



NEWS RELEASE

Houston-Galveston Area Council
Metropolitan Planning Organization
3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120
Houston, TX 77027

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 1, 2018

Contact: Meagan Coughlin, APR / 713.993.4504 / meagan.coughlin@h-gac.com

Public meetings scheduled for 2045 Regional Transportation Plan

HOUSTON, TX – By 2045, the Houston-Galveston region will be home to nearly 11 million people according to the Houston-Galveston Area Council's (H-GAC) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). That's 66% more people currently living in the eight-county metropolitan transportation planning area. An increase in population also means a boost in employment and more vehicles on the road. The agency forecasts that employment will grow by 50% and 61% additional vehicles will be traveling the roads in 2045. How will the region manage traffic congestion and improve safety?

The 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a long-range plan prioritizing regional transportation projects that will identify transportation needs, goals, and policies over the next 20 years. The RTP highlights efforts to reduce traffic congestion and vehicle crashes, concentrates on asset management and operations, supports regional economic development opportunities, and maintains an emphasis on protecting the environment.

"We are asking area residents, key stakeholders, and community organizations to join us at one of our upcoming public meetings to learn more about the RTP and share their thoughts on how to improve our current transportation system that best prepares us for the years ahead," Public Outreach Manager, Meagan Coughlin, said.

Meaningful public involvement is a critical component of the RTP planning process to help address the future challenges of the transportation system. Over the next few months, the MPO will initiate conversations about the region's mobility needs and will actively engage the public and key stakeholders for feedback about what the community envisions for the future of transportation.

A series of 12 public meetings will be scheduled around the eight-county service area during March and April. The MPO coordinates transportation planning for Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller Counties. For a list of public meetings, visit 2045RTP.com.

ABOUT H-GAC

H-GAC is a voluntary association of local governments in the 13-county Gulf Coast Planning Region—an area of 12,500 square miles and nearly seven million people. H-GAC is designated by the State of Texas as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization for transportation planning in Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller Counties.

###