



EXIT 762
Silber Rd
N Post Oak Rd
3/4 MILE

SPEED
LIMIT
60

EXIT 762
Silber Rd
N Post Oak Rd

PRIVATE
STORAGE

EAT IN FIVE LANGUAGE

2012 Mobility Report

The Houston-Galveston region's dynamic economy has enabled it to recover from the national recession quickly, outperforming its national peers. As one of the fastest growing economies in North America, adequate investment in transportation remains a critical challenge to sustained regional job creation, economic prosperity and quality of life.

Introduction

In 2012, the eight county Houston-Galveston region grew faster than any other region in the State of Texas. Since 2010, estimates indicate that the region's population has grown 4.4% and has seen a 4.6% increase in jobs. By 2040, the region is expected to add 3.3 million residents and 1.5 million jobs. Much of its economic activity depends on a safe and efficient transportation system that moves people and goods regionally, nationally and internationally. Using the stated goals of the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan Update, this report provides leading indicators of the performance of the region's transportation system and describes some key investments made last year to maintain, operate and expand it.

Goal 1 – Improve Mobility and Reduce Congestion

Economic recovery in the region and State is increasing traffic on the roadway system due to greater movement of people and goods. In just one year, the Daily Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) in the eight-county area increased 1% (an additional 1.5 million vehicle miles each day). Since 2009, VMT has grown 5%. Increasing daily VMT also increased congestion costs 2% last year. Along with the cost for fuel, insurance and other expenses, annual congestion costs have grown to \$1090 per year for the typical auto commuter. Despite a small increase in suburban transit use, overall transit ridership in the region experienced a 2% decline in Passenger Miles of Travel (PMT) in 2011 (the most recent reporting year).

Goal 2 – Improve Access to Jobs, Homes and Services

As shown on the attached map and table, almost \$1 billion in multimodal transportation improvements let to contract in 2012. These improvements added highway and transit capacity in several major travel corridors, including BW-8 (Sam Houston Parkway), SH 99 segment D, and METRO's East End and Southeast light rail corridors. Local governments expanded the regional bikeway network, adding 14.7 miles of bicycle lanes in 2011.

Goal 3 – Preserve the Transportation System

TxDOT has made significant gains in improving the condition of the region's pavements and bridges. The percentage of roadways rated in "good or better" condition increased to 81%, while the percentage of bridges rated "good or better" increased to 83%. "One-time" investment opportunities such as the federal American Rehabilitation and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and various state bond programs have been important resources enabling some "catch up" during the economic downturn. Due to flat or declining motor vehicle tax revenues, TxDOT expenditures for maintenance fell 13% to \$276 million in 2012. As a result, the State's ability to maintain the condition of its system remains uncertain.

Goal 4 – Support Economic Growth

The strengthening regional economy contributed to increased freight and passengers moving through the region's ports and commercial airports. Total tonnage at ports increased 2% to 332 million "short" tons (2,000 lbs each) at the region's four ports: Houston, Galveston, Freeport, and Texas City. The number of passengers traveling from Bush Intercontinental and Hobby airports increased 1% to 25 million in 2012.

Goal 5 – Create a Healthier Environment

The Houston-Galveston region continues to reduce vehicle emissions through its Commute Solutions and Clean Cities/Clean Vehicles programs. The Clean Vehicles program aids fleet operators in replacing older diesel engines with new, cleaner engines and supports the use of clean alternative fuels (such as compressed and liquefied natural gas). In 2012, these programs achieved 514 tons of NOx (a key component of smog) emissions reductions per year.

Goal 6 – Safety – Minimizing Crashes and Deaths

Safety is a top regional priority. In 2012, the region experienced a significant increase in the number of vehicle crashes compared to 2011. Vehicle crashes increased 15% (a 6% increase compared to the 5-year average) to 102,400. Additionally, traffic fatalities increased 3% to 565. In 2012, H-GAC launched a distracted driving awareness campaign and a coordinated, multi-community DWI enforcement initiative. Local governments and transportation agencies are working with TxDOT to identify, implement and enhance traffic management and law enforcement focused on reducing the frequency and severity of crashes.

