Transit Advisory Committee
Agenda Packet
September 20, 2016
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<tr>
<td><strong>1.</strong></td>
<td>Introduction of Committee Appointees and Meeting Attendees (2 minutes)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2.</strong></td>
<td>Consider Meeting Minutes from June 07, 2016 for Approval – <strong>Action Item</strong> (3 minutes)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3.</strong></td>
<td>Public Comment – Limited to items on the agenda (3 minutes per citizen)</td>
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<td><strong>4.</strong></td>
<td>Consider a Presentation from the Montgomery County Public Transportation Meeting – Discussion (10 minutes)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5.</strong></td>
<td>Consider a Discussion Regarding the Need for a Countywide Urban and Rural Transportation Strategy for Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, Veterans and Persons with Low Incomes – Discussion (10 minutes)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>6.</strong></td>
<td>Consider a Resolution of Support for developing a Countywide Urban and Rural Transportation Strategy for Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, Veterans and Persons with Low Incomes – <strong>Action Item</strong> (5 minutes)</td>
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| **7.** | Consider a Presentation and Action Item Regarding the City of Conroe’s Application to the Houston-Galveston Area Council for a Grant for Commuter Bus Service:  
   a. Presentation Regarding Proposed Commuter Bus Service – Discussion (5 minutes)  
   b. Resolution in Support of City of Conroe’s Grant Application – **Action Item** (5 minutes) |
| **8.** | Consider Presentations Regarding Quarterly Transit Reports:  
   a. Presentation Regarding the City of Conroe – Discussion (5 minutes)  
   b. Presentation Regarding The Woodlands Township – Discussion (5 minutes)  
   c. Presentation Regarding Limited Eligibility Demand Response Transit Service Provided by Senior Rides in the Conroe-The Woodlands Urbanized Area – Discussion (5 minutes) |
| **9.** | Consider a Presentation Regarding the Use of the Conroe-The Woodlands UZA FTA Section 5310 Program, Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Funds – Discussion (10 minutes) |
| **10.** | Consider Announcements Regarding Other Regional Transportation Planning Activities – Discussion (5 minutes) |
| **11.** | Adjourn |

**Next Meeting:** **December 6, 2016**  
The Woodlands Township  
2801 Technology Forest Blvd.  
The Woodlands, TX 77381
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## Transit Advisory Committee
### Agenda Item 1

| Introduction of Committee Appointees and Meeting Attendees (2 minutes) |

### Background

In accordance with the Transit Advisory Committee Bylaws, one Committee member and alternate was appointed by each of the following interests.

- **City of Conroe**
  - Guy Martin, Mayor Pro Tem
  - Alternate – Paul Virgadamo, City Administrator
- **The Woodlands Township**
  - Mike Bass, Board Vice Chairman
  - Alternate – Don Norrell, President/General Manager
- **Montgomery County**
  - Jim Clark, Commissioner Precinct 4
  - Alternate – Mark Mooney, County Engineer
- **Other Providers** (As defined in ILA, this Committee member will be a single representative for all the small cities in the UZA.)
  - James Kuykendall, Mayor, City of Oak Ridge North
  - Alternate – Greg Smith, City Administrator, City of Shenandoah

### Purpose

To introduce the Committee members and alternates from the City of Conroe, The Woodlands Township, Montgomery County and the single representative and alternate from the “Small Cities”, which are City of Cut and Shoot, City of Oak Ridge North, City of Panorama City, City of Shenandoah, City of Willis and Town of Woodloch, as well as the meeting attendees.
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Transit Advisory Committee  

Agenda Item 2

Consider Meeting Minutes from June 07, 2016 for Approval – **Action Item** (3 minutes)

**Background**

The Transit Advisory Committee met formally at the City of Conroe, Greater Conroe Economic Development Corporation, Chamber Boardroom, 505 West Davis Street, Conroe, TX 77301, on June 07, 2016.

**Purpose/Proposed Action**

To consider approving the meeting minutes from June 07, 2016.

**3 Attachments**

1. Meeting Minutes, June 07, 2016
2. Affidavits of Publication
3. Sign-In Sheet
Agenda Item 2
Attachment
The Transit Advisory Committee Meeting commenced at 10:30 a.m. on June 7, 2016.

The next meeting was set for 10:30 a.m. in Conroe, Texas, on September 20, 2016.

Attendees: See sign-in sheet (attached)

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<th>1. Introduction of Committee Members and Meeting Attendees</th>
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<th>2. Consider Approving Meeting Minutes from March 08, 2016</th>
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<th>3. Public Comment</th>
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<th>4. Consider a Discussion Regarding the Role of the Small Cities in Transit Planning for the Conroe-The Woodlands UZA</th>
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<td><strong>Discussion</strong></td>
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Small Cities have a seat at the table.

Mr. Jim Clark briefly spoke about the expanse of Montgomery County and the challenges that come with serving such a large area. Mr. Clark inquired about what sort of legwork and/or analysis has been conducted to measure the need in the area in order to have a target in mind. Ms. Allison Hulett spoke of the two meetings sponsored by The Goodman Corporation last year to gather information about the need in the area. The county has rapidly but very recently become urbanized. Unlike other urbanized counties such as Harris County (Houston), however, the county does not rely on one major transit agency like METRO. The area relies on smaller networks of transportation services, which are not enough to serve the entire county.

Mr. Mike Bass shared his reflections regarding the recently completed Woodlands’ Transit Study. Figuring the demand was difficult. During the public outreach process, he recalled, half the audience agreed public transit to be a waste of money, while the other half supported transit and viewed it as the only option to get around. Mr. Bass concluded that though not everyone needs and would benefit from transit, the goal should be to design a system that serves the segment of the community that needs it in a cost effective way.

Mr. Bartels reiterated that both Conroe and the Township have been successful at planning and implementing public transportation projects. The needs have been heard through a series of public outreach meetings. The demand is often harder to calculate.

Mr. Kuykendall suggested having a county-wide meeting to gauge the need of the entire county. Chairman Martin agreed but suggested the group focuses on the availability of funding and the different sources. Mr. Barry Goodman added that funding sources exist both in the federal and state level. The challenge is that these funds come through different silos with different rules and restrictions. Finally, Mr. Bass suggested the County and UZA entities to engage in a county-wide strategy or plan for transit that develops conceptual projects. When seeking for funding, conceptual projects must be developed in a way that the need and the demand lead to specific solutions.

Chairman Martin requested that Mr. Goodman and his team work on setting up a Montgomery County Public Transportation meeting to address needs and funding sources.

5. Consider Presentations and Action Item Regarding Limited Eligibility Demand Response Transit Service Provided by Senior Rides in the Conroe-The Woodlands Urbanized Area:
A. Presentation Regarding the Quarterly Update

Mr. David Bartels gave a quarterly update regarding the limited eligibility demand response transit service provided by Senior Rides. This is a first-come-first-served service and the service is not limited. The Quarterly Report for the Second Quarter of fiscal year 2017 was attached to the packet for the meeting and contains.

B. Presentation Regarding the Provision of Service in FY 2017

Ms. Allison Hulett gave a brief presentation regarding their ongoing transportation service (Senior Rides). Meal on Wheels caters to the aging population. This population includes seniors or residents with different needs: that would like to volunteer, or need 24 hour care, or are not high functioning. Not a lot of these folks qualify for Medicaid and/or have relatives living close by in the area. Meal on Wheels’ goal is to facilitate physical preventative care and emotional wellbeing within Montgomery County. The 5310 program dictates that the Senior Rides service be offered to seniors that are 65 years old and/or are persons with disabilities.

Senior Rides operates a fleet of 7 vehicles. Drivers are not usually people with a transportation background; however, the drivers are special people that have to be trained to help riders into the buses. On average Senior Rides offers about 1,400 rides a month for the county in order to stay within budget. About 65% of these trips are within the UZA. Moming trips include trips for the senior centers. After this, Senior Rides does demand response trips. Subscription trips exist for dialysis.

