

**MEETING OF THE RTP SUBCOMMITTEE
HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL**

MEMBERS PLEASE USE TEAMS INVITATION

TELECONFERENCE PARTICIPATION VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

[+1 346-262-0140](tel:+13462620140) United States, Houston (Toll)

Conference ID: 641 945 004#

April 14, 2021

1:30PM

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
Staff will take Roll Call Attendance and ask each attendee for a one-minute introduction for other members, including name, agency, and Regional Transportation Plan area of interest.
2. Election of Officers
Staff will ask for nominations from the floor for Chair and Vice Chair
3. Acceptance of minutes
From meeting of March 10, 2021
4. RTP Subcommittee Orientation and Survey Responses
Staff will briefly review orientation material, summarize the RTP Update process and timeline, and review survey responses received to date
5. Legislative Update on Transportation-related Bills
Staff will present a summary of bills at the state legislature that are of transportation concern.
6. Announcements
 - a. 2045 RTP Amendment Public Comment Period – March 26, 2021 to April 28, 2021
 - i. More information at <http://2045rtp.com/default.aspx>
 - b. Transportation Community Input Series (register at <http://engage.h-gac.com>):
 - i. Southeast Harris County – April 15, 2021 at 6:00PM (Zoom)
 - ii. Montgomery County Precinct 2 – April 22, 2021 at 6:00PM (Zoom)
 - iii. Liberty County – April 29, 2021 at 6:00PM (Zoom)
 - c. Next RTP Subcommittee Meeting – May 12, 2021 at 1:30PM (Teleconference)
 - d. Next TAC Meeting – May 19, 2021 at 9:30AM (Teleconference)
 - e. Next TPC Meeting – May 21, 2021 at 9:30AM (Teleconference)
7. Adjourn

**+MEETING OF THE RTP SUBCOMMITTEE
HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
TELECONFERENCE PARTICIPATION VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

March 10, 2021

1:30PM

Minutes

Member Attendance:

Primary Member	Present	Alternate	Present
Maureen Crocker, Chair	Yes	Jennifer Ostlind	Yes
Perri D'Armond, Vice Chair	Yes	Stacy Slawinski	No
Monique Johnson	Yes	Krystal Lastrape	Yes
Ruthanne Haut	Yes	John Powers	No
Clay Forister	No	Karen McKinnon	No
Adam France	Yes	Chris Bogert	No
Christopher Sims	Yes	Chad Tressler	No
Ricardo Villagrand	No	Francisco Carrillo	No
Loyd Smith	Yes	Bryan Brown	Yes
Nick Woolery	No	Frank Simoneaux	Yes
Yancy Scott	Yes	Bobby Pennington	No
Charles Airiohuodion	Yes	Jeffrey English	Yes
Lisa Collins	No	Scott Ayres	No
Alberto Lyne	No	Priya Zachariah	Yes
Ken Fickes	Yes	Vernon Chambers	Yes
Harrison Humphrey	Yes	Stephanie Thomas	Yes
Jonathan Brooks	Yes	Bakeyah Nelson	No
Elijah Williams	No	Irma Sanchez	No
Bruce Mann	No	Rohit Saxena	No
Roger Rees	No	Brett Milutin	No
Janis Scott	No	Paulette Wagner	No
John Tyler	No	VACANT	-
Bill Zrioka	Yes	David Leslie	No

Others Present:

Andrew Mao, Bryan Brown, Courtney Blechle, Dale (guest), Darrin Willer, Jim Dickinson, Diane Domagas, Carrie Evans, David Fink, Ben Finley, Stephan Gage, Shixin Gao, Thomas Gray, Donte Green, Veronica Green, Sandra Holliday, Allie Isbell, James Koch, Ayo Jibowu, Joel Herrera, Joel Salinas, Sharon Ju, Katie Hirschheim, Kelly Lark, Megan Kennison, Neely Kim, Justin Kuzila, Paresh Lad, Shirley Li, Graciela Lubertino, Carlos Lugo, Patrick Mandapaka, Mercy Tham, Carlene Mullins, Michael Onuogu, Frank Pagliei, Patricia Bean, Craig Raborn, Francis Rodriguez, Roger Gonzalez, Michael Rudd, Ruth Henshall, Chris Van Slyke, Kathryn Vo, Veronica Waller, Chris Whaley, David Wurdlow

Staff Participating:

Mike Burns, Vishu Lingala

1. Call to Order

Maureen C called the meeting to order at 1:30PM

Mike B read a statement of how the meeting would be conducted via remote participation and the ground rules for any discussion.