Goal 7 – Increase Transit Options














METRO continued its development of the light rail system along its North, Southeast, and East End lines. Additionally, local transit agencies are redoubling efforts to increase ridership through local bus service improvements. In the past several years, suburban transit utilization has seen a consistent increase within Harris County, Fort Bend County and Brazos Transit services.

Summary

The region's relatively quick recovery from the recession and subsequent growth has resulted in a thriving economy dependent on a safe and efficient transportation system. Although the condition of the roadway system has improved, funding for infrastructure investment has not been enough to reduce congestion costs and vehicle crashes. Of added concern is the decline in transit ridership.

For additional transportation system performance measures visit www.h-gac.com/taq/performance.

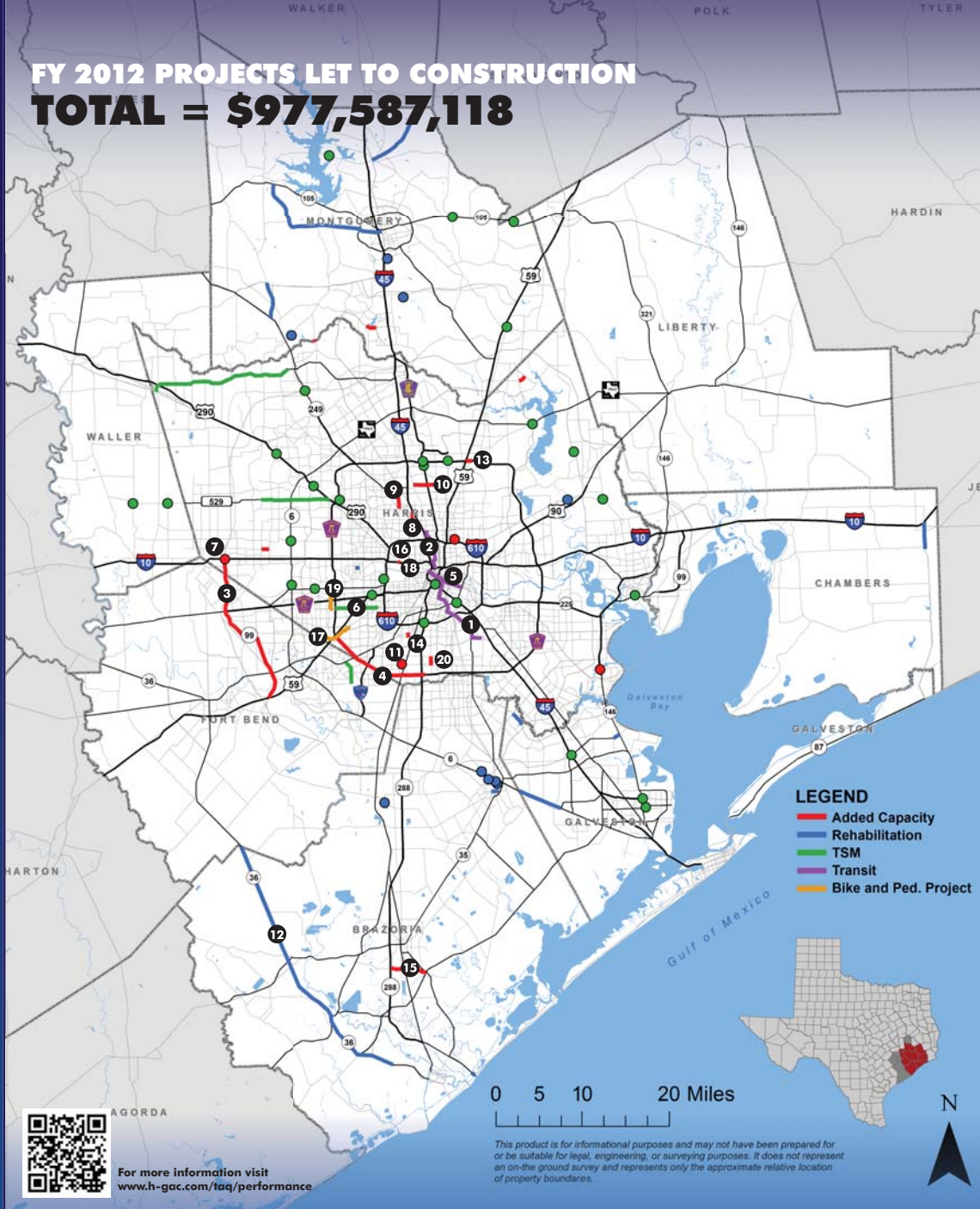
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. IMPROVE MOBILITY AND REDUCE CONGESTION			
TRAFFIC CONGESTION Cost per Peak Auto Commuter	FREEWAY USAGE Daily Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT)	TRANSIT USAGE Annual Passenger Miles of Travel	
- Up 2% - \$1,090 per year - \$1,071 in 2010 (Source: TTI 2012)	 - Up 1% - 143.8 million daily VMT - 142.3 million VMT in 2010 (Source: TxDOT 2012)	 - Down 2% - 546.2 million miles per year - 558.5 million miles in 2010 (Source: National Transit Database 2011)	
2. IMPROVE ACCESS TO JOBS, HOMES AND SERVICES			
HIGHWAYS Lane Miles Added	TOLL Lane Miles Added	BICYCLES Miles Added	
- Up .05% - 3,161 total lane miles in 2011 - 3,145 total lane miles in 2009 (Source: TxDOT 2011)	 - Up 11% - 699 total lane miles in 2011 - 628 total lane miles in 2007 (Source: H-GAC 2011)	 - Up 1.4% - 1,096 total lane miles in 2011 - 1,081 total lane miles in 2010 (Source: H-GAC 2011)	
3. PRESERVE THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM			
