

**Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Subcommittee Meeting**

Houston-Galveston Area Council
Online Meeting\Conference Call
Wednesday November 3, 2021
1:30 PM

AGENDA

1. Subcommittee Roll Call

2. Previous Meeting Summary (*A summary of the November 3, 2021 Meeting is Posted on H-GAC Website*)

3. 2023 – 2026 TIP Development Update

Staff will provide an update on the development of the 2023 – 2026 Transportation Improvement Program document which will be submitted to the Texas Department of Transportation for inclusion in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program in June 2022.

4. Call for Project Development Update

Staff will continue the update on the development of the next call for projects with a highlight of the urban and rural definitions.

5. Comments and Discussion.

6. Announcements

- TAC Meeting – November 10, 2021, 9:30 a.m., Teleconference (Zoom)
- TPC Meeting – November 19, 2021, 9:30 a.m., Teleconference (Zoom)
- TIP Subcommittee Meeting – December 1, 2021, 1:30 p.m., Teleconference (Zoom)

7. Adjourn

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

Wednesday, November 3, 2021 – 1:30pm

Houston-Galveston Area Council

Online Meeting (Teams Platform)

MEMBERS PRESENT

Veronica Chapa-Gorczyński – East End District

Billy Combs – Chambers County

David Douglas – Liberty County

Frank Simoneaux – City of Baytown

Lloyd Smith – Harris County

Shashi Kumar – City of Missouri City

Stacy Slawinski – Fort Bend County

Veronica Davis – City of Houston-PW

Yancy Scott – Waller County

Scott Ayres – TxDOT-BMT

Ruthanne Haut – The Woodlands Township

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Karen McKinnon – Brazoria County

Krystal Lastrape – City of Sugarland

David Wurdlow – City of Houston-PW

Catherine McCreight – TxDOT-HOU

Item 1: Subcommittee Roll Call

The meeting started with a roll call to determine the members and/or alternatives present.

Item 2: Previous Meeting Summary

Members were encouraged to review the October 2021 meeting summary posted on the H-GAC Website and forward any questions, comments, or updates to staff as they thought necessary.

Item 3: 2023 – 2026 TIP Development Update (Adam Beckom)

Adam Beckom described the process to develop the TIP document, starting with ongoing “project readiness” reviews with the sponsors to establish the appropriate placement within the implementation schedule. Adam then presented the proposed timeline for developing a fiscally constrained draft TIP document, public meetings and the TAC\TPC reviews, through to the submission of the final TIP document to TXDOT in the summer of 2022.

Item 4: Call for Project Development Update (Vishu Lingala)

1. After considering several options for the urban\rural\suburban area planning factor criteria, staff recommend creating a “set aside” of a percentage of total available funds for use for rural area projects and for urban area projects. Projects will compete for funding on an equal footing viz rural against rural projects and urban against urban projects. The rural\urban boundary will be determined by urbanized area boundary maps based on the U.S. Census data or on activity density.
2. Reevaluated positions related to programming and project readiness based on comments:
 - a. Because securing USACE permits and Railroad Agreements are expected to take longer than they have in the past, projects without these authorizations in hand may still be programmed for construction – but not earlier than Year 4 or 5 of the ten-year plan.
 - b. Projects that need utility relocation will be considered for programming based on evidence that some coordination with the utility company has already occurred. Relocation activity can take place after the project is let.
 - c. If a project triggers a new conformity determination, the project will be programmed in the appropriate year after the next conformity determination is done.
 - d. When a project will be built or operated on an asset owned or controlled by another agency (or several agencies), coordination between every jurisdiction so concerned will be required.

Item 5: Comments and Discussion

Questions\Comments raised for consideration include:

- How will the funding be divided between projects identified as “Rural” or as “Urban” especially considering that corridors may extend beyond each boundary?
- The regional suballocation of surface transportation block grant funds is determined by the population within the urbanized area; whereas other funding sources are not determined like that. The actual implementation may therefore vary based on the funding source.
- Certain areas within the Beltway urban enclave but are in unincorporated Harris County may not score as well as other urban areas because of the disparity in activity density.
- How will the suburban region be handled under staff recommendations? Simplicity is desirable.
- Beyond “coordination,” a sponsor must have legal authority to impact another agency’s assets.

- Will demographic data – ethnicity, household income etc. related to the geography be provided? How did the project programming from the last call look when grouped by this geography? [*Compare with Liveable Centers Community Needs Index*]

Item 6: Announcements

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Item 7: Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.