Mike B conducted the roll call for attendance and confirmed a quorum was present.

Maureen C confirmed a quorum was present.

2. Approval of Minutes

Christopher S made a motion, seconded by Peri D, to accept the minutes.

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Discussion of Requested RTP Amendments:

- a. IH610E (Ship Channel Bridge Replacement)
- b. IH610S (IH45 to SH228)
- c. SH35 (Dixie Dr to BS 35C North)
- d. SH35 (South of SH6 to FM518)

Maureen C asked about the schedule for the requested amendments.

Vishu L summarized the requested amendment projects, the process, and the schedule, noting that the final alignments of SH35 and SH36 is not finalized and discussions between TxDOT and local communities is on-going. The fiscal constraint was summarized noting that the expenditures with amendments is \$141 billion and within the budget for \$147 billion.

Maureen C asked about the public commenting period runs through April 28, 2021.

Vishu L responded that TAC and TPC action is being moved to the May meetings.

Maureen C mentioned that H-GAC does not plan to update the financial forecast and encouraged members to review the FHWA Transportation Process Briefing Book, particularly the link between the RTP and various regional goals.

Priya Z asked if the presentations are available on the HGAC website.

Mike B noted that the meeting materials and minutes are saved on the HGAC website.

James K presented a summary of the history, location, status, and agency and public coordination to date for the SH35 Corridor and IH610S Feasibility Study, including a summary of other studies in the region that influence the two project areas.

Priya Z asked about coordination METRO for the SH35 project.

James K responded that the initial outreach has been with local communities and METRO will be consulted as planned.

Maureen C noted flood control is a concern in the Sunnyside area and lots of City of Houston residential impacts and encourage coordination among Harris County Flood Control, METRO, City of Houston, and TxDOT.

Paresh L asked about the drainage impacts for SH35 for the portion inside the Loop.

James K responded that TxDOT is using the new Atlas-14 maps and will address and conform to that criteria and will coordinate with Houston Public Works on drainage.

Jonathan B asked that the SH35 project incorporate the recommendations of the South Houston Mobility Plan and community supported improvements for walking and biking.

James K summarized the IH610S Loop Feasibility Study noting that the study is still in the early stages and noted the study location, history, and status.

Maureen C asked the difference between a feasibility study and a Planning Environmental Linkage (PEL) study, and a description of next steps.

James K responded that a feasibility study identified issues and opportunities, which then leads to development of schematics prior to starting the NEPA process. The PEL process has a lot of similarities and is more closely related to the NEPA process.

Lloyd S asked about the decision-making process for ramps and interchanges.

James K responded that the study does help design the best facility. There is coordination with the Southeast Management District to provide elevated options that may influence design of ramps, connections, and column spacing.

Maureen C thanked James K for the presentations and encouraged members to follow the projects and ask questions as they develop through the process.

4. Announcements

- Next TAC Meeting – March 17, 2021 at 9:30AM (Teleconference)
- Next TPC Meeting – March 26, 2021 at 9:30AM (Teleconference)
- Next RTP Subcommittee Meeting – April 14, 2021 at 1:30PM (Teleconference)

Maureen C mentioned the future meeting dates and times for TPC, TAC, and RTP Subcommittee

Mike B noted the availability of meeting material on the HGAC website and would try to provide TxDOT presentations in a more accessible location on the website.

David W thanked Maureen C for her service to the subcommittee and HGAC.

Maureen C responded with clarification that she will be retiring, that this would be her last meeting as Chair, and enjoyed working with everyone.

5. Adjourn

Maureen C declared the meeting adjourned at 2:35PM.