ROADWAY PAVEMENT CONDITIONS % of Lane Miles in Good or Better Condition	BRIDGE CONDITIONS % of On-system Bridges Rated Good/Better	MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURES Non-contracted & Contracted Maintenance	
- Up 4% - 81.5% of miles in good or better condition in 2012 - 77.5% of miles in good or better condition in 2011 (Source: TxDOT 2012)	 - Up 1% - 83% of system bridges rated good or better in 2012 - 82% of system bridges rated good or better in 2010 (Source: TxDOT 2012)	 - Down 13% - \$275.6 million in expenditures in 2012 - \$315.2 million in 2011 (Source: TxDOT 2012)	
4. SUPPORT ECONOMIC GROWTH		5. CREATE A HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT	
SEA PORTS Annual Total Tonnage	COMMERCIAL AIRPORTS Annual Enplaned Passengers	AIR QUALITY 8-hr Ozone Standard	AIR QUALITY NOx Emissions Reductions
- Up 2% - 332 million tons in 2011 - 324 million tons in 2010 - Includes Freeport, Galveston, Houston, and Texas City (Source: USACE 2011)	 - Up 1% - 25 million passengers in 2012 - 24.8 million passengers in 2010 (Source: Houston Airport System 2012)	 - Down 1% - 88 ppb – 3 year average in 2012 - 89 ppb - 3 year average in 2011 - 8-hr 2008 NAAQS is 75ppb (Source: TCEQ 2012)	 - Up 2% - 514 tons per year in 2012 - 502 tons per year in 2011 (Source: TxDOT, H-GAC 2012)
6. SAFETY – MINIMIZING CRASHES AND DEATHS		7. INCREASE TRANSIT OPTIONS	
TRAFFIC CRASHES Number of Crashes	TRAFFIC FATALITIES Number of Fatalities	LIGHT RAIL Miles Added	PARK-AND-RIDE LOTS Number of Lots
- Up 15% - 102,400 crashes in 2012 - 88,875 crashes in 2011 (Source: TxDOT, H-GAC 2012)	 - Up 3% - 565 fatalities in 2012 - 551 fatalities in 2011 (Source: TxDOT, H-GAC 2012)	 - No net change - 7.5 miles of light rail in 2012 - Construction underway on North, Southeast, and East End Lines (Source: METRO 2012)	 - Down 1 lot - 38 park-and-ride lots in 2012 - 39 park-and-ride lots in 2011 (Source: METRO 2012)