Most funding comes from governmental funding (Montgomery County, CDBG, The Woodlands Township, Conroe, Small Cities, 5310, and H-GAC); 4.9% funds come from non-governmental sources (the United Way grant). Repair and maintenance has gone down from a monthly average of $13,000 to $4,000. Senior Rides is in the process of acquiring two (2) extra buses for reserve.

For a closer look on costs and expenses, the presentation handout has been attached to the minutes.

Chairman Martin inquired about the percentage of trips that have been denied to get an idea of the demand missed. Ms. Hulett added that

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unfortunately due to their budget constraints, Meal on Wheels does not advertise the Senior Rides service. Mr. Guin De’Andre spoke of less trips being missed now that they have the taxi vouchers, but agreed to include the number of missed/denied trips in the Quarterly Reports moving forward.

C. **Resolution in Support of Renewing, Extending or Amending the Agreements between Senior Rides and the City of Conroe and The Woodlands Township for FY 2017**

| **Action** | The Resolution Support of Renewing, Extending or Amending the Agreements between Senior Rides and the City of Conroe and The Woodlands Township for FY 2017 was approved by a vote of 4 to 0. |

**6. Consider a Discussion Regarding the 2018-2019 State Legislative Session**

**Discussion**

- Mr. Barry Goodman gave a brief summary regarding the 2018-2019 State Legislative Session. Section 458 of the Texas Transportation Code and its associated administrative provisions provide guidance on the creation of small urban and rural transit districts and the distribution of state transit funding to support the provision of public transit services. Conroe-The Woodlands UZA benefits financially from Section 458 because the City of Conroe and The Woodlands Township do not have the benefit of a local sales tax base to support transit.

  - The Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC), which is a TxDOT committee representing rural and small urban public transportation entities, has recognized that the large UZAs like Conroe-The Woodlands are receiving a growing amount of the appropriations authorized by Section 458, so PTAC is proposing actions be taken to address this issue (Attachment 1); however PTAC is not conferring with the large UZAs.

**7. Consider Presentations Regarding Quarterly Transit Reports:**

**A. Presentation Regarding the City of Conroe**

The **Conroe Connection Ridership Summary for the Second Quarter of Federal FY 2016 (January 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016)** was attached to the agenda packet.

**B. Presentation Regarding The Woodlands Township**

The **Woodlands Township Transit Service Ridership Summary for the Second Quarter of Federal FY2016 (January 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016)** was attached to the agenda packet.
8. **Consider a Presentation Regarding the Use of the Conroe-The Woodlands UZA FTA Section 5310 Program, Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Funds**

**Discussion**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. FTA Section 5310 Program for FY 2013 and FY 2014 Funding</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Bartels presented a brief summary regarding the FTA Section 5310 Program for FY 2013 and FY 2014 funding. The City of Conroe and Meals on Wheels/Senior Rides finalized the contract for FY 2013 and FY 2014 Section 5310 funds on July 7, 2015 for $170,807. The contract includes the purchase of vehicles, purchase of service, and preventative maintenance.</td>
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<td>• Vehicles: Senior Rides is in the process of purchasing two (2) Type 3 vehicles for $108,000 (federal) from the State of Texas Cooperative Purchasing Program (CO-OP) using TxSmartBuy Ordering System.</td>
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<td>• Purchase of service: The contract includes $33,297 (federal) for the purchase of service. Cost per trip of Senior Rides for the current fiscal year was $28.01 for the first quarter, $29.07 for the second quarter.</td>
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<td>• Preventative Maintenance: The contract includes $29,510 (federal) for preventative maintenance. Senior Rides will procure goods and services on a purchase by purchase basis under Micro-purchasing guidelines (goods and services valued under $3,000).</td>
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<th>B. FTA Section 5310 Program for FY 2015 and FY 2016 Funding</th>
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<td>Mr. Bartels also presented a brief summary regarding the FTA Section 5310 Program for FY 2015 and FY 2016 funding. Senior Rides competed and was awarded funding through the 5310 program. The funds will help support their taxi voucher program. New Danville, a new partner, was also awarded funding for new vehicles.</td>
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9. **Consider a Presentation Regarding the Public Transportation Innovation Funding Opportunity; Mobility on Demand (MOD) Sandbox Demonstration Program and Consider an Action Item to Pursue Funding for a joint Conroe-The Woodlands UZA Mobile/Web Transit Platform**

**Discussion**

| Mr. David Bartels gave a brief summary of the Mobility on Demand (MOD) Sandbox Demonstration Program. The MOD Sandbox Demonstration Program is intended to provide a platform where integrated MOD concepts and solutions are supported and demonstrated through local partnerships in a real-world setting. FTA will fund project teams to adopt innovative business models to deliver high quality, seamless and equitable mobility options for all travelers. The MOD Sandbox further emphasizes FTA's interest in transit and mobility innovation, and builds upon FTA's recent Expedited Public Transportation Improvement Initiative (XPEDITE), which sought industry input through an online dialogue on transit innovation, particularly technology trends that increase public transportation efficiency, effectiveness and enhance |
the quality of customer travel.

The Conroe-Woodlands UZA was looking into partnering with the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI); however, TTI has partnered with another entity.

10. Consider Announcements Regarding Other Regional Transportation Planning Activities

**Discussion**

Mayor Kuykendall, a member of the Transportation and Utilities Committee of the Texas Municipal League (TML), shared that during their last meeting they brought up their position on certain transportation issues for the upcoming Legislative Session. This included topics on mobility and billboards. Mayor Kuykendall concluded that the committee will not be for anything that usurps the authority of their cities. See attached summary of Actions Taken during the Texas Municipal League Legislative Policy Committee on Utilities and Transportation meeting held on June 3, 2016.

Ms. Mariana Raschke gave a brief summary of the Houston-Galveston Area Council Downtown Public Spaces Grant Program. A memo attached to the agenda packet summarized the types of improvements eligible for the $25,000 grant opportunity.

11. Adjourn

**APPROVED this the 20th day of September 2016.**

________________________________________
Guy Martin
Chairman, Transit Advisory Committee

ATTEST:

________________________________________
Mike Bass
Vice Chairman, Transit Advisory Committee
TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE ON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION

Summary of Actions Taken
June 3, 2016

1. **The Turnback Program**

   The Committee voted to recommend that TML *oppose* legislation, or state budget strategies, that would remove or negate the strictly voluntary nature of highway turnbacks.

2. **Local and State Transportation Funding**

   The Committee voted to recommend that TML *support* legislation that would:
   
   a. allow for greater flexibility by cities to fund local transportation projects; amend or otherwise modify state law to help cities fund transportation projects; or provide municipalities with additional funding options and resources to address transportation needs that the state and federal governments are unable or unwilling to address.
   
   b. discontinue the diversion of transportation revenues to non-transportation purposes and appropriate all revenues from highway user fees and taxes to fund transportation.
   
   c. provide additional funding to the Texas Department of Transportation for transportation projects that would benefit cities, so long as existing funding formulas are followed.
   
   d. authorize a local option election to increase the local sales tax cap from 2 to 2.25 cents.
   
   e. provide local, state, and federal transportation funding for rail as one component of transportation infrastructure.
   
   f. provide additional funding for transportation mobility projects and increased local control over those projects.

3. **Billboards**

   The Committee voted to recommend that TML *oppose* legislation that would erode municipal authority over billboards or that would place any unfunded mandate on cities relating to billboards.

   The Committee voted to recommend that TML *support* legislation that would increase municipal authority over Texas Department of Transportation logo signs. (Note: the Committee directed staff to provide additional briefing materials related to this issue for the August 19 meeting of the Legislative Policy Committee on General Government.)

4. **Transportation Network Companies**

   The Committee voted to recommend that TML *oppose* legislation that would preempt city regulations governing transportation network companies and licensing their drivers.
5. **Overweight/Oversize Vehicles**

The Committee voted to recommend that TML *oppose* legislation that would increase the permissible size or weight of vehicles under state law.

