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April 27, 2021

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Craig Rayborn Houston Galveston Area Council **Director of Transportation Services** 3555 Timmons Houston, TX 77027

Mr Rayborn,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment on H-GAC's 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The RTP is an important regional planning tool, focusing on regional mobility, congestion mitigation, quality of life, safety and efficient movement of goods. We greatly appreciate the work undertaken to produce such a plan.

We enthusiastically support the following proposed amendments to the 2045 RTP:

- 18719, 18720 36A
- 18723 18726 SH 99 Widening
- 18727 Widening of Frontage Roads
- 16328 Existing NHHIP Segment 3
- 18701 18706 Hempstead Road Improvements

36A – Although outside of the NHA service area, this project will improve mobility in the region. This route provides an efficient and expanded transportation and freight route from Port Freeport to US 290. In addition to improving daily mobility, the project also improves safety since State Highway 36 is a primary evacuation route from southern Brazoria County.

SH 99 Widening – SH 99 is a highly-utilized highway in north Houston and is in need of widening in the segments outlined from four to six lanes. This widening will help mitigate congestion as well as support operational efficiency.

Widening of Frontage Roads East of Hardy Toll Rd to East of Aldine Westfield – this frontage road is frequently congested, and direct connectors between Beltway 8 and the Hardy Toll Road are much needed.

Existing NHHIP Segment 3 – Although outside of the NHA service area, the completion of Segment 3 of the North Houston Highway Improvement Project makes possible further improvements northward in this much-congested corridor. Commuters in north Harris County and Montgomery County need improved access to the major business centers in Houston, including dual-directional HOV lanes which improves mass transit options. Additionally, I-45 is the primary evacuation route, which is a critical safety issue.

Hempstead Road Improvements - Includes reconstruction, construction of managed lanes and the addition of a transit lane in each direction.

NHA Comments To 2045 RTP April 27, 2021 Page Two

As an advocate for issues in northern Harris and Montgomery Counties, the North Houston Association is actively involved in regional mobility issues, and we appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the H-GAC 2045 RTP.

Best regards,

Malisa Briggs
Marlisa Briggs
President