution at TxDOT's request. (+\$0M; Total: \$1.8M)

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. COMPARISON OF THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA MPO TO OUR PEERS, CATHERINE MCCREIGHT, TxDOT-HOUSTON

Ms. Catherine McCreight, TxDOT-Houston, began her presentation providing an analysis on the Houston-Galveston Area Council MPO to our Peers. MPOs are required to do the 3C's of planning that is to provide a continuing, cooperative, comprehensive, and performance-based planning process. TxDOT provides oversight via FHWA Stewardship and Oversight Agreement and has entered into Planning Grant agreements between State, MPO and Fiscal Agent. Ms. McCreight described the responsibilities of the MPO to the Council. H-GAC submits an Annual Comprehensive Report. The reports provided to TxDOT auditors had no major finds and no concerns and H-GAC has fully implemented four of the six prior recommendations and partially implemented the other two recommendations. Ms. McCreight proceeded to describe a table that listed the Carryover balances for a 5-Year period for H-GAC, NCTCOG, AAMPO, and CAMPO and described a trend of increasing carry over balances amounts for H-GAC. Ms. McCreight also gave an overview of the RTP and described TPC approval dates for the RTP, Conformity Determination, revenue for 20 years, H-GAC funding in UTP (Categories 2,5,7,9, & 10) and gave specifics for each category. During the presentation, a TPC member requested she describe what type of projects could be programmed into each category. Ms. McCreight concluded her presentation by describing Carryover balances for a 10-year period for a total projected carryover \$733,045,562 in Cat 5, Cat 7 and Cat 9, the MPO Calls for Projects, HGAC Statewide TIP, NCTCOG STIP and summarized activity, concerns and risks. A lengthy period of questions, answers, and comments occurred after the presentation. The presentation, comments, questions and discussion are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

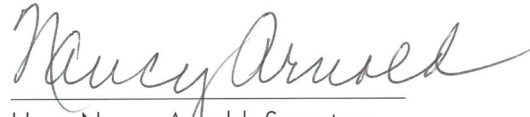
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJORNMENT

Transportation Advisory Committee will occur on August 14, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.. – In person
The Transportation Policy Council Meeting will occur on August 23, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.- In person

Chairman Justin Beckendorff adjourned the meeting at 11:51 a.m.

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

For Information Only. No action needed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Arnold". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Hon. Nancy Arnold, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

Attachment 1
 MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC)
 FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON
 TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA
 July 26, 2024

ROLL

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Baytown, City of	_____ Honorable Brandon Capetillo Mayor _____ 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	_____ Honorable Marie Robb Council Member _____ Hon. John Paul Listowski - 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	_____ <u>X</u> 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- 2nd Vice Chair Mayor Trent Epperson-Alternate	City of Pearland
Sugar Land, City of	<u> X </u> Honorable Joe Zimmerman Mayor Honorable Suzanne Whatley – Alternate	City of Sugar Land
Texas City, City of	<u> </u> Honorable Dedrick Johnson Mayor Jon Branson - Alternate	City of Texas City
Waller, City of	<u> X </u> Hon. Nancy Arnold Council Member, Secretary Honorable Sally Branson-Alternate	Smaller Cities Harris County
Friendswood, City of	<u> </u>	
The Woodlands Township	<u> X </u> Dr. Ann K. Snyder Chair, The Woodlands Township Board Kyle Watson-Alternate	The Woodlands Township
Brazoria County	<u> </u> Matt Hanks, JD, P.E. County Engineer Honorable David Linder – Alternate	Brazoria County
Chambers County	<u> </u> Honorable Ryan Dagley County Commissioner Honorable Tommy Hammond. - Alternate	Chambers County
Fort Bend County	<u> X </u> Honorable Grady Prestage County Commissioner, 1st Vice Chair Stacy Slawinski, P.E. – Alternate	Fort Bend County
Galveston County	<u> </u> Honorable Robin Armstrong County Commissioner Honorable Joe Giusti– Alternate	Galveston County
Harris County	<u> </u> Honorable Leslie Briones County Commissioner, Pct. 4 <u> X </u> Roberto Treviño, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Harris County	<u> X </u> Honorable Adrian Garcia County Commissioner, Pct. 2 Milton Rahman, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Liberty County	<u> </u> David Douglas Director of Economic Development Honorable Jay Knight - Alternate	Liberty County

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Montgomery County	<u> X </u> Honorable Mark Keough County Judge <u> </u> Commissioner, Matt Gray – Alternate	Montgomery County
Waller County	<u> X </u> Honorable Justin Beckendorff County Commissioner – Chair <u> </u> Commissioner, Kendric Jones- Alternate	Waller County
Houston Metropolitan Transit Authority	<u> </u> Elizabeth Gonzalez Brock METRO Chair <u> X </u> Thomas Jasien-Alternate	METRO
Houston-Galveston Area Council At Large	<u> X </u> Chuck Wemple Executive Director <u> </u> – Alternate	H-GAC
TxDOT-Houston	<u> </u> Eliza Paul, P. E. District Engineer <u> X </u> Varuna Singh, P.E.– Alternate	TxDOT Houston District
TxDOT-Beaumont	<u> X </u> Martin Gonzalez, P.E. District Engineer <u> </u> Ana I. Mijares, P.E. – Alternate	TxDOT Beaumont District
Other Transportation Interests	<u> X </u> Phyllis Saathoff Executive Director, Port Freeport <u> </u> Roger Guenther, Port Houston- Alternate	Other Transportation Interests
Gulf Coast Rail District	<u> X </u> Dr. Carol Lewis Chair, GCRD <u> </u> Jeff Ross - Alternate	Gulf Coast Rail District
	<u> 28 </u> Total Voting Membership	
	<u> 20 </u> Voting Membership Present	
	<u> 15 </u> Required Quorum	

AGENCY

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

REPRESENTING

Texas State Senate	_____ Hon. Carol Alvarado	8-County Region
Freight Rail Interests	_____ Clint Schelbitzki	Union Pacific
Texas State Legislator	_____ Hon. Dennis Paul	8-County Region
Texas State Legislator	_____ Hon. Ed Thompson	8-County Region
Wharton County	_____ Hon. Phillip Spenrath	Wharton County