

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

DATE: Friday, February 28, 2025
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 February 28, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. to order.

CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM, INTRODUCTIONS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chairman Justin Beckendorff recognized Ms. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, for the Certification of the Quorum and she conducted the Roll Call of the TPC membership. Fifteen (16) members comprise a quorum. A quorum was declared present and recorded on the Roll Call, which is included with these Minutes as Attachment 1. Chair Beckendorff 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. Allie Isbell, H-GAC, informed the Council that no written public comments were submitted before 5:00 p.m. on February 27, 2025. Ms. Isbell introduced Ms. Miriam Martin and asked her to provide Spanish translation instructions to the public on how to provide public comment. Members of the public provided comment in person and no public comments were provided online. American Sign Language translation services would be provided online by Mr. Robert Helms and Mr. Antonio Ramos. 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

Ms. Jamila Owens informed the Council that Item 13 and Item 14 on the March Agenda would be moved to the end of the agenda. The TDC workshop begins at 11:00 a.m. If the meeting runs long, the items are not time sensitive and could be brought back to a future TPC meeting.

A. Planning Activities Report

Ms. Jamila Owens, H-GAC, gave a brief recap of highlights on the planning activities report and summarized various activities to the Council.

B. HGAC Board Update

Ms. Jamila Owens, H-GAC, informed and described the four transportation items approved by the H-GAC Board to the Council at the meeting on February 17, 2025.

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

ITEM 6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Secretary Lesley Briones called for a motion to approve the January 24, 2025 TPC meeting minutes as presented. A motion was made by Judge Mark Keough and seconded. The Council voted and approved the January 24, 2025, TPC Meeting Minutes Summary.
- B. Chair Justin Beckendorff called for a motion to approve the TPC Nominating Committee recommendations for the Transportation Safety Committee. Council Member Sally Branson made a motion and the motion was seconded. The Council voted and approved the additional Transportation Safety Committee members below:

2025 TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

Category	Primary	Organization	Alternate	Organization
Healthcare/Education/Social Service/Advocacy Groups or Interested Citizens	Dominic Mazoch	Private Citizen	Vacant	Vacant
Public Transit, State, City, County Engineering & Planning	Robert Benz	TTI	Darrell Bochart	TTI
Public Transit, State, City, County Engineering & Planning	Ugonna Ughanze	TxDOT- Hou	James Keener	TxDOT-Hou
Public Transit, State, City, County Engineering & Planning	Melody Galland	TxDOT-Hou	Farhan Khan	TxDOT-Hou
Public Transit, State, City, County Engineering & Planning	Tom Kuczynski	Fort Bend County	Perry D'Armond	Fort Bend County

The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in [Item 6](#) are included in the meeting recording: [HERE](#)

ITEM 7. 2025-2028 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) AMENDMENTS, JIM DICKINSON, H-GAC

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

- Program TxDOT Houston District’s SH 99 direct connectors (WB-NB, SB-EB) construction project at IH 45 North (MPO ID 15591) with \$47.4 of State Toll funding in FY 2027 and retain the other four direct connectors in FY 2040 (MPO ID 19244) of the 2045 RTP at TxDOT’s request.

Mr. Dickinson requested approval of TPC Resolution No. 2025-09. A motion was made by Judge Mark Keough and was seconded. The Council voted and approved TPC Resolution No. 2025-09. The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in [Item 8](#) are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 8. QUARTERLY TIP STATUS REPORT, CALLIE BARNES, H-GAC

Ms. Callie Barnes, H-GAC, gave an update the Council on the Quarterly TIP Status Report. Ms. Barnes informed The Council In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Quarters 1 and 2 (September 2024 – February 2025), H-GAC met with 35 project sponsors regarding TIP projects in Category 5, 7, 9 and 10 Federal, Category 2 Federal with specifics. Ms. Barnes also recapped actions taken from those meetings and let the Council know of recommendations by staff with illustrations. A discussion occurred after the presentation. The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 8 are included in the meeting recording: [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 9. 10-YEAR FINANCIAL OUTLOOK: BALANCES SUMMARY, VISHU LINGALA, H-GAC