6. **Rights-of-Way**

The Committee voted to recommend that TML *oppose* legislation that would erode the authority of a city to be adequately compensated for the use of its rights-of-way.

The Committee voted to recommend that TML *oppose* legislation that would erode municipal authority over the management and control of rights-of-way.

The Committee voted to recommend that TML *oppose* legislation or rules that would erode the provisions of Chapter 66 of the Utilities Code, which relates to state-issued cable franchises.

7. **Utility Relocation**

The Committee voted to recommend that TML *oppose* legislation that would erode municipal authority to require utility companies to pay the costs of relocating their facilities in a timely manner as required by current law.

8. **Solid Waste Franchises**

The Committee voted to recommend that TML *oppose* legislation that would limit a city’s authority to enter into a solid waste franchise.

9. **County Recycling Programs**

The Committee directed staff to provide further briefing materials on this issue for the August 19 meeting of the Legislative Policy Committee on General Government.

10. **Wastewater Reuse**

The Committee voted to recommend that TML *oppose* legislation that would erode local control or reduce municipal ownership and/or control over effluent and water reuse projects.

11. **Water Operators**

The Committee voted to direct staff to, in conjunction with the City of Alpine, move forward with efforts to find a solution to the scarcity of water/wastewater operators in the state.

12. **PUC Water Rate Jurisdiction**

The Committee voted to recommend that TML *oppose* legislation or state agency action authorizing any state agency to assert jurisdiction over the rates and services provided by a municipally owned utility inside the city limits.
13. **Speed Enforcement in School Zones**

The Committee voted to recommend that TML *support* legislation that would allow cities to use automated speed enforcement in school zones.
Advertiser: MELISSA SMITH
THE GOODMAN CORPORATION
3200 TRAVIS ST., STE 200
HOUSTON, TX 77006-3650

Order #: 415380
Tagline: Notice of Transit Ad

Account #: 197854
Phone: (713) 951-7951
Purchase Order#: Melissa Smith
Total Ad Cost: $178.25

Payments:
CC $178.25 AMEX 1268
Balance Due: $0.00

Account Executive: Susan Curr
(281) 378-1025 scurr@hcnonline.com

Publications: 1CC-The Conroe Courier, 1SO-Spring Observer, 1WV-The Villager, 1XCL-hcn.classifieds

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05/24/16 11:54 AM
Notice of Transit Advisory Committee Meeting
A Transit Advisory Committee Meeting will be held by The Conroe-Woodlands Urbanized Area Transit Advisory Committee to discuss planning, service delivery, administration and oversight for the provision of public transportation services and related programs in the Conroe-The Woodlands Urbanized Area.
The meeting will be held at 10:30 A.M. on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, at The Woodlands Township, 2801 Technology Forest Boulevard, The Woodlands, Texas, 77381. All interested parties are invited to attend.

Anuncio de Una Reunión del Comité Asesor de Tránsito
El Comité Asesor de Tránsito del área urbanizada de Conroe-The Woodlands llevará a cabo una reunión con el fin de discutir la planificación, prestación de servicios, administración y supervisión de la prestación de servicios de transporte público y otros programas relacionados con el área urbanizada de Conroe-The Woodlands.
La reunión se llevará a cabo el día martes, 7 de junio del 2016, a partir de las 10:30 a.m. en la oficina de The Woodlands Township, 2801 Technology Forest Boulevard, The Woodlands, TX 77381. Se invita a todas las partes interesadas a asistir.
CC, WV 06/02/16
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<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mariana Raschke</td>
<td>TGC</td>
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<td>Blas Uribe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tommy Woolley</td>
<td>Conroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lucy Gomez</td>
<td>Inter-faith</td>
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<td>Carey Yeager</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ken Dorcas</td>
<td>Agnew In Place &amp; Woodlands</td>
<td><a href="mailto:CKDORCAS@SBCGLOBEA.ORG">CKDORCAS@SBCGLOBEA.ORG</a></td>
<td>57 Pershing Grove, 77381 281-367-0125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collin Key</td>
<td>Meals-on-Wheels M.C.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:collin@movmc.org">collin@movmc.org</a></td>
<td>1202 Candy Lane, Conroe, TX 77301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>De'Andre J. Guin</td>
<td>Meals-on-Wheels Montgomery</td>
<td><a href="mailto:deandre@movmc.org">deandre@movmc.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allison Hadlett</td>
<td>Meals-on-Wheels Conroe</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Powers</td>
<td>Township</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matt Kouns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jim Clark</td>
<td>Montgomery Co</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Jim.clark@mc.tx.gov">Jim.clark@mc.tx.gov</a></td>
<td>936-443-3561</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cissy Lavelle</td>
<td>Township</td>
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Transit Advisory Committee

Agenda Item 3

Public Comment – Limited to items on the agenda (3 minutes per citizen)

**Background**

In accordance with the Transit Advisory Committee Bylaws under Meetings, all Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Public comment will be allowed only on agenda items.

Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per citizen per agenda item.

**Purpose**

To provide Committee members with public comment related to agenda items that are under consideration by the Committee.
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Consider a Presentation from the Montgomery County Public Transportation Meeting – Discussion (10 minutes)

Background

On August 3, 2016, the Conroe-The Woodlands Urbanized Area Transit Advisory Committee sponsored the Montgomery County Public Transportation Meeting to discuss existing public transportation services in Montgomery County, need for public transportation in Montgomery County, public transportation resources, elements of a successful public transportation solution and next step(s). The meeting took place in the Greater Conroe Economic Development Council Chamber Boardroom, 505 West Davis St., Conroe, TX 77301 at 1:30 P.M.

The meeting was attended by 49 people representing stakeholders from Montgomery County, the City of Conroe, The Woodlands Township, the City of Oak Ridge North and the “small cities” within the Conroe - The Woodlands Large Urbanized Area, the City of Montgomery, the Brazos Transit District, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC), the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Conroe Independent School District (CISD), the Salvation Army, the Woodlands Chamber of Commerce, Senior Rides, Transporter Transit, Texas House of Representatives District 3, Interfaith of The Woodlands, Montgomery County ADAPT, Mission Northeast, Coat of Many Colors, Workforce Solutions, Tri-County Behavioral Healthcare, Montgomery County Veterans Services, New Danville, and several members of the general public. Transportation needs previously identified in Montgomery County during FTA Section 5310 Public Meetings, The Woodlands Township Transit Plan meetings, Conroe-The Woodlands Transit Advisory Committee meetings and the Conroe Connection onboard rider survey were presented during the discussion of transportation needs in Montgomery County. These needs were reinforced by the attendees, however, new needs were identified and included: the lack of transportation to interviews and jobs after completion of job training; the growth of senior housing in Montgomery County; projected population growth in Montgomery County from approximately 600,000 to 2.2 million by 2050; and the sheer size of Montgomery County.

Discussions during the meeting focused on transportation challenges faced by seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans and persons with low income traveling to the doctor, the grocery store, government entities and health and social service agencies. Potential methods for meeting these challenges include: developing a county-wide transportation strategy, which includes urban and rural areas; filling service gaps and minimizing overlaps in transportation, as provided by the various transportation providers and health and human service agencies; identifying methods to optimize the provision of service to deliver more trips and reduce cost; and developing a sustainable framework for the use of existing and future local, state, and federal resources to improve county-wide transportation, especially for seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans and persons with low income. The Montgomery County Commissioner Jim Clark offered to establish a mobility manager position to implement the strategy, if created. The consensus
reached by the meeting attendees was additional discussion regarding the transportation strategy should be held at the September 20, 2016 Conroe-The Woodlands Transit Advisory Committee meeting (see Agenda Item 4).