LEGEND: GREEN - Change with positive effect RED - Change with negative effect ORANGE - No discernible effect



FY 2012 PROJECTS LET TO CONSTRUCTION TOTAL = \$977,587,118



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



US 290 – Construction crews working on the new ramp that will take motorists directly from US 290 to I-10. This work is part of \$1.8 billion in planned corridor improvements by TxDOT.



METRORail North Line – The North Line, scheduled to open in December 2013, is one of three light rail lines under construction. The two other lines are the East End and Southeast Lines.



Beltway 8 – The widening of Beltway 8 from four to eight tollway lanes is a \$120 million project sponsored by the Harris County Toll Road Authority (HCTRA). This project begins at US 59 and continues east to SH 288.



SH 99 – Work on the SH 99 Grand Parkway continues with the construction of overpasses at key at-grade intersections along Segment D. Other improvements include the construction of four direct connectors at IH-10.



AGORDA
For more information visit
www.h-gac.com/taq/performance

0 5 10 20 Miles

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

The Top 20 Projects Let to Construction in the Houston-Galveston Region in FY 2012

	STREET	FROM	TO	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
1	METRORAIL SOUTHEAST CORRIDOR	IH 45 AT CAPITAL	PALM CENTER	SOUTHEAST CORRIDOR (FY 2012)	\$173,035,845
2	METRORAIL NORTH CORRIDOR	NORTHLINE MALL	UH DOWNTOWN	METRO SOLUTIONS NORTH CORRIDOR (FY 2012)	\$158,965,054
3	SH 99	IH 10 W	US 59 S	SEG D: CONSTRUCT OVERPASSES AND APPROACHES AT MAJOR AT-GRADE INTERSECTIONS	\$145,000,000
4	BW 8	US 59	SH 288	WIDEN EXISTING FOUR-LANE TOLLWAY TO EIGHT-LANES	\$120,000,000
5	EAST END CORRIDOR	HARRISBURG AT TEXAS AVE	MAGNOLIA TRANSIT CENTER	METRO SOLUTIONS EAST END CORRIDOR (FY 2012)	\$100,000,000
6	BELLAIRE BLVD	ROGERDALE ST	MARY BATES ST	COMPLETE RECONSTRUCTION AND WIDENING WITH THE ADDITION OF ONE WESTBOUND TRAVEL LANE INCLUDING RELATED UNDERGROUND WATER, SEWER, DRAINAGE AT ALL SIGNALIZED INTERSECTIONS	\$25,000,000
7	SH 99	AT IH 10		CONSTRUCT FOUR DIRECT CONNECTORS	\$12,985,000
8	YALE ST	PARKER RD, W	TIDWELL	WIDEN TO FOUR-LANE DIVIDED ROAD	\$11,593,000
9	ELLA BLVD / WHEATLEY ST	GULF BANK W	LITTLE YORK W	RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A FOUR-LANE DIVIDED CONCRETE ROADWAY WITH STORM DRAINAGE, CURBS, SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS, STREET LIGHTING, TRAFFIC CONTROL, AND NECESSARY UNDERGROUND UTILITIES	\$11,862,000
10	ALDINE MAIL ROUTE RD	AIRLINE DR	ALDINE WESTFIELD RD	CONSTRUCT FOUR-LANE CONCRETE BLVD SECTION W/CURB & GUTTER AND STORM SEWERS	\$10,100,000
11	KASHMERE & HIRAM CLARK BUS OPERATING FACILITIES			FACILITY REHABILITATION	\$10,000,000
12	SH 36	JONES CREEK	FORT BEND C/L	ACP OVERLAY AND RE-STRIPE TO PROVIDE HURRICANE EVACUATION MARKINGS IN SHOULDER	\$10,000,000
13	BW 8	0.8 MI W OF US 59 N	0.3 MI E OF OLD HUMBLE RD	WIDEN EXISTING TO SIX MAIN LANES	\$9,700,000
14	KIRBY DR	HOLMES RD	REED RD	CONSTRUCT FOUR-LANE DIVIDED ROAD	\$8,652,000
15	CR 220	SH 288	FM 523	CONSTRUCT NEW TWO-LANE BRIDGE OVER UP RR. CONSTRUCT NEW TWO-LANE ROADWAY FROM W OF BS 288 TO FM 523.	\$8,320,000
16	HOUSTON TRANSTAR	AT 6922 KATY RD		TRANSTAR EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER EXPANSION	\$7,875,000
17	KEEGANS BAYOU TRAIL	KIRKWOOD DR	GESSNER DR	CONSTRUCT HIKE & BIKE TRAIL	\$6,547,129
18	WASHINGTON AVE / HEMPSTEAD RD	WASHINGTON/KATY ROAD SPLIT	IH 10	CONSTRUCT EIGHT-LANE DIVIDED (RAISED MEDIAN) URBAN STREET FACILITY (PHASE 1 OF 2)	\$6,500,000
19	BRAYS BAYOU CONNECTOR TRAIL	RICHMOND	ART STOREY PARK	CONSTRUCT SHARED USE TRAIL	\$4,901,088
20	SCOTT ST	OREM DR E	ALMEDA GENOA RD	CONSTRUCT FOUR-LANE ROAD	\$4,600,000



