11E.   HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

BACKGROUND

The Transportation Planning and Programming Division of the Texas Department of Transportation sponsors a State-wide comprehensive set of travel surveys which includes Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Metropolitan Planning Organization planning study area which consists of eight counties. The eight counties include: Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller.

The purpose of the surveys was to collect data and information needed as input to the H-GAC travel demand model for the H-GAC planning area. The model is an important planning tool used to forecast future traffic levels on area roadways, evaluate the region's transportation plan, and aid in the region's air quality conformity analyses.

CURRENT SITUATION

H-GAC staff is currently completing the update of the new regional travel models and simultaneously developing new travel forecasting tools using dynamic traffic simulation techniques. The enhancement and application of current models as well as development of new analysis tools require a complete understanding of existing regional travel characteristics and patterns obtained through travel survey and used for its testing and development.

Since modeling results may be used in determining the conformity status of transportation plans to federal clean air regulations, the use of accurate and up-to-date data from regional travel surveys is important to Texas Department of Transportation who sponsors this survey and H-GAC as a Metropolitan Planning Organization. This is designed to capture characteristics of weekday travel during the school year and used as inputs into the H-GAC regional travel demand model. H-GAC role is to serve as a member of the Steering Committee that plans, designs, and supervises the execution of the data collection process.

This survey is scheduled to commence in the Fall of 2022 and runs till the Spring of 2024. The sample size for the H-GAC region is estimated at 10,000 samples.

ACTION REQUESTED

For Information and Discussion