**Purpose**
To summarize the outcome of the Montgomery County Public Transportation Meeting and discuss the next steps.

**3 Attachments**
1. Affidavits of Publication
2. Sign-In Sheet
3. Presentation
Agenda Item 4
Attachment
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Notice of Montgomery County Public Transportation Meeting

A Montgomery County Public Transportation Meeting will be sponsored by The Conroe-Woodlands Urbanized Area Transit Advisory Committee to discuss Existing Public Transportation Services in Montgomery County, Need for Public Transportation in Montgomery County, Public Transportation Resources, Elements of a Successful Public Transportation Solution and Next Step(s).

The meeting will be held at 1:30 P.M. on Wednesday, August 03, 2016, in the Greater Conroe Economic Development Council Chamber Boardroom, 505 West Davis St., Conroe, TX 77301. The public and all interested parties are invited to attend.

Anuncio de Una Reunión acerca del Transporte Público en el Condado de Montgomery

El Comité Asesor de Tránsito del área urbanizada de Conroe-The Woodlands patrocinará una reunión acerca del Transporte Público en el Condado de Montgomery para discutir los Servicios de Transporte Públicos existentes en el Condado, las necesidades del Transporte Público en el Condado, los fondos y recursos disponibles para el Transporte Público, los elementos de una solución de Transporte Público exitosa, y los siguientes pasos a seguir.

La reunión se llevará a cabo el día miércoles, 03 de agosto del 2016, a partir de las 1:30 p.m. en la sala de juntas de la Corporación de Desarrollo Económico de Conroe (Greater Conroe Economic Development) localizada en: 505 West Davis St., Conroe, TX 77301.

Se invita a todas las partes interesadas a asistir.

CC, WW, MP, EMO 7/28, 7/27
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

Personally appeared before the undersigned, a Notary Public within and for said County and State, Jennifer Underferth, Representative for Jason Joseph, General Manager and Publisher of the The Conroe Courier and Woodlands Villager, newspapers of general circulation in the County of Montgomery, State of Texas. Who being duly sworn, states under oath that the report of Legal Notices, a true copy of which is hereto annexed was published in said newspapers in its issue(s) of the

_________________________
28th day of July, 2016

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Publisher's Representative

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of July, 2016

_________________________
Notary Public

My commission expires on (stamp)
AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HARRIS

Personally appeared before the undersigned, a Notary Public within and for said County and State. Jennifer Underferth, Representative for Jason Joseph, General Manager and Publisher of the Tomball/Magnolia Potpourri, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Harris/Montgomery, State of Texas. Who being duly sworn, states under oath that the report of Legal Notices, a true copy of which is hereto annexed was published in said newspapers in its issue(s) of the

27th day(s) of July, 2016
27th day(s) of July, 2016
27th day(s) of July, 2016
27th day(s) of July, 2016

Publisher's Representative

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of July, 2016.

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AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

Personally appeared before the undersigned, a Notary Public within and for said County and State, Jennifer Underferth, Representative for Jason Joseph, General Manager and Publisher of the East Montgomery County Observer, all newspapers of general circulation in the County of Montgomery, State of Texas. Who being duly sworn, states under oath that the report of Legal Notices, a true copy of which is hereto annexed was published in said newspaper in its issue(s) of the

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AGENDA

- Introductions
- Meeting Purpose
- Existing Public Transportation Services in Montgomery County
- Public Transportation Needs in Montgomery County
- Public Transportation Resources (Urban, Rural, State, Local and Other)
- Elements of a Successful Public Transportation Solution
- Questions and Next Step(s)
MEETING PURPOSE

- Initiate the development of a rural and urban approach to public transportation planning in Montgomery County
- Identify the next step or steps

EXISTING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY
**CITY OF CONROE**

- **Branding:** Conroe Connection Transit
- **Type of Service:** Fixed route
- **Who is eligible?** General Public
- **When is the service available?** Monday – Friday, 7 am – 7 pm
- **Fare:** $1.00 per trip (one-way) / $0.50 Seniors and Persons with Disabilities
- **Contact Phone Number:** (936) 522-3526
- **Source of Funding:**
  - FTA Section 5317, New Freedom
  - FTA Section 5309, Bus Livability
  - FTA Section 5307, Urbanized Area Formula
  - FTA Section 5339, Bus and Bus Facilities
  - State Transit Appropriations

**CITY OF CONROE**

- **Map of Route**

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For more information check www.ConroeConnection.org
**Branding:** Conroe Connection Transit  
**Type of Service:** Complementary Americans with Disabilities Act Paratransit Service within 3/4 mile of the fixed route bus service  
**Who is eligible?** Persons with Disabilities and their personal care assistants (PCA)  
**When is the service available?** Monday – Friday, 7 am – 7 pm  
**Fare:** $2.00 per trip (one-way) / PCA may ride free-of-charge with an ADA-eligible passenger  
**Contact Phone Number:** (936) 522–3526  
**Source of Funding:**  
- FTA Section 5317, New Freedom  
- FTA Section 5309, Bus Livability  
- FTA Section 5307, Urbanized Area Formula  
- FTA Section 5339, Bus and Bus Facilities  
- State Transit Appropriations  
- City of Conroe  

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**Service Area**

![Service Area Map](image)
THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP

- **Branding:** The Woodlands Waterway Trolley
- **Type of Service:** Fixed Route with Complementary ADA Paratransit
- **Who is eligible for the service?** General Public
- **When is the service available?** Monday – Sunday, 11 am – 8 pm
- **Fare:** No Charge
- **Contact Phone Number:** (281) 210–3800
- **Source of Funding:**
  - FTA Section 5307
  - FTA Section 5339
  - State Transit Appropriations
  - The Township

THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP

- **Route Map**
THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP

- **Branding:** The Woodlands Express
- **Type of Service:** Commuter / Park & Ride
- **Who is eligible for the service?** General Public
- **When is the service available?** Monday – Friday, AM & PM Peak, Midday and Sunsetter
- **Fare:** $13.00 Round Trip
- **Contact Phone Number:** (281) 210–3800
- **Source of Funding:**
  - FTA Section 5307
  - FTA Section 5339
  - State Transit Appropriations
  - The Township

THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP

- **Park & Rides**
THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP

- Downtown and Greenway Commuter Route

- Medical Center Commuter Route
SENIOR RIDES

- **Service Provider:** Montgomery County Committee on Aging, Inc.
- **Type of Service:** Demand–Response
- **Who is eligible for the service?** Seniors who are 65 years of age or older and Persons with Disabilities
- **When is the service available?** Monday – Friday, 7:30 am – 3 pm
- **Fare:** No Charge, but Donations Accepted
- **Contact Phone Number:** (936) 756–5828

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SENIOR RIDES

- **Source of Funding:**
  - FTA Section 5310 (Urban and Rural)
  - Community Development Block Grant
  - City of Conroe
  - The Woodlands Township
  - Montgomery County
  - Private Donations
- **Service Area:** Montgomery County
INTERFAITH OF THE WOODLANDS

- **Service Provider:** Interfaith of The Woodlands
- **Type of Service:** Demand-Response (volunteers)
- **Who is eligible for the service?** Seniors 62 with no means of transportation. The clients must be able to get in and out of the car independently.
- **When is the service available?** Monday – Friday; 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
- **Fare:** Complimentary
- **Contact Phone Number:** (281) 367-1230

INTERFAITH OF THE WOODLANDS

- **Source of Funding:** The Woodlands Township and Donations
- **Service Area**
NEW DANVILLE

- **Service Provider:** New Danville
- **Type of Service:** Demand-Response
- **Who is eligible for the service?** New Danville Clients
- **When is the service available?** Monday – Friday, 7:30 am – 6:30 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am – 10:30 pm
- **Fare:** $8 round trip
- **Contact Phone Number:** (936) 344–6200

NEW DANVILLE

- **Source of Funding:** Private Pay by Clients
- **Service Area:** Willis, Conroe and The Woodlands
BRAZOS TRANSIT DISTRICT