Minutes submitted by: Mike Burns

RTP Subcommittee Roster

Primary-Name	Organization	Alternate-Name	Organization
Monique Johnson	City of Sugar Land	Krystal LaStrape	City of Sugar Land
Bill Zrioka	Houston Airport System	David Leslie	Houston Airport System
Andrea French	TAG-Houston Region	Nikki Knight	Southeast Management Dist.
Elijah Williams	Energy Corridor	Elizabeth Whitton, AICP	Energy Corridor
Iris Gonzalez	Coalition for Env., Equity & Res.	Jonathan Brooks	LINK Houston
Adam France, AICP	City of Conroe	Chris Bogert, P.E.	City of Conroe
Christopher Sims	City of League City	Hon. Chad Tressler	City of League City
Matt Hanks	Brazoria County	Karen McKinnon	Brazoria County
David Fields	City of Houston-P&D	Katrina Bayer	City of Houston-PW
Hon. Jay Knight	Liberty County	David Douglas	Liberty County
Loyd Smith, P.E.	Harris County	Bryan Brown	Harris County
Morad Kabiri, P.E.	City of Friendswood	Robert Upton, P.E.	City of Pearland
Nick Woolery	City of Baytown	Frank Simoneaux	City of Baytown
Yancy Scott	Waller County	Jared Chen	Waller County
Katherine Parker	Gulf Coast Rail District	Carol Lewis, PhD	TSU
Bruce Mann	Port of Houston	Rohit Saxena	Port of Houston
Rodger Rees	Port of Galveston	Brett Milutin	Port of Galveston
Charles Airiohuodion	TxDOT-HOU	Jeffrey English	TxDOT-HOU
Lisa Collins	TxDOT-BMT	Scott Ayres	TxDOT-BMT
Ken Fickes	Harris County	Vernon Chambers	Harris County
Perri D'Armond	Fort Bend County	Stacy Slawinski	Fort Bend County
Kenneth Brown	METRO	Philip Brenner	METRO
John Tyler	HCTRA	Dale Hilliard	HCTRA

Election of Officers

Primary-Name	Organization	Alternate-Name	Organization
Monique Johnson	City of Sugar Land	Krystal LaStrape	City of Sugar Land
Bill Zrioka	Houston Airport System	David Leslie	Houston Airport System
Andrea French	TAG-Houston Region	Nikki Knight	Southeast Management Dist.
Elijah Williams	Energy Corridor	Elizabeth Whitton, AICP	Energy Corridor
Iris Gonzalez	Coalition for Env., Equity & Res.	Jonathan Brooks	LINK Houston
Adam France, AICP	City of Conroe	Chris Bogert, P.E.	City of Conroe
Christopher Sims	City of League City	Hon. Chad Tressler	City of League City
Matt Hanks	Brazoria County	Karen McKinnon	Brazoria County
David Fields	City of Houston-P&D	Katrina Bayer	City of Houston-PW
Hon. Jay Knight	Liberty County	David Douglas	Liberty County
Loyd Smith, P.E.	Harris County	Bryan Brown	Harris County
Morad Kabiri, P.E.	City of Friendswood	Robert Upton, P.E.	City of Pearland
Nick Woolery	City of Baytown	Frank Simoneaux	City of Baytown
Yancy Scott	Waller County	Jared Chen	Waller County
Katherine Parker	Gulf Coast Rail District	Carol Lewis, PhD	TSU
Bruce Mann	Port of Houston	Rohit Saxena	Port of Houston
Rodger Rees	Port of Galveston	Brett Milutin	Port of Galveston
Charles Airiohuodion	TxDOT-HOU	Jeffrey English	TxDOT-HOU
Lisa Collins	TxDOT-BMT	Scott Ayres	TxDOT-BMT
Ken Fickes	Harris County	Vernon Chambers	Harris County
Perri D'Armond	Fort Bend County	Stacy Slawinski	Fort Bend County
Kenneth Brown	METRO	Philip Brenner	METRO
John Tyler	HCTRA	Dale Hilliard	HCTRA



RTP Subcommittee Meeting



Mike Burns, AICP
April 14, 2021

Acceptance of Minutes



- March 10, 2021 RTP Subcommittee
- Draft Minutes included in the meeting notice

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Purpose



- Federally required
- Minimum 20-year outlook
- Updated every 4 years
 - Current RTP: 25-year horizon from 2020 to 2045
 - Next RTP: 21- or 26-year horizon to 2045 or 2050
- Targets federal, state, local resources for transportation investments
- Align with federal, state, regional, local vision
 - FAST Act
- Fiscally constrained

2045 RTP Website - <http://2045rtp.com/>



2045RTP
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

[Get Involved](#)

[Public Meetings](#)

[Media Room](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Contact Us](#)

#2045RTP

Select Language

Home



2045 Regional Transportation Plan

Moving Our Region into Tomorrow

2045 Regional Transportation Plan Amendments

The Houston-Galveston Area Council will hold two virtual public meetings on **Thursday, April 8** to discuss proposed amendments to the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan. Additionally, H-GAC will provide updates on our process to maintain conformity with state and federal air quality goals. H-GAC experts will present the main topics, after which attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and make public comments.

2045rtp.com/default.aspx

The public comment period for these topics opens on **March 26, 2021** and will close on **April 28, 2021**.

