

HOUSTON-GALVESTON CLEAN CITIES COALITION STAKEHOLDERS

MEETING SUMMARY

Wednesday, November 15, 2023 – 2:00-3:30PM
Houston- Galveston Area Council of Government Offices
3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120, Houston, Texas 77027

Virtual Meeting

Overview

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

Chairs

METRO – Vincent Sanders (Chair)
Freedom CNG – Eddie Murray (Vice Chair)

Advisory Board Members

Texas Natural Gas Foundation – Heather Ball
Texas Electric School Bus Project - Jessica Keithan

Partners and Stakeholders

Alliance Port Region - Chad Burke
AmeriGas - Cole Harrison
Brazos Transit - Jo Marlow
CenterPont Energy- Daivd Owens
CNG 4 America – Bob Baldwin
Environmental Defense Fund - Phillip Martin
Environmental Defense Fund – Stephanie Coates
Evolve Houston – Harry Tenenbaum
GTI Energy - Brian Weeks
METRO - Edgar Hernandez
Moonshot Hydrogen - Rene Moonshot
OneGas - Victor Lopez Jr.
Port of Houston Authority - Kenneth Gathright
Sysco – Robert Veazie
TxDOT – Mansour Shiraz
The Lion Electric – Inga Dedow

H-GAC – Andrew DeCandis
H-GAC – J. Ben Finley
H-GAC – Cassandra Marshall
H-GAC – Craig Raborn
H-GAC – Carlos Lugo
H-GAC – Eric Belmar
H-GAC – Carrie Evans
H-GAC – Diane Domagas
H-GAC – Shamala Scott
H-GAC - Syndi Ligons
H-GAC – Qun Zhao

Others Present

U.S. EPA - Kimari Hodges
U.S. EPA - Mandeep Singh

Nina Evans

Coalition and H-GAC Staff

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- b) There were no action items on the agenda.
- c) There was a series of information items:
 - Item 1: Introductions
 - Item 2: Update on Hydrogen Hub
 - Item 3: Clean School Bus Program and Alternative Fuels
 - Item 4: Update on the Redesignation Process
 - Item 5: Update on Advisory Board and Subcommittees
 - Item 6: Current Funding Announcements
 - Item 7: Announcements and Upcoming Activities
- d) Visit <http://www.houston-cleancities.org/stakeholder-meetings/> to view the meeting information.

ITEM 1: Introductions

- a) Vincent Sanders called the meeting to order.
- b) H-GCCC Stakeholders introduced themselves.

ITEM 2: Update on Hydrogen Hub – Brian Weeks, GTL Energy

- a) Brian Weeks gave an overview to the members on hydrogen and how it is used today. Mr. Weeks discussed that as 70 and 80 million tons of hydrogen is produced and consumed, and the goal becomes how can we store hydrogen. Examples that were given is by compressing and liquefying hydrogen. It was pointed out that hydrogen can also be used for other purposes.

ITEM 3: Clean School Bus Program and Alternative Fuels – Mandeep Singh and Kimari Hodges, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

- a) Mandeep Singh and Kimari Hodges gave an update on the grant opportunities for the clean school bus program that are available in Texas and Nationwide grant funding programs.
- b) Additionally, Kimari Hodges provided a link with detailed information and resources for how to apply and learn more about the clean school bus projects.

ITEM 4: Update on the Redesignation Process – J. Ben Finley, Houston-Galveston Clean Cities Coalition

- a) J. Ben Finley, Codirector of the H-GCCC, gave an update on the redesignation process.

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gave an update on the redesignation process. Discussion continued that we have achieved redesignation, and are clear to continue the challenging work with Clean Cities Coalition goals and activities.

- b) The next redesignation should be in 2028.

ITEM 5. Update on Advisory Board and Subcommittees – J. Ben Finley, Houston-Galveston Clean Cities Coalition

- a) J. Ben Finley, Codirector of the H-GCCC, updated the members that the advisory board is formed and gave an update on the strategic plan for the 2023 – 2024. Staff solicited members to become a part of the advisory board or subcommittee. This process will guide the coalition as we move toward, detail objectives for Coalition, and achieve said objectives.

ITEM 6. Current Funding Announcements and Updates – J. Ben Finley, Houston-Galveston Clean Cities Coalition

- a) J. Ben Finley provided an update on the following grant opportunities:
 - 1. 2023 Clean School Bus Program (EPA)
 - 2. 2023 Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA)
 - 3. Clean Ports Program (EPA)
 - 4. Light Duty Motor Vehicle Purchase (TERP)
 - 5. Rail Vehicle Replacement (DOT)
 - 6. Energy Storage Demonstration and Validation Grants (DOE)
 - 7. Alternative Fuel Tax Credit (DOE)
 - 8. Higher Blends Infrastructure Program (USDA)
 - 9. Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Program (USDA)
 - 10. Carbon Utilization procurement Grant (DOE)
 - 11. Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Grant Program (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law)
 - 12. Reduction of Truck Emissions at Port Facilities Grant Program (Bipartisan Infrastructure)
 - 13. Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs Grant Program (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law)
 - 14. Electric Forklift and Cargo Handling Program (Volkswagen Settlement)
 - 15. Electric Airport Ground Support Equipment (Volkswagen Settlement)

ITEM 7. Announcements of Current & Upcoming Activities

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- a) The Houston-Galveston Clean Cities Coalition will be co-hosting a webinar with the Texas Natural Gas Foundation, and the Clean City Coalition in Austin regarding claiming the alternative fuel tax credit.
- b) The ACT Expo has been moved from South Carolina to Las Vegas and will be held on May 20 - 23.
- c) The RNG Coalition Conference will be held in Dana Point, California on December 11-14.
- d) Evolve Houston's EV Charging Symposium will be held tonight {November 15} from 5:00 to 8:30.

ITEM 8. Adjourn Meeting

- a) The next meeting (TBD)
- b) Meeting adjourned at 3:47 P.M.