Mr. Vishu Lingala, H-GAC, presented a 10-Year Financial Outlook: Balances Summary. Mr. Lingala informed the Council the federal funding allocation that the MPO receives is in the Unified Transportation Program approved by the Texas Transportation Commission every August. It includes 12 funding categories with different eligibility criteria. There are two selection authorities, TxDOT and the MPO. Mr. Lingala focused on the categories under the MPO's authority and described the 5 categories, funding awards, and described specifics about the awards. Mr. Lingala gave a brief overview of projects previously approved and previewed projects for selection in 5 categories that staff will see approval for in Item 10. Mr. Lingala continued his presentation to the Council with an overview of current programming balances for 2025 – 2035 and proposed some staff recommendations to balance TIP funding to achieve fiscal constraint. Mr. Lingala concluded the presentation by informing the Council on programming and balances 2025-2035 which included proposed actions. A discussion occurred after the presentation. The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 9 are included in the meeting recording: [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 10. PROJECT SELECTION PROJECT LIST

Mr. Vishu Lingala, H-GAC, gave a presentation on the Project Selection Process Draft Project List. Mr. Lingala gave a brief overview with a timeline on the selection process and described the projects that are included in the 5 investment categories- Major Projects, High-Growth Area Needs, Operational Improvements, Congestion Management, Resiliency, State of Good Repair, Transit and Active Transportation. Mr. Lingala described the steps necessary for a project to move from Phase I and Phase II and the selection process. Mr. Lingala presented 19 recommended projects and described the categories with a total amount of \$967 in 7 counties in the MPA. Mr. Lingala requested the TPC to approve the Project Selection Process Draft Project List. A lengthy discussion period occurred after the presentation. A motion was made by Commissioner Lesley Briones and was seconded by Tom Jasien, METRO, to approve the second option recommend by the TAC. Discussion occurred after the motion. The Council voted and approved the Project Selection Project list. The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 10 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

ITEM 11. PELICAN ISLAND BRIDGE, COUNCIL MEMBER MARIE ROBB, CITY OF GALVESTON AND VARUNA SINGH, P.E.,TXDOT

Council Member Marie Robb, City of Galveston, gave a presentation on the Pelican Island Bridge. Council Member Robb gave a brief history of the bridge and updated the Council on current limitations of the

existing bridge is negatively impacting current business operations and hindering future growth opportunities. Pelican Island is mainly underdeveloped due to its limitations. its limitations, it is still the home 5 of the top 10 taxpayers. With future development there have been inquiries from various industries. The Pelican Island Bridge has wide support by Federal, State and Regional support.

Mr. Varuna Singh, TxDOT, gave the Council an overview of the Pelican Island Bridge Replacement Project. Mr. Singh began his presentation with a subregional overview of the bridge and its location, its current ownership and its future ownership once completed. Mr. Singh informed the Council the new bridge is a capital improvement to replace aging infrastructure. Increasing maintenance costs of over \$5M for repairs spent in the last 5 years. A new bridge would enable regional and statewide economic growth. Mr. Singh described a timeline on preliminary studies, schematic design and environmental clearance, required permitting approvals, design, bidding and construction, and project cost and funding. Total committed funding \$145M with a funding gap of -\$139.50M. A lengthy discussion period occurred after the presentation. The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 11 are included in the meeting recording: [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 12. SAFETY PERFORMANCE MEASURES, STEPHEN KEEN, H-GAC

Mr. Stephen Keen, H-GAC, presented an overview of the Safety Performance Measures. The Houston-Galveston Area Council and TxDOT are required to annually submit safety performance measures to the Federal Highway Administration. The MPO supports the State's Safety Performance Measures. The five safety performance measures are listed below:

- Number of Fatalities
- Rate of fatalities (per 100 million vehicle miles traveled)
- Number of Serious injuries
- Rate of Serious injuries (per 100 million vehicle miles traveled)
- Number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries

Mr. Keen described the 2024 performance Proposed Measures and 2024 Actuals, Fatalities, Serious injuries, non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries which has been an increasing trend since 2020, and 2025 Performance Proposed Measures, current and ongoing activities. A discussion period occurred after the presentation. Mr. Keen requested approval of the Safety Performance Measures. A motion was made and seconded. The Council voted and approved the Safety Performance Measures, The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 12 are included in the meeting recording: [HERE](#)

ITEM 13. 2050 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

Item was moved to a future TPC Meeting

ITEM 14. OLD SIXTH WARD/TIRZ13 MOBILITY PLAN, PHASE II

Item was moved to a future TPC Meeting

ITEM 15. UPDATE ON MPO DIRECTOR RECRUITMENT, TERI RAMSEY, H-GAC

Ms. Teri Ramsey, H-GAC, provided an update on the MPO Director position recruitment. Ms. Ramsey informed the Council H-GAC has partnered with Mackenzie Eason, a recruiter specializing in finding the Chief or Director of Transportation. Ms. Ramsey gave the Council an overview of the ongoing activities regarding that search. Mr. Chuck Wemple informed the Council that they communicate with the Executive Committee regularly and will begin interviews in March. The presentation comments, questions answers and discussion in Item 15 are included in the meeting recording [HERE](#)

For Information Only. No action needed.