Date & Time

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Afternoon meeting: 2-3PM

Evening meeting: 6-7PM

Meeting Materials

[Chapter 6 Air Quality \(3/26/21\)](#)

[Proposed Amendments to 2045RTP Projects \(3/26/21\)](#)

[Draft Appendix D Fiscally Constrained Projects List by County \(3/26/21\)](#)

[Draft 2021 Transportation Conformity](#)

[Join Online Event](#)

[Submit Your Comment](#)

[View Submitted Comments](#)

[View Additional Meeting Information](#)

Relationship with Other Programming Documents



20+ Year Regional Transportation Plan
(2045 RTP)

**H-GAC Ten Year Plan /
TxDOT Unified Transportation Program**
(UTP)

4 Year TIP
(2019-2022 TIP)

2045 RTP Vision, Goals, Performance Measures



VISION

In the year 2045, our region will have an integrated multimodal transportation system, achieved through coordinated public and private investments that support a desirable quality of life, enhanced economic vitality and increased safety, access and mobility.

Updating Schedule



Timeframe	Task
On-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the Congestion Management Process and other supporting plans • Tracking, updating, and expanding performance measures • Update and evaluate community demographics and facility conditions • Develop long-range project scoring strategy consistent with short-range scoring, RTP goals, and federal planning factors • Review status of RTP recommendations
2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop public outreach strategy • Develop framework for planning scenarios • Align with any new Federal/State guidance • Evaluate alignment of project scoring with vision, goals, and planning factors
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct public survey and stakeholder outreach • Finalize vision and measurable goals • Evaluate long-range project scoring and planning scenarios • Establish short- and long-range funding schedule
Spring 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop initial draft • Conduct public review of draft
Summer 2023	Adopt by TPC; finalize AQ Conformity

Plan Elements



- **Public Participation Strategy**
 - Public Meetings
 - Public Survey
- **Regional Profile**
- **Vision, Measurable Goals, and Performance Measures**
- **Facilities**
 - Roadways, Transit, Active Transportation, Airport, Ferries, Parking
- **Other Elements**
 - Freight, Livable Centers and Housing, Climate Change, and Resiliency
- **Fiscally Constrained Implementation Scenarios**
 - Evaluate Alternative Investment Strategies on Performance Measures
- **Air Quality Conformity**

Key Stakeholders



- TPC, TAC, and Subcommittees
- Land Use
- Safety and Security
- Environmental, Historical, Cultural
- Travel and Tourism
- Public Transportation
- Bicycle and Pedestrian
- Elderly, Disabled, Low income
- Educational
- Air, Water, Freight
- County Flood Control
- Others?

RTP Subcommittee – Focus Groups?

- Complete Committee Survey
- Establish Focus/Work Group Categories
 - Categorize by facility, program, or other
 - Coordinate with peers and staff between meetings
 - Share coordination summary with RTP Subcommittee

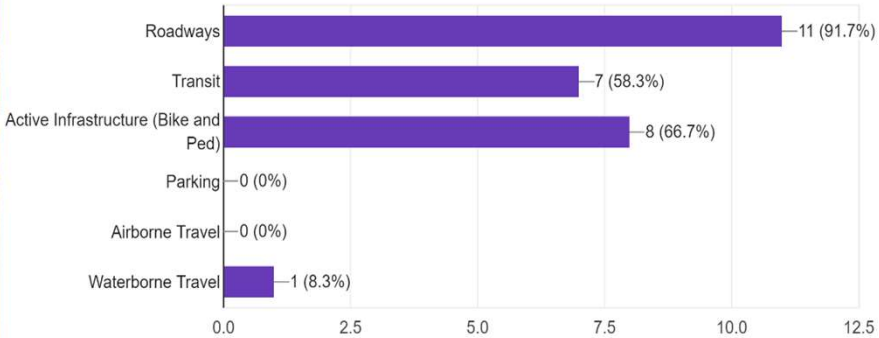


RTP Subcommittee Survey



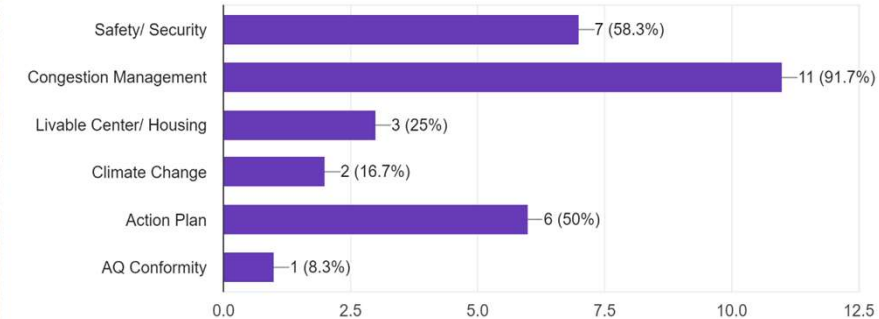
Which RTP related topics interest you the most? You can chose up to three.

