

# **HOUSTON-GALVESTON CLEAN CITIES COALITION STAKEHOLDERS**

## **MEETING SUMMARY**

Tuesday, May 10, 2022 – 9:30-11:00 AM  
Houston-Galveston Area Council of Government Offices  
3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120, Houston, Texas 77027  
Virtual Meeting

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### **Overview**

- a) The following Houston-Galveston Clean Cities Coalition (H-GCCC) Stakeholders were presented:

#### **STAKEHOLDERS PRESENT**

CenterPoint Energy – David Owen  
METRO – Bryan Carroll  
EDF – Shannon Thomas  
TXNG – Heather Ball  
METRO – Vincent Sanders  
TXNG – Heather Ball  
EDF – Tammy Thompson  
Harris County – Lisa Lin  
Port Houston – Kenneth Gathright  
Port Houston – Henry Tennebaum  
Port Houston – Ellu Nasser  
Port Houston – Stephanie Coates

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

H-GAC – Andrew DeCandis  
H-GAC – Ben Finley  
H-GAC – Cassandra Marshall  
H-GAC – Gilbert Washington  
H-GAC – Patrick Mandapaka  
H-GAC – Craig Raborn  
H-GAC – Carrie Evans  
H-GAC – Carlos Lugo  
H-GAC – Susan Jaworski

#### **OTHERS PRESENT**

SPEER – Shaun Auckland

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- b) There were no action items on the agenda.
- c) There were a series of information items:
  - Current Funding Announcements & Updates
- d) The meeting concluded with no member announcements.
- e) Visit <http://www.houston-cleancities.org/stakeholder-meetings/> to view the meeting information.

### **ITEM 1. Introductions (Andrew DeCandis)**

- a) Andrew DeCandis, staff, called the meeting to order.
- b) H-GCCC Stakeholders introduced themselves.

### **ITEM 2. Approval of Officers & Advisory Committee Members**

- Chair-Vincent Sanders
- Vice Chair-TBD

#### **Advisory Committee Members**

- Center Point Energy-David Owen

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **ITEM 3. Green Jobs Training Program (Shannon Thomas, EDF)**

Shannon Thomas gave an overview on the Houston team of EDF regarding the work they do with community-based organizations Sunnyside, fifth ward, and Kashmere Garden. Working with this group is where the conversation begins to develop this program. Discussion continued with how they train individuals in the community, who has been impacted by climate change. Which includes air pollution, and air quality issues. It was pointed out they train them for jobs in the future. So, they can rebuild their own communities after natural disasters happen, help with jobs of the future, bring jobs back to their community, and qualify for jobs which can bring knowledge back to their communities.

Overall, the mission for the green job program is to develop a program that will prepare residents in Houston's underserved neighborhoods for innovative job that will contribute to the resiliency of their community. The technological needs of the future will benefit employers, and residents of underrepresented communities, and the communities themselves.

### **ITEM 4. Local Government Energy Reporting (Shaun Auckland, SPEER)**

Shaun Auckland gave an overview to the members regarding SPEER, which is a small nonprofit organization that focuses on acceleration of adoption of advanced building systems and energy. It

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was discussed that their work is broad and covers the state advocacy with the legislature. While moving those types of programs forward and then also high-performance buildings and training as well as the program, she also manages local government. The membership ranges from advocacy organization, cities escos manufacturer, trade association, and utilities. The major contributor is the Department of Energy (DOE). Discussion continued with the health and safety code, which is 388S and there is a requirement that political subdivisions including cities, counties, water districts, other local governments, and the 41 non-attainment regions are nearing non-attainment in Texas to report here to the state of Texas to report on their energy consumption.

It was further discussed that it really is to focus on the point of source of air quality through energy consumption. They put this legislation forward to establish an energy efficiency goal for local government agencies and collecting and evaluating energy assumption data. As well as a benchmark performance for peers to peers to help public entities and help identify money saving opportunities. So, how your city or local government can get involved is just to reach out to Shaun and do a brief intake interview. Also, you are invited to attend a regional round table interview.

### **ITEM 5. METRO’S Climate Action Plan (Bryan Carroll, Houston METRO)**

Bryan Carroll gave an overview on climate action plan, which provides a 2-year road map to reduce greenhouse gas. It aligns with FTA’s climate change guidance. As well as it aligns with City of Houston’s climate action and resilient Houston plans. Metro climate action plan does what we are already doing with inventories existing efforts. Also, it identifies new opportunities to track progress, and applies persistent approach to pursue goals.

Discussion continued with METRO’s vision to shift to procuring only zero emission buses by fiscal year 2030. As well as manage its’ operations to avoid or minimize environmental impacts on the health and safety for our customers and employees. It was pointed out that Metro will apply green principles to the design and management of its facilities. This will foster sustainable use of natural resources by promoting energy management, generation recycling, re-use, and repurposing of materials and waste reduction management opportunities.

In closing, METRO’S next steps to deliver the initiatives in the climate action plan is to communicate externally, through Clean Cities Coalition, Transportation Air Quality and update external marketing material through promotional items and website.

### **ITEM 6. Current Funding Announcements & Updates (Gilbert Washington)**

- a) Staff gave an update on the status of available Texas and nationwide grant funding programs.

### **ITEM 7. Announcements of Current & Upcoming Activities**

None

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### **ITEM 8. Adjourn Meeting**

a) The next meeting will be August 09, 2022

b) Meeting adjourned at 11:02 A.M.