

HOUSTON-GALVESTON CLEAN CITIES COALITION STAKEHOLDERS

MEETING SUMMARY

Tuesday, July 22, 2025 – 12:00-1:30PM
Houston- Galveston Area Council of Government Offices
3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120,
Houston, Texas 77027
Hybrid Meeting

Overview

The following H-GCCC Stakeholders were present:

Chairs

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

Advisory Board Members

Texas Natural Gas Foundation – Heather Ball
Evolve Houston – Casey Brown
Texas Electric School Bus Project – Jessica
Keithan

Partners and Stakeholders

Brazos Transit District - Hannah Sivinski
Brazos Transit District - Jo Marlow
Building Products Transport - Luke Noons
Burns McDonnell – John C. Nemece
CenterPoint Energy – David Synder
City Of Houston - Jose Garcia
City of Sugar Land – Melanie Beaman
Clear Creek ISD – Faryal Shaukat
CNG 4 America, Inc. – Bob Baldwin
Fort Bend County Public Transportation –
Thomas Kuczynski
Government of Quebec – Eglantine Moss *
Gulf Coast Transit District – Neal Cooper
Gulf Coast Transit District – Theodore Ross
Harbinger - Chris Brown
Harbinger - Colin Lay
HEB – Mike Moynahan
Klein ISD – Joe Terpstra
LSG Sky Chefs – Lillian Wright

Nevoya, Inc - Lloyd Ickes
Outreach Strategists - Haris Khan
Pasadena ISD – Robert Stock
Petroleum Express – Jenny Wilde
Port of Houston Authority – Maureen
Harrington
Rice University – Kristianna Bowles
Speed to Solution – Belinda Gomez*
SPEER Partnership – Shaun Auckland
Texas A&M – Jonathan Snodgrass
U.S. Department of Energy – Alexandria Perez
University of Houston – Alexandre Kosmala*
Waste Management and Recycle – Andrew
Garcia
Winn-Marion – Shawn Wilson

Coalition and H-GAC Staff

H-GAC – Andrew DeCandis*
H-GAC – J. Ben Finley*
H-GAC – Vinny Polignano
H-GAC – Cassandra Marshall
H-GAC – Pharr Andrews
H-GAC – Jamila Owens
H-GAC – Jacob Eckhardt*

Others Present
Kodiak – Daniel Goff

Note: An asterisk (*) denotes in-person attendance.

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- a) There were no action items on the agenda.
- b) There was a series of information items:
 - Item 1: Introductions
 - Item 2: Presentations
 - Item 3: Updates on Advisory Board and Subcommittees
 - Item 4: Current Grant Funding Announcements and Updates
 - Item 5: Announcements
 - Item 6: Adjourn Meeting
- c) Visit <http://www.houston-cleancities.org/stakeholder-meetings/> to view the meeting information.

ITEM 1: Introductions

- a) J. Ben Finley called the meeting to order.
- b) H-GCCC Stakeholders introduced themselves.

ITEM 2: Presentations

- a) Autonomous Trucking – Daniel Goff, Kodiak
 - i. Kodiak is headquartered in Mountain View, CA, has operated in Lancaster, TX, for six years, and runs freight routes between Dallas, Houston, Oklahoma City, and Atlanta.
 - ii. Mr. Goff provided an overview of Kodiak’s operations and progress, highlighting Texas—particularly the I-45 corridor—as a key hub for AV testing and deployment.
 - iii. Kodiak launched true driverless operations in December 2024 with Atlas in the Permian Basin, delivering over 1,900 hours of paid, fully autonomous freight using trucks owned and operated by Atlas.
 - iv. The company emphasized its commitment to safety, having logged 2.8 million autonomous miles and developed a comprehensive safety-case methodology that combines simulation, scenario testing, and regulatory engagement.
 - v. Operating under the federal self-certification model and in alignment with Texas AV-friendly laws, Kodiak will continue to work closely with TxDOT and DMV as it prepares for driverless deployment in late 2026, while actively building public and regulatory trust in its technology.

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b) The Annual Report – J. Ben Finley, H-GAC

- i. Mr. Finley provided an update on the annual report, noting strong preliminary results following the U.S. Department of Energy’s review.
- ii. The coalition exceeded all major goals, including a 19% increase in response rates, approximately 19 million GGE in additional reduction, and over 56,000 tons of GHG reduction.
- iii. The report included representation from the EV sector for the first time.
- iv. The team improved documentation efforts, especially around idle reduction and EV usage (e.g., alternative fuel vehicle reporting and off-road equipment data).
- v. He emphasized the importance of this data to guide future strategies and shape potential federal funding opportunities.
- vi. Staff solicited volunteers to support outreach and data collection, with a specific call to connect with freight stakeholders and large fleet operators.

ITEM 3: Updates on Advisory Board and Subcommittees – J. Ben Finley, H-GCCC

- a) Grants Subcommittee:
 - i. Mr. Finley described a centralized grants database that includes contact information and fleet inventory from the annual survey, used to identify and notify eligible fleets when new funding becomes available.
 - ii. A new internal spreadsheet tool was introduced to streamline grant tracking and avoid duplicative research.
 - iii. Staff solicited additional participation in the subcommittee(s).

ITEM 4: Current Grant Funding Announcements and Updates – J. Ben Finley, H-GCCC

- a) Staff shared several funding opportunities expected to open in October, including:
 - i. Programs under TERP for light-duty vehicles and school buses
 - ii. Infrastructure grants through the U.S. Departments of Energy and Transportation
 - iii. Support from Highland Electric projects
 - iv. Support from and Waste Management for RNG fueling projects.
- b) Staff noted that tax credits remain available for alternative fuel projects
- c) Staff invited attendees to share any additional funding opportunities.

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ITEM 5: Announcements

- a) Mr. Finley announced that the next quarterly webinar hosted by the Texas Clean Cities Coalition, focused on emergency EV charging strategies, is scheduled for July 24.
 - i. Another EV Charging Solutions webinar is scheduled for September 22.
- b) He highlighted the Transportation Project Delivery Conference in Waco on July 29
- c) He encouraged participation in the Dallas–Fort Worth EV Code Roundtable, which may inform a similar effort in the Houston region.
 - i. Andrew DeCandis emphasized that developing a regional model EV code is part of H-GAC’s two-year work plan.
- d) Mr. Finley also applauded the Houston EV Association, whose next Zoom-accessible meeting is on August 14.
- e) Mr. Finley noted that the Houston Regional Air Quality Summit will be September 24.
- f) He added that the Texas VW Program application closes on August 31.
- g) Shaun Auckland informed Stakeholders interested in EV-readiness code updates can connect with City of Austin contacts via SPEER.
 - i. SPEER’s Industry and Policy Workgroup will meet on September 18–19.

ITEM 6: Adjourn Meeting

- a) The next meeting will be held on October 15, 2025, at 11:00 A.M.
- b) Meeting adjourned at 1:18 P.M.