I am proud to present to you the Houston-Galveston region's 2012 Mobility Report. This year we have chosen to offer information that is easy to understand for the average reader, yet of extraordinary relevance in our efforts to keep our region an attractive place to live, work, play and raise families.

This report summarizes key performance measures on the state of our transportation system in a new format. Trends in these performance measures can highlight successes. They can also pinpoint

areas of attention and opportunities for future investment. This report should provide policymakers with useful feedback on work accomplished and areas of emphasis as we anticipate accelerated population growth in the Houston-Galveston region.

This document highlights some key indicators of transportation system performance that directly relates to our 2035 Regional Transportation Plan Update's stated goals. These performance measures are intended to answer key questions: Are we meeting these regional goals? Are we moving in the right direction?

A record 144 million vehicle miles of travel are carried over the region's roadways on an average workday. Up 5% over the last five years, the costs of congestion experienced by commuters continue to grow as a new phase of freeway and tollway projects enter construction. Of additional concern, the number of vehicle crashes increased 15% over the previous year, while transit ridership in the region's core continues to decline.

Our challenges are many: managing our roadways to ensure reliable operation; reducing vehicle crashes and the resulting congestion; responsibly growing our transportation assets; and finding ways to restore growth in transit ridership.

We encourage you to visit our website to review a comprehensive list of performance measures at www.h-gac.com/taq/performance.

Alan C. Clark
Transportation Director
Houston-Galveston Area Council



The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) is a voluntary association of local governments and local elected officials in the 13-county Gulf Coast Planning Region. The Gulf Coast Planning Region consists of Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton counties. Organized in 1966, H-GAC provides a forum for the discussion of area-wide concerns, promoting regional cooperation through comprehensive planning and services to local governments.

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\$1,090

Cost per Commuter

↑ Up 2%

144

Million Daily Vehicle

Miles of Travel

↑ Up 1%

546

Million Passenger

Miles of Travel

↓ Down 2%

102

Thousand Traffic

Crashes

↑ Up 15%