- **Service Provider:** Brazos Transit District
- **Type of Service:** Demand-Response
- **Who is eligible for the service?** General Public
- **When is the service available?** Monday – Friday, 5:00 am – 7:00 pm based on location
- **How much is the fare?**
  - $3.50 one-way trip
  - $5.50 same day one-way trip
  - $2.50 additional one-way trip
- **Contact Phone Number:** (800) 272-0039

BRAZOS TRANSIT DISTRICT

- **Source of Funding:**
  - FTA Section 5311, Rural Formula
  - State Transit Appropriations
- **Service Area:** Rural area of Montgomery County (yellow)
VETERANS – VFW POST 4709 (Conroe)

- **Service Area:** VFW Post 4709 to Houston VA Hospital (no route deviations)
- **Who is eligible for the service?** All Veterans
- **When is the service available?** Every Tuesday, 6:30 AM
- **Fare:** No Charge
- **Contact Phone Number:** (936) 756–7614
- **Source of Funding:** Tax Deductible Charitable Donations

VETERANS – AMERICAN LEGION POST 618 (Willis)

- **Service Area:** Legion Post 618 to Houston VA Hospital
- **Who is eligible for the service?** All Veterans
- **When is the service available?** Every Wednesday, 6:00 AM, by Appointment
- **Fare:** No Charge
- **Contact Phone Number:** (936) 856–5224
- **Source of Funding:** American Legion
NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

- **Service Area:** Statewide / County-wide
- **Service Broker:** Medical Transportation Management – https://www.mtm-inc.net/texas/sda-2/
- **Purpose of Service:** Medicaid Health-care Visits
- **Who is eligible for the service?**
  - People with Medicaid
  - Children Covered Under Children with Special Health Care Needs Program
- **When is the service available?** Based on Healthcare Visit

![Texas Health and Human Services Commission](image1)

NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

- **Fare:** No Charge
- **Type of Ride:**
  - Reimbursement by the mile
  - Mass transit tickets
  - A sedan, van, or taxi ride
  - ADA accessible car or van based on need
- **Contact Phone Number:** (877) 633–8747
- **Link:** http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/mtp/
- **Source of Funding:** State and Federal

![Texas Health and Human Services Commission](image2)
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION NEEDS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

FTA SECTION 5310 PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Conroe–The Woodlands Urbanized Area
- Timeframe:
  - July 2014 for FY 2013 & FY 2014
- Participants:
  - Seniors
  - Individuals with Disabilities
  - Public and Private Transportation Providers
  - Public Officials
FTA SECTION 5310 PUBLIC MEETINGS

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THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP TRANSIT PLAN

- **Timeframe:**
  - Winter 2014 – Winter 2015

- **Outreach:**
  - Web Site
  - Focus Groups
  - Open House and Presentations (3)
  - Online Questionnaire (3)
  - Virtual Webinar
  - The Woodlands Township Board of Directors Meetings
THE WOODLANDS TOWNSHIP TRANSIT PLAN

- Stakeholders expressed the importance of:
  - Building partnerships to share the costs and benefits
  - Providing high quality services
  - Preserving commuting services to Houston
  - Supporting congestion mitigation
  - Enhancing the multi-modal transportation network

CONROE CONNECTION ONBOARD RIDER SURVEY

Please tell us anything else we should know to make Conroe Connection Transit a better service for you.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekend service*</th>
<th>Service after 7 PM*</th>
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<tr>
<td>More routes and buses*</td>
<td>Service outside Loop 336</td>
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<td>Service along SH 105</td>
<td>Daily and weekly passes</td>
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<tr>
<td>More bus shelters</td>
<td>30–minute headways</td>
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<td>Route to Social Security</td>
<td>Route to DPS</td>
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<td>More bus stops</td>
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* Top 3 responses
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## FEDERAL TRANSIT – URBAN

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## FEDERAL TRANSIT – RURAL

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**FEDERAL TRANSIT – RURAL**

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Purpose: Provides Local Match for Federal Funds

Fiscal Agent: Brazos Transit District

Subrecipient: Conroe-Woodlands UZA

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**TxDOT – URBAN**

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Purpose: Provides Local Match for Federal Funds

Fiscal Agent: Brazos Transit District

Subrecipient: Conroe-Woodlands UZA
TxDOT – RURAL

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<td>State Transit Appropriations</td>
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- **Purpose:** Provides Local Match for Federal Funds
- **Transit Provider:** Brazos Transit District

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OTHER STATE AGENCIES

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<td>Emissions Reduction Incentive Grant program</td>
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<td>Texas Clean Fleet Program</td>
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OTHER STATE AGENCIES

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<td>Public Works and Economic Development Assistance Programs</td>
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LOCAL – URBANIZED AREA

- City of Conroe
  - Fixed Route with Complementary ADA Paratransit
  - Seniors Rides
- The Woodlands Township
  - Fixed Route with Complementary ADA Paratransit
  - Commuter Service
  - Seniors Rides
  - Interfaith of the Woodlands
- City of Willis
  - Senior Rides
- City of Oak Ridge North
  - Senior Rides
- City of Shenandoah
  - Senior Rides
LOCAL

- Montgomery County
  - Senior Rides
- United Way
  - Senior Rides
  - Mobility Management Grant
- Non-profit Organizations (Donations)
  - Seniors Rides
  - Interfaith of the Woodlands
  - VFW Post 4709

ELEMENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SOLUTION

- A Lead Entity or Agency (“Champion”)
- Involving the Public and Stakeholders
- Understanding What Public Transportation Services are Available
- Understanding the Specific Needs of Montgomery County for Public Transportation
- Translating Needs to Projects
- Pursuing Immediate Implementation or Funding Opportunities (“Low Hanging Fruit”)
- Developing a Multi-year County Finance and Implementation Strategy
- Implementing the Strategy
STEPS STARTED or COMPLETED

- Reaching Out to Communities / Stakeholders in the County
- Understanding What Public Transportation Services are Available
- Understanding Needs
- County Public Transportation Meeting

SENIOR RIDES PILOT PROJECTS

- Willis
  - 4 pick up locations
  - Connects with Conroe Connection (Walmart)
  - Multiple pick up locations/days of the week/times
  - Marketing and stop signage
- Hospital District
  - Taxicab vouchers for frequent emergency vehicle users
  - Goal: Transition to District after pilot
- Conroe Connection Vouchers
  - Transition Seniors and Persons with Disabilities
  - to Conroe Connection
    - Fixed Route for Seniors
    - ADA Paratransit for Persons with Disabilities
QUESTIONS AND NEXT STEP(S)

- **Questions**
  - Is there a commitment from stakeholders to pursue a finance and implementation strategy for public transportation county-wide?
  - Who is the Lead Entity or Agency (“Champion”)?

- **Potential Next Step(s)**
  - Translating Needs into Projects
  - Involving the Public
  - Developing the Strategy
Transit Advisory Committee

Consider a Discussion Regarding the Need for a County-wide Urban and Rural Transportation Strategy for Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, Veterans and Persons with Low Incomes – Discussion (10 minutes)

Background
On August 3, 2016 the Montgomery County and the Conroe-The Woodlands Urbanized Area Transit Advisory Committee hosted a collaborative meeting to initiate the development of a comprehensive approach to improving transportation for the public within Montgomery County. The meeting finished with the idea that a county-wide transportation strategy could be created to:

- Fill service gaps and minimize overlaps in transportation as provided by the various transportation providers and health and human service agencies;
- Identify methods to optimize the provision of service to deliver more trips and reduce costs; and
- Develop a sustainable framework for the use of existing and future local, state, and federal resources to improve county-wide transportation, especially for seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans and persons with low income.

The estimated cost to develop a county-wide strategy is approximately $120,000 and the estimated time to complete the strategy is approximately eight (8) months. The group also discussed the potential to create a county-wide mobility manager position, who could work to implement the strategy, as well as coordinate transportation among the transportation service providers and health and human service agencies.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Clark proposes the Transit Advisory Committee discuss and/or consider:

- Montgomery County may consider providing up to $40,000 to develop the strategy and may consider creating the mobility management position when the strategy is completed;
- The advisory committee consider approving a resolution of support for the strategy and request the City of Conroe and The Woodlands Township to consider allocating a portion of the FTA Section 5307 Program resources for development of the strategy; and
- The advisory committee submits requests to the rural (non-UZA) municipalities in Montgomery County to consider allocating a nominal amount of funding for development of the strategy.

The development of this strategy may help to sustainably meet the needs of seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans and persons with low income and best utilize the resources currently available to the county both urban and rural.
Purpose
To discuss the need for a County-wide Urban and Rural Transportation Strategy for Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, Veterans and Persons with Low Incomes and the actions necessary to develop the strategy.

Attachment
Letter from Montgomery County Commissioner Precinct 4 regarding Montgomery County Transportation Strategy for Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, Veterans and Persons with Low Income
Agenda Item 5
Attachment
September 20, 2016

Conroe-The Woodlands Urbanized Area Transit Advisory Committee

Re: Montgomery County Transportation Strategy for Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, Veterans and Persons with Low Income

Dear Fellow Committee Members:

On August 3, 2016, the Montgomery County and the Conroe-The Woodlands Urbanized Area Transit Advisory Committee hosted a collaborative meeting to initiate the development of a comprehensive approach to improving transportation for the public within Montgomery County. The meeting was attended by representatives of Montgomery County, the City of Conroe, The Woodlands Township, the City of Oak Ridge North and the “small cities” within the Conroe-The Woodlands Large Urbanized Area, the City of Montgomery, the Brazos Transit District, the Houston-Galveston Area Council, the Texas Department of Transportation, Conroe Independent School District, the Salvation Army, the Woodlands Chamber of Commerce, Senior Rides, Transporter Transit, Texas House of Representatives District 3, Interfaith of The Woodlands, Montgomery County ADAPT, Mission Northeast, Coat of Many Colors, Workforce Solutions, Tri-County Behavioral Healthcare, Montgomery County Veterans Service, New Danville, and several members of the general public.

The meeting provided a summary of the existing transportation services and included an excellent discussion on the current transportation challenges facing the public in Montgomery County and most importantly transportation challenges faced by seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans and persons with low income. These challenges include service gaps between existing transportation providers, unmet need of the public for transportation, the length and cost of trips due to the size of the county, and the incompatibility of the various funding silos used to pay for transportation. The discussion finished with the idea that a county-wide transportation strategy could be created to:

- Fill service gaps and minimize overlaps in transportation as provided by the various transportation providers and health and human service agencies;

Our mission is to provide the most efficient, effective and responsive government services delivered with professionalism, integrity and compassion. We will do this while achieving positive results, quality customer service and a safe community for our citizens.

Phone: (281) 577-8919 • Fax: (281) 577-8918 • www.metxpct4.org
Identify methods to optimize the provision of service to deliver more trips and reduce costs; and

Develop a sustainable framework for the use of existing and future local, state, and federal resources to improve county-wide transportation, especially for seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans and persons with low income.

The estimated cost to develop a county-wide strategy is approximately $120,000 and the estimated time to complete the strategy is approximately eight (8) months. The group also discussed the potential to create a county-wide mobility manager position, who could work to implement the strategy, as well as coordinate transportation among the transportation service providers.

The consensus reached by the meeting attendees was additional discussion regarding the transportation strategy should be held at the September 20, 2016 Conroe-The Woodlands Transit Advisory Committee meeting. I am proposing the following to facilitate the discussion with the committee:

- Montgomery County may consider providing up to $40,000.00 to develop the strategy and may consider creating the mobility management position when the strategy is completed;

- The advisory committee to consider approving a resolution of support for the strategy and request the City of Conroe and The Woodlands Township to consider allocating a portion of the FTA Section 5307 Program resources for development of the strategy; and

- The advisory committee submits requests to the rural (non-UZA) municipalities in Montgomery County to consider allocating a nominal amount of funding for development of the strategy.

The meeting on August 3rd helped to further demonstrate the unmet transportation needs that exist despite the variety of transportation resources available to people in Montgomery County especially
seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans and persons with low income. I am hopeful the development of this strategy will help to sustainably meet those needs and best utilize the resources currently available to the County.

Sincerely,

Jim Clark
Commissioner Precinct 4

JC/mm
Consider a Resolution of Support for developing a County-wide Urban and Rural Transportation Strategy for Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, Veterans and Persons with Low Incomes, and Implementation Plan – Action Item (5 minutes)

Background
This resolution is the result of the August 3, 2016 collaborative meeting hosted by Montgomery County and the Conroe-The Woodlands Urbanized Area Transit Advisory Committee regarding the development of a comprehensive approach to improving transportation for the public within Montgomery County and discussions by the Transit Advisory Committee Regarding the need for a County-wide Urban and Rural Transportation Strategy for Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, Veterans and Persons with Low Incomes.

Purpose
To consider a Resolution of Support for developing a County-wide Urban and Rural Transportation Strategy for Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, Veterans and Persons with Low Incomes.

Attachment
Resolution of Support for developing a County-wide Urban and Rural Transportation Strategy for Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, Veterans and Persons with Low Incomes.
Agenda Item 6
Attachment
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-____

A RESOLUTION OF THE TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CONROE-THE WOODLANDS URBANIZED AREA IN SUPPORT OF DEVELOPING A COUNTY-WIDE URBAN AND RURAL TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY FOR SENIORS, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, VETERANS AND PERSONS WITH LOW INCOME

WHEREAS, there is a growing need for transportation services within the Conroe-The Woodlands Urbanized Area (UZA) and Montgomery County to support seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans, and persons with low income; and,

WHEREAS, the Conroe -The Woodlands Urbanized Area Transit Advisory Committee and Montgomery County hosted a meeting on August 3rd, 2016 with county and regional stakeholders to discuss transportation services, needs and resources available in Montgomery County; and,

WHEREAS, the meeting provided a summary of the existing transportation services and included an excellent discussion on the current transportation challenges facing the public in Montgomery County and, most importantly, transportation challenges faced by seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans and persons with low income; and,

WHEREAS, the stakeholders at the meeting concluded that a County-wide transportation strategy for seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans and persons with low income was needed to accomplish the following objectives:

- Fill service gaps and minimize overlaps in transportation as provided by the various transportation providers and health and human service agencies;

- Identify methods to optimize the provision of service to deliver more trips and reduce costs; and

- Develop a sustainable framework for the use of existing and future local, state, and federal resources to improve county-wide transportation, especially for seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans and persons with low income; and,

WHEREAS, the stakeholder group also discussed the potential to create a county-wide Mobility Manager” position, which could assist to implement the strategy, as well as coordinate transportation among the various transportation service providers and health and human service agencies within the County;
WHEREAS, the estimated cost to develop a county-wide strategy is approximately $120,000 and the estimated time to complete the strategy is approximately eight (8) months; and,

WHEREAS, Montgomery County may consider providing up to one-third of the estimated cost to develop a county-wide strategy and creating the mobility management position, if the strategy is completed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CONROE-THE WOODLANDS URBANIZED AREA THAT THE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT OF A COUNTY-WIDE URBAN AND RURAL TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY FOR SENIORS, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, VETERANS, AND PERSONS WITH LOW INCOME

PASSED and ADOPTED this the 20th day of September, 2016 by the Members of the Conroe-The Woodlands Urbanized Area Transit Advisory Committee.

City of Conroe

Guy Martin, City Councilman
Committee Chairman

Montgomery County

Jim Clark, Commissioner Precinct 4
Committee Member

The Woodlands Township

Mike Bass, Board Vice Chair
Committee Vice Chairman

UZA Small Cities

James Kuykendall, Mayor
City of Oak Ridge North
Committee Member
a. **Proposed Commuter Bus Service**

**Background**

The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to provide unique and innovative transit services for commuters in the Houston-Galveston Transportation Management Area (TMA). The purpose of the program is to provide new services that reduce vehicle trips and/or vehicle miles travelled in the region, thereby reducing source emissions.