ITEM 16. FUTURE AMENDMENTS TO THE 2025 -2028 TRANSPORTATON IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Item was moved to a future TPC Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJORNMENT

Transportation Advisory Committee, March 19, 2025 – 9:30 a.m. – In person
Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee (RAQPAC), March 27, 2025, 10:00 a.m. – Virtual
Transportation Policy Council, March 28, 2025 – 9:30 a.m. – In person

Chairman Justin Beckendorff adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

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

For Information Only. No action needed.

Hon. Lesley Briones, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council

Attachment 1
 MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COUNCIL (TPC)
 FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON
 TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREA
February 28, 2025

ROLL

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBER/ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>	
Baytown, City of	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Honorable Jacob Powell Council Member 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 Willie Davis- 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	<u> X </u> _____ _____	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	_____ _____ _____	Honorable Dedrick Johnson Mayor Jon Branson - Alternate	City of Texas City
Smaller Cities – Position 1	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Hon. Joe Garcia City of Pattison Honorable Chad Nevasdba-Alternate City of Needville	Smaller Cities
Smaller Cities – Position 2	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Hon. Sally Branson City of Friendswood Hon. Ross Gordon-Alternate City of Bellaire	Smaller Cities
Smaller Cities – Position 3	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Hon. John Escoto City of Shenandoah Hon. Matthew Dantzer-Alternate City of Magnolia	Smaller Cities
The Woodlands Township	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Dr. Ann K. Snyder Chair, The Woodlands Township Board Craig Eissler-Alternate	The Woodlands Township
Brazoria County	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Matt Hanks, JD, P.E. County Engineer Honorable David Linder – Alternate	Brazoria County
Chambers County	<u> X </u> _____ _____	Honorable Ryan Dagley County Commissioner Honorable Tommy Hammond.-Alternate	Chambers County
Fort Bend County	_____ _____ _____	Honorable Grady Prestage County Commissioner, 1st Vice Chair Stacy Slawinski, P.E. – Alternate	Fort Bend County

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>VOTING MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Galveston County	_____ Honorable Robin Armstrong County Commissioner _____ Honorable Joe Giusti– Alternate	Galveston County
Harris County	<u> X </u> Honorable Lesley Briones- Secretary County Commissioner, Pct. 4 _____ Roberto Treviño, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Harris County	_____ Honorable Adrian Garcia County Commissioner, Pct. 2 <u> X </u> Milton Rahman, P.E. – Alternate	Harris County
Liberty County	<u> X </u> Honorable Jay Knight County Judge _____ Honorable Bruce Karbowski - Alternate	Liberty County
Montgomery County	<u> X </u> Honorable Mark Keough County Judge _____ Matt Gray – Alternate	Montgomery County
Waller County	<u> X </u> Honorable Justin Beckendorff County Commissioner – Chair _____ Kendric Jones- Alternate	Waller County
Houston Metropolitan Transit Authority	_____ Elizabeth Gonzalez Brock METRO Chair <u> X </u> Thomas Jasien-Alternate	METRO
TxDOT-Houston	<u> X </u> Glenn Allbritton, P.E. District Engineer _____ Varuna Singh, P.E.– Alternate	TxDOT Houston District
TxDOT-Beaumont	_____ Martin Gonzalez, P.E. District Engineer _____ Ana I. Mijares, P.E. – Alternate	TxDOT Beaumont District
Port Freeport	_____ Phyllis Saathoff Executive Director _____ Rob Lowe-Alternate	Port Freeport
Port Houston	<u> X </u> Charlie Jenkins Chief Executive Officer _____ Kerrick Henny-Alternate _____	Port Houston

AGENCY

VOTING MEMBERSHIP

REPRESENTING

Gulf Coast Rail District

 X Veronica Chapa-Gorczynski
 GCRD Chair
 Hon. Jon Keeney-Alternate

Gulf Coast Rail District

 31 Total Voting Membership

 23 Voting Membership Present

 16 Required Quorum

AGENCY

NON-VOTING EX-OFFICIOS

REPRESENTING

Texas State Senate

 Hon. Carol Alvarado

8-County Region

Freight Rail Interests

 X Clint Schelbitzki

Union Pacific

Texas State Legislator

 Hon. Dennis Paul

8-County Region

Wharton County

 X Hon. Phillip Spenrath

Wharton County

NON-VOTING

H-GAC

 X Chuck Wemple

H-GAC

TxDOT-Houston

 X Catherine McCreight

TxDOT-Houston