

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> </u>	Honorable Carolyn Evans-Shabazz Council Member	City of Houston
	<u> X </u>	Honorable Joaquin Martinez - Alternate	
Houston, City of	<u> </u>	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	<u> </u>	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> </u>	Honorable Joe Zimmerman Mayor	City of Sugar Land
	<u> X </u>	Honorable Suzanne Whatley – Alternate	
Texas City, City of	<u> </u>	Honorable Dedrick Johnson Mayor	City of Texas City
	<u> </u>	Jon Branson - Alternate	
Smaller Cities – Position 1	<u> X </u>	Hon. Joe Garcia City of Pattison	Smaller Cities
	<u> </u>	Honorable Chad Nevasdba-Alternate City of Needville	
Smaller Cities – Position 2	<u> X </u>	Hon. Sally Branson City of Friendswood	Smaller Cities
	<u> </u>	Hon. Ross Gordon-Alternate City of Bellaire	
Smaller Cities – Position 3	<u> X </u>	Hon. John Escoto City of Shenandoah	Smaller Cities
	<u> </u>	Hon. Matthew Dantzer-Alternate City of Magnolia	
The Woodlands Township	<u> X </u>	Dr. Ann K. Snyder Chair, The Woodlands Township Board	The Woodlands Township
	<u> </u>	Craig Eissler-Alternate	
Brazoria County	<u> X </u>	Matt Hanks, JD, P.E. County Engineer	Brazoria County
	<u> </u>	Honorable David Linder – Alternate	
Chambers County	<u> X </u>	Honorable Ryan Dagley County Commissioner	Chambers County
	<u> </u>	Honorable Tommy Hammond.-Alternate	
Fort Bend County	<u> </u>	Honorable Grady Prestage County Commissioner, 1st Vice Chair	Fort Bend County
	<u> </u>	Stacy Slawinski, P.E. – Alternate	

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

AGENCY

VOTING MEMBERSHIP

REPRESENTING

Gulf Coast Rail District	<u> X </u>	Veronica Chapa-Gorczyński GCRD Chair
	<u> </u>	Hon. Jon Keeney-Alternate
	<u> 31 </u>	Total Voting Membership
	<u> 23 </u>	Voting Membership Present
	<u> 16 </u>	Required Quorum

Gulf Coast Rail District

AGENCY

NON-VOTING EX-OFFICIOS

REPRESENTING

Texas State Senate	<u> </u>	Hon. Carol Alvarado
Freight Rail Interests	<u> X </u>	Clint Schelbitzki
Texas State Legislator	<u> </u>	Hon. Dennis Paul
Wharton County	<u> X </u>	Hon. Phillip Spenrath

8-County Region

Union Pacific

8-County Region

Wharton County

NON-VOTING

H-GAC	<u> X </u>	Chuck Wemple
TxDOT-Houston	<u> X </u>	Catherine McCreight

H-GAC

TxDOT-Houston