The Houston-Galveston-Brazoria area has been designated a nonattainment area for ozone under the 1990 Federal Clean Air Act Amendments. H-GAC, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), is responsible for developing plans to improve air quality and comply with these federal standards. The agency has received federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to support transportation projects that help the area meet the federal air quality standards. New and expanded services are eligible for CMAQ funding. Matching funds are provided by project sponsors. In addition to funding commuter and transit services, the program can fund the purchase of new transit vehicles. Current and former pilot projects funded through H-GAC’s commuter and transit pilot program may be eligible for funding to expand their transit fleet and services.

**Purpose**

To discuss the Houston-Galveston Area Council Commuter Bus Service Grant Program.

b. **City of Conroe’s Grant Application**

**Background**

The City of Conroe (City) proposes to provide a commuter service from a Park and Ride facility at the intersection of IH 45 and FM 2854 in Conroe, Texas, to the Houston Central Business District (CBD), Midtown, and the Texas Medical Center (TMC). The service will be sponsored by the City and operated by a third-party contractor. The Park and Ride facility, currently under construction, is anticipated to be completed Winter 2016/2017. The service will include six (6) vehicles operating Monday through Friday. There will be seven (7) runs to the CBD, one direct run and two indirect runs to Midtown and TMC during the AM and PM peak periods. The last PM run will be a “sweeper” run stopping at all stops to pick up passengers who missed the

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<td>Consider a Presentation and Action Item Regarding the City of Conroe’s Application to the Houston-Galveston Area Council for a Grant for Commuter Bus Service:</td>
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<tr>
<td>a. Presentation Regarding Proposed Commuter Bus Service – Discussion (5 minutes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Resolution in Support of City of Conroe’s Grant Application – <strong>Action Item</strong> (5 minutes)</td>
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earlier buses. The new transit service will reduce emissions by converting single occupancy vehicle trips to transit vehicle trips.

The City of Conroe is requesting a resolution in support of its pursuit of CMAQ funding from the H-GAC Commuter and Transit Services program to fund the federally eligible net operating cost in Years 1 through 3.

**Purpose**

To consider a resolution in support of the City of Conroe’s pursuit of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funding from The Houston-Galveston Area Council.

**Attachment**

A Resolution in Support of the City of Conroe pursuit of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funding from The Houston-Galveston Area Council.
Agenda Item 7
Attachment
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RESOLUTION NO. 2016-____

A RESOLUTION OF THE TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CONROE-THE WOODLANDS URBANIZED AREA IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF CONROE PURSUIT OF CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE CONROE PARK AND RIDE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Conroe provides public transit services in its capacity as a “designated recipient” of the Conroe-The Woodlands Urbanized Area, and a “Direct Recipient” of federal transit funding; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Conroe is constructing a park and ride facility located at the intersection of I-45 and FM 2854; and,

WHEREAS, it is the stated goal of the Transit Advisory Committee to support improved and expanded public transportation throughout the Conroe-The Woodlands Large Urban Area and Montgomery County; and

WHEREAS, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) receives federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding that are to be used to support transportation projects that assist in the reduction of congestion and pollution, and meet the federal air quality standards; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Conroe has applied for CMAQ funding through the H-GAC issued a Request for Proposals for Commuter and Transit Service Pilot Program Projects and related Fleet Expansion program; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed park and ride commuter operation from the City of Conroe to downtown Houston, the Houston Medical Center and other destinations will contribute to the reduction of single occupancy auto trips and resulting air pollution and assist in meeting regional air quality objectives; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CONROE-THEWOODLANDS URBANIZED AREA, THAT THE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THE PURSUIT OF CMAQ FUNDING BY THE CITY OF CONROE FOR THE PROVISION PARK AND RIDE TRANSIT SERVICES

PASSED and ADOPTED this the 20th day of September, 2016.
Guy Martin
Chairman, Transit Advisory Committee

ATTEST:

Mike Bass
Vice Chairman, Transit Advisory Committee
Transit Advisory Committee

Consider Presentations Regarding Quarterly Transit Reports:

- a. Presentation Regarding the City of Conroe – Discussion (5 minutes)
- b. Presentation Regarding The Woodlands Township – Discussion (5 minutes)
- c. Presentation Regarding Limited Eligibility Demand Response Transit Service Provided by Senior Rides in the Conroe-The Woodlands Urbanized Area – Discussion (5 minutes)

a. City of Conroe

**Background**

Conroe Connection is a fixed-route bus service with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complementary paratransit service, which is administered by the City of Conroe. The service includes two (2) fixed bus routes, which connect residents to housing, jobs, services, medical offices and shopping along Frazier Street, North Loop 336 and South Loop 336 and within downtown and the Dugan Subdivision, and paratransit service within ¾ miles of the fixed routes Conroe.

**Purpose**

To discuss the latest information regarding quarterly performance of Conroe Connection.

**Attachment**

Conroe Connection Ridership Summary for the third quarter of FY 2016 (April 1, 2016 - June 31, 2016).

b. The Woodlands Township

**Background**

The Woodlands Township operates The Woodlands Express and The Waterway Trolley. The express provides commuter service from The Township to the Texas Medical Center, Greenway Plaza and the Central Business District in Houston and the trolley provides service along a fixed route connecting The Woodlands Mall, Market Street, businesses and residences along The Woodlands Waterway.

**Purpose**

To discuss the latest information regarding quarterly performance of The Woodlands Express and the Trolley.

**Attachments**


c. Senior Rides Limited Eligibility Demand Response Transit Service
**Background**

Senior Rides provides demand response transit (DRT) service within the Conroe–The Woodlands Urbanized Area (UZA) to persons 65 years and older and persons with disabilities, which is also referred to as limited eligibility transit service. The service was renewed in FY 2015/2016 through agreements with the City of Conroe and The Woodlands Township.

**Purpose**

To provide an update about performance of the limited eligibility DRT service during the third quarter of the federal fiscal year 2016.

**Attachment**

A report summarizing Senior Rides ridership data for the third quarter of FY 2016 (April 1, 2016 - June 31, 2016).
Agenda Item 8
Attachment
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Conroe Connection Ridership Summary

Third Quarter Federal FY 2016 (April 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016)

Conroe Connection is a fixed-route bus service with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complementary paratransit service, which is administered by the City of Conroe. The service includes two (2) fixed bus routes, which connect residents to housing, jobs, services, medical offices and shopping along Frazier Street, North Loop 336 and South Loop 336 and within downtown and the Dugan Subdivision, and paratransit service within ¾ miles of the fixed routes Conroe.

Fixed Route Ridership Summary

The ridership (represented as unlinked trips, or boardings) for the third quarter of FY 2016 was 7,974. Compared with Quarter 2 FY 2016, the total ridership increased by 4%. Compared with Quarter 3 FY 2015, the total ridership increased by 15%. (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Total Ridership by Quarter

![Figure 1: Total Ridership by Quarter](image-url)
ADA Complementary Paratransit Trip Summary

ADA paratransit service provided 513 total trips for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2016. Compared with Quarter 2 Fiscal Year 2016, the total trips increased by 9% (Figure 2).

Figure 2: ADA Paratransit Trips by Quarter
The Woodlands Township Transit Service Ridership Summary

Third Quarter Federal FY2016 (April 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016)

The Woodlands Township operates The Woodlands Express and The Waterway Trolley. The express provides commuter service from The Township to the Texas Medical Center, Greenway Plaza and the Central Business District in Houston and the trolley provides service along a fixed route connecting The Woodlands Mall, Market Street, businesses and residences along The Woodlands Waterway.

Ridership Summary for The Woodlands Express

The total ridership (represented as unlinked trips, or boardings) for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2016 (April 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016) for the three Park and Ride lots was 155,065. Compared with Quarter 2 Fiscal Year 2016, the total ridership for Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2016 decreased by 4%. Compared with Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2015, the total ridership for Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2016 decreased by 2% (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Total Ridership for Third Quarter FY 2016
Figure 2 shows the ridership by Park and Ride location. Compared with Quarter 2 Fiscal Year 2016, the ridership for each express commuter route decreased by 4%, 4%, and 6% respectively. Compared with Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2015, the ridership for Research Forest and Sawdust commuter routes decreased by 0.2% and 9% respectively, and the ridership for Sterling Ridge commuter route increased by 5%.

**Figure 2: Ridership by Bus Route**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Research Forest</th>
<th>Sawdust</th>
<th>Sterling Ridge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1 FY15</td>
<td>80,373</td>
<td>47,335</td>
<td>27,349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2 FY15</td>
<td>88,543</td>
<td>49,132</td>
<td>30,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3 FY15</td>
<td>83,252</td>
<td>47,040</td>
<td>27,731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4 FY15</td>
<td>86,863</td>
<td>48,252</td>
<td>29,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1 FY16</td>
<td>77,647</td>
<td>42,447</td>
<td>25,979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2 FY16</td>
<td>86,159</td>
<td>44,805</td>
<td>30,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3 FY16</td>
<td>83,092</td>
<td>42,853</td>
<td>29,120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ridership Summary for the Waterway Trolley**

Trolley ridership during this same time period (April 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016) was 14,829. Compared with Quarter 2 Fiscal Year 2016, the total ridership for Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2016 decreased by 20%. Compared with Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2015, the total ridership for Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2016 decreased by 32% (Figure 3).
Figure 3: Trolley Ridership

Q1 FY15: 18,626
Q2 FY15: 15,779
Q3 FY15: 21,679
Q4 FY15: 22,997
Q1 FY16: 21,540
Q2 FY16: 18,629
Q3 FY16: 14,829
Conroe-The Woodlands (C-W) UZA Limited Eligibility Trips

A C-W UZA specific trip is defined as a limited eligibility trip with an origin inside the C-W UZA. Senior Rides (SR) provided 2,911 C-W UZA trips for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2016 (Figure 1), which covers April 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016. The C-W UZA trips contributed to 69.2% of the total demand response trips provided by SR.

Figure 1: C-W UZA Trips

Table 1 shows the C-W UZA trips split by origins and municipality boundaries. The table also shows 81.3% of the trips had origins inside Conroe and The Woodlands, 12.5% of the trips were generated within the municipal boundaries of Willis, Shenandoah, Oak Ridge North, and Panorama Village and 6.2% of the trips originated in the unincorporated area of the Conroe-The Woodlands UZA.
When reviewing the trip purpose, social service and city business trips contribute to more than 63% of the total limited eligibility trips. The remainders of the trips were 11% medical, 18% nutrition and 8% Dialysis (Figure 2).

**Figure 2: C-W UZA Trip Purpose**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRIPS</th>
<th>TRIP COUNT</th>
<th>% OF TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C-W UZA Trips</td>
<td>2,911</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When compared with Quarter 2 Fiscal Year 2016, the C-W UZA trips for Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2016 increased by 6.9%. Compared with Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2015, C-W UZA trips for Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2016 increased by 9.9% (Figure 3).
All Demand Response Trips

SR received 4,263 trip requests during the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2016, of which 4,204 trips were provided. The remaining 59 trips were denied due to either capacity, eligibility or other reasons. Figure 4 shows the monthly trip denials for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2016. Figure 5 is a map depicting the origins of the 4,204 demand response trips provided.
Figure 5: Trip Origins

Compared with Quarter 2 Fiscal Year 2016, the total demand response trips provided for Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2016 increased by 7.5%. Compared with Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2015, the total demand response trips provided for Quarter 3 Fiscal Year 2016 increased by 0.4% (Figure 6).
When reviewing the trip purpose for all demand response trips, the top 4 categories of trip purposes were 29% nutrition, 28% city business, 26% social service and 10% medical (Figure 7).
Transit Advisory Committee

Agenda Item 9

Consider a Presentation Regarding the Use of the Conroe-The Woodlands UZA FTA Section 5310 Program, Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Funds – Discussion (10 minutes)

FTA Section 5310 Program for FY 2013 and FY 2014 Funding

**Background:** The City of Conroe and Meals on Wheels/Senior Rides finalized the contract for FY 2013 and FY 2014 Section 5310 funds on July 7, 2015 for $170,807. The contract includes the purchase of vehicles, purchase of service, and preventative maintenance. The FTA grant is approved in the grant awards management system. The City will reimburse Senior Rides for documented eligible expenses at a rate of 80%.

**Purpose**

To provide a summary of the activities occurring under the FY 2013 and FY 2014 Program of Projects (POP) for Section 5310 in the Conroe-The Woodlands UZA.

- **Vehicles:** Senior Rides is in the process of purchasing two (2) Type 3 vehicles for $108,000 (federal) from the State of Texas Cooperative Purchasing Program (CO-OP) using TxSmartBuy Ordering System. Senior Rides is working with National Bus Sales to complete the purchase of the vehicles. Senior Rides submitted pre-award certification and other documentation to The Goodman Corporation for review on August 24, 2016. TGC will review the documentation prior to recommending that the City of Conroe approve Senior Rides to place a purchase order for the vehicles.

- **Purchase of service:** The contract includes $33,297 (federal) for the purchase of service. As of June 30, 2016, Senior Rides has not received reimbursement for purchase of service expense. Activity to date is presented in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Trips</th>
<th>Cost per Trip</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/9/2015 to 12/31/2015</td>
<td>$5,883.10</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>$28.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/1/2016 to 3/31/2016</td>
<td>$7,248.20</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>$29.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/1/2016 to 6/30/2016</td>
<td>$5,162.35</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>$30.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/1/2016 to 9/30/2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$29.36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Preventative Maintenance:** The contract includes $29,510 (federal) for preventative maintenance. Senior Rides will procure goods and services on a purchase by purchase basis under Micro-purchasing guidelines (goods and services valued under $3,000). As of June 30, 2016, Senior Rides has not received reimbursement for preventative maintenance expense.

- **Administration:** The City of Conroe has reimbursed itself $18,979 for administration expenses.
FTA Section 5310 Program for FY 2015 and FY 2016 Funding

Background
The FTA appropriated $156,082 in Section 5310 for FY 2015. Conroe programmed two years of funding for FY 2015 ($156,082) and FY 2016 ($156,082 estimate) for a total of $312,164. The Program of Projects (POP) identifies the amount and use of Section 5310 funding by year of expenditure within the H-GAC Transportation Improvement Program. Conroe submitted the FY 2015/FY 2016 POP to H-GAC and it was approved by the TPC on April 22, 2016.

Purpose
To provide an update on the POP for FY 2015 and FY 2016 Section 5310 and Section 5310 Program Management Plan (PMP).

FY 2015 and FY 2016 Section 5310
The FTA announced FY 2016 apportionments on February 16, 2016. The Conroe-The Woodlands FY 2016 Section 5310 apportionment was $164,840, which was $8,758 more than the FY 2016 estimated amount. The City submitted a revised POP based on the actual FY 2016 apportionment. The revision will reflect an increase of $884 for program administration, for a total of $16,484 and an increase of $7,874 for Senior Rides Purchase of Service for a total of $29,000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1. Program of Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventative Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Administration*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Program administration is limited to 10% of the appropriated amount and funds Conroe’s expense in administering the Section 5310 program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 2. Contract Awards by Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventative Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Administration*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Total | $179,222 | $109,600 | $32,092 | $320,914

* Program administration is limited to 10% of the appropriated amount and funds Conroe’s expense in administering the Section 5310 program.

**Senior Rides Status of Award**

Purchase of Vehicles: Senior Rides will be using the procurement currently in process to purchase the vehicles that