

# HOUSTON-GALVESTON CLEAN CITIES COALITION STAKEHOLDERS

## MEETING SUMMARY

Wednesday, October 15, 2025 – 12:00-1:30PM  
Houston METRO Fallbrook Facilities  
111 Fallbrook Dr.  
Houston, Texas 77038  
Hybrid Meeting

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### Overview

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

Evolve Houston Casey Brown\*  
Houston Airport System – Terrance York  
Texas Natural Gas Foundation – Heather Ball

#### Partners and Stakeholders

Air Alliance Houston – Reem Tariq  
Austin Energy – Gregory Schroeder  
Brazos Transit District – Hannah Sivinski  
Brazos Transit District – Jo Marlow  
Celly – Andrew Mahon\*  
Chevron – Bobby Wright  
Citizen – Irving David  
Electric Vehicle Association – Robert Sanchez  
Fort Bend County Public Transportation – Thomas Kuczynski  
Government of Quebec – Eglantine Moss\*  
Gulf Coast Transit District – Neal Cooper  
Gulf Coast Transit District – Theodore Ross  
H2Systems – Andreas Willfort\*  
Harbinger – Colin Lay  
Harris County – Thien Cao\*  
Harris County Pollution Control Services – Annie Tapia\*  
Harris County Pollution Control Services –

Jessica Lodge\*  
Harris County Pollution Control Services – Veronica Bosquez\*  
Hermann Services – Adrian Hurgoi  
Houston Airport System – Jenny Kaufman\*  
Houston Airport System – Sheldon Daisley  
Lifeline – Cassie Brandley  
Mercedes Benz of Plano – Edwin Riveria  
Outreach Strategists – Haris Khan\*  
Petroleum Express – Jenny Wilde  
Port of Houston Authority – Kenneth Gathright  
Rep. Lizzie Fletcher – Jen Schmerling  
Rice University – Kristianna Bowles  
RIDE Houston – James Holtz  
Ryde Company – Jesse Landry\*  
Texas A & M University – Jonathan Snodgrass  
TRC Companies – Fernando Ochoa Servin  
Trillium CNG - Ashish Bhakta –  
University of Houston – Alexandre Kosmala\*  
University of Houston – Marco Cano\*

#### Coalition and H-GAC Staff

H-GAC – Althea Edwards  
H-GAC – Andrew DeCandis  
H-GAC – Cassandra Marshall  
H-GAC – J. Ben Finley\*  
H-GAC – Murad Alnajjar  
H-GAC – Vincent Polignano\*

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

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- a) No action items were on the agenda.
- b) Information items included:
  - Item 1: Welcome and Introductions
  - Item 2: Presentations
  - Item 3: Updates on Advisory Board and Subcommittees
  - Item 4: Current Grant Funding Announcement
  - Item 5: Announcements
  - Item 6: Adjournment
- c) Meeting details are available at: [www.houston-cleancities.org/stakeholder-meetings/](http://www.houston-cleancities.org/stakeholder-meetings/)

### **ITEM 1: Welcome and Introductions**

- a) Chair Vincent Sanders called the meeting to order at Houston METRO’s Fallbrook Bus Operating Facility, welcomed attendees, and introduced the “METRO Now” initiative.
- b) Guests were encouraged to collect brochures and appreciation gifts. First-time attendees, both in-person and virtual, introduced themselves.
- c) Stakeholders self-introduced.

### **ITEM 2: Presentations**

- a) *Metro Environmental Management – Vincent Sanders, Houston Metro*
  - i. Mr. Sanders described METRO’s progress in regional sustainability, including an ISO-14001-based environmental management system and collaborations with partners like the University of Houston.
  - ii. METRO centralized environmental data via a new database and completed energy efficiency upgrades, which reduced consumption in 2024.
  - iii. Continued improvements in fleet emissions, solar and battery projects, and operational efficiency were reported.
  - iv. METRO reaffirmed its support for clean cities initiatives.
- b) *Zero Emissions Vehicle Infrastructure Study – Vinny Polignano, H-GAC*
  - i. Mr. Polignano updated stakeholders on H-GAC’s Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Study, aimed at long-term planning and air quality improvement in the eight-county region.
  - ii. The study analyzed EV registration, charging gaps, and market trends, noting that Houston holds 25% of EVs registered in Texas but EV’s are 1.7% of the regional vehicle inventory.
  - iii. Early findings highlighted uneven charging deployment, rising adoptions in small counties, and the need for workforce and public education.
  - iv. The study will become the basis of a consultant-led regional plan in 2026; the

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current study's publication is expected within two weeks.

### **ITEM 3: Updates on Advisory Board and Subcommittees J. Ben Finley, HGCCC**

- a. *Annual Report Subcommittee:* DOE approved the annual report, which documented over 18 million gallons in gasoline-equivalent savings and 56,000 tons of greenhouse gas reductions, based on 30-40 fleet surveys.
- b. *Events Subcommittee:* Upcoming events included a hydrogen workforce forum (scheduled for early next year) and planning for the 2026 Clean Cities Expo, with volunteer involvement encouraged.
- c. *Grants Subcommittee:* The committee continued using the grants database to notify fleets about funding, and members were reminded of the EPA's October 22 grants webinar.
- d. Mr. Finley invited participants to join subcommittees and committed to providing follow-up on webinars and projects.

### **ITEM 4: Current Grant Funding Announcements & Updates J. Ben Finley, HGCCC**

- a. Several major funding opportunities opened or were about to open across TCEQ's TERP and federal programs:
  - i. Light-Duty Motor Vehicle Purchase and Leasing Incentive Program: applications open through March 6 (~\$7.7M available)
  - ii. Texas Clean School Bus Program: opening this month (~\$6.2M available)
  - iii. THIVE hydrogen program: opening in January
  - iv. Alternative Fueling Facilities Program: opening this month
- b. Additional opportunities included TxDOT's intercity passenger rail grants, USDA's REAP program, DOE's SPARX program, and the Texas Volkswagen program's all-electric funding window (extended to August 26, 2026).
- c. Federal tax credits for clean vehicles and infrastructure remain available through 2032.

### **ITEM 5: Announcements:**

- a) Announcements included the October 22 EPA grants webinar
- b) The hydrogen workforce event rescheduled to early next year
- c) An update on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) noted that the region was in the second year of a five-year grant. Staff continued Clean Air Action Plan outreach and encouraged distribution of an active survey (open two more weeks), with a deliverable due December 1. Draft plan release and public comment are scheduled for early 2026, followed by implementation reporting.
- d) Participants were invited to share additional announcements.

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### **ITEM 6: Adjourn Meeting**

- a) The next meeting was scheduled for January 28, 2026.
- b) In-person attendees were invited to a field trip featuring a RYDE presentation and a fueling demonstration at Freedom Fuels CNG facility.
- c) The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.