



# NEWS RELEASE

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

---

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 17, 2017

*Contact:* Meagan Coughlin / 713.993.4504 / [meagan.coughlin@h-gac.com](mailto:meagan.coughlin@h-gac.com)

### **Houston-Galveston region begins long-range transportation planning for 2045**

**HOUSTON, TX** – Home to nearly seven million people and supporting three million jobs, the Houston-Galveston region is expected to add approximately four million people and two million jobs by 2045. That would make the metropolitan planning area larger than the Chicago region is today according to David Wurdlow, Manager for Project Development and Programming at the Houston-Galveston Area Council's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

"This growth will create new challenges to the transportation system that will require innovative solutions and collaborative partnerships to ensure a safe and efficient transportation system," Wurdlow said.

The 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a long-range plan prioritizing spending on 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.

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.

"The RTP is a collaborative effort of local governments, stakeholders, and the public to help us prioritize transportation issues and identify solutions," MPO Public Outreach Manager, Meagan Coughlin, said. "In the next few months, we will reach out to commuters, residents, and stakeholders to receive input on these challenges," she added.

A series of public meetings will be scheduled around the MPO eight-county service area during the spring of 2018. The MPO coordinates transportation planning for Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller Counties.

For more information about the 2045 RTP and upcoming public meetings, visit [2045RTP.com](http://2045RTP.com).

**-more-**

**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.*

**###**