12 responses



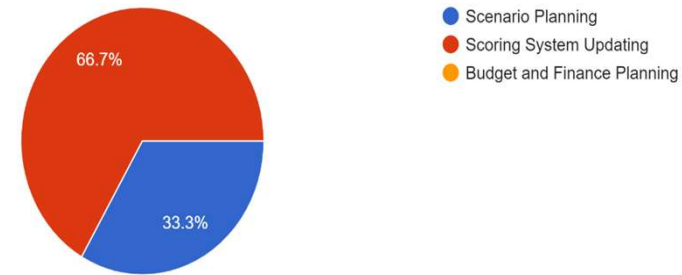
What is/ are the programs you want to focus on? You can chose up to three.

12 responses



Which implementation strategies would you be interested in participating?

12 responses





2021 OVERVIEW OF FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY



Alan Rodenstein
for RTP April 14, 2021

Federal Legislative Background 2020

- Two significant COVID relief acts under previous administration
- \$26 B to transit in 100% funding under CARES ACT
- Mainly for transit operations in large agencies to address huge fiscal shortfalls
- \$14 B to transit in 2020 in Omnibus Budget Bill
- Efforts were to make transit shortfalls as a result of COVID – not expand transit
- Consistent with policies of prior administration

Federal Legislative Action -2021

- American Relief Act of 2021 continued effort to address operational shortfalls from COVID
- Funding of \$26.2 B to transit agencies and remainder to capital, planning and passenger rail assistance
- Also results in modest capital transit expansion
- Allocations to date for region shown in next slide

Houston – Galveston Regional Allocations

Agency	Urban Formula 5307	5310 Funding
METRO *	\$ 313,167,209	\$ 615,623
Conroe/The Woodlands	\$ 1,686,500	\$ 33,016
Lake Jackson	\$ 280,421	
Texas City	\$ 620,314	
Galveston	\$ 798,050	
*Include suballocations to Fort Bend Transit, Harris County Transit and the Gulf Coast Transit District		
	Rural Formula 5311	5310 Funding
Statewide Rural Allocation**	\$ 3,901,976	\$ 282,000.
**Include suballocations (June) to Fort Bend Transit, Colorado Valley Transit,		

The American Jobs (Infrastructure) Plan

- Major piece of infrastructure legislation by current administration
- Presented as proposal on March 31, 2021
- Proposes \$85 B for transit expansion, filling of transit gaps, massive vehicle replacement
- \$80B for passenger and freight rail expansion and reconstruction
- Modernize 20,000 miles of roadways and 10,000 bridges – dollar amount not shown
- Intensive expansion of electric vehicles and infrastructure
- <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/03/31/fact-sheet-the-american-jobs-plan/>

The 87th Texas Legislative Session

- Continuity of party majorities in House and Senate and Governor Abbott
- Voting issues and ERCOT fallout high on agenda
- Fewer bills to scuttle high speed rail between Houston and Dallas
- Attempts to create revenue/fees for electrified vehicles
- Several efforts to raise local revenues for transportation using the county registration fee

The 87th Texas Legislative Session - II

- Potential distribution of unused LIRAP funding \$80 M for region (out of committees)
- Use of freight lines for commuter rail in Harris County
- Doubling and one cent increase in gas tax in committees
- Eliminate remittance from Texas Mobility Fund to TERP
- Allowance of low-speed electric scooters to use sidewalks

Next Steps

2021

- Political wrangling over American Jobs Plan – will reconciliation/compromise succeed?
- Outcome of 87th Texas Legislative Session- watch the last week in May!

Questions?

Alan Rodenstein

alan.rodenstein@h-gac.com

Announcements



- **2045 RTP Amendment Public Comment Period**
 - March 26, 2021 to April 28, 2021
 - More information at <http://2045rtp.com/default.aspx>
- **Transportation Community Input Series**
 - Register at <http://engage.h-gac.com>
 - Southeast Harris County – April 15, 2021 at 6:00PM (Zoom)
 - Montgomery County Precinct 2 – April 22, 2021 at 6:00PM (Zoom)
 - Liberty County – April 29, 2021 at 6:00PM (Zoom)
- **Next RTP Subcommittee Meeting**
 - May 12, 2021 at 1:30PM (Teleconference)
- **Next TAC Meeting**
 - May 19, 2021 at 9:30AM (Teleconference)
- **Next TPC Meeting**
 - May 21, 2021 at 9:30AM (Teleconference)

Adjourn

