

# Why you should care when the TPC sends the RTP to the FTA

The Transportation Policy Council, a governing board of the Houston-Galveston Area Council made up of elected officials from around the region, expects to vote to approve the draft 2035 Regional Transportation Plan on August 24th, when it will be sent to the Federal Transportation Administration.

Traffic, asthma, water quality, the fate of the endangered Atwater Prairie Chicken, housing options and affordability, unemployment, Houston's contribution to global warming, your stress level, taxes, transportation options and affordability, green space, farmlands, hurricane evacuation and potential damage, the forests of Montgomery County, access to jobs and schools, traffic deaths, and the size of the transportation infrastructure construction industry all will be affected by the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), which is currently available in draft form for public comment.

The draft RTP is a long-range plan anchored on the values of the citizens of the Houston region, which emerged from the envision+Houston Region process. The plan addresses the environmental – and especially land use – impacts of transportation infrastructure. It encourages the development of walkable, human-scale Livable Centers, and envisions a rapid transit system that will be both efficient and comprehensive.

Unfortunately, the project list included with the plan departs in serious ways from the values and policies contained in the text of the plan. Projects are predominantly focused on building roads throughout the region to allow for suburban development in a way that no other region in America is doing. You can have a significant impact on the future of the Houston region by learning

more about the RTP and making your voice heard.

This map shows the proposed projects in the 2035 RTP. The eight counties in the region are distinguished by the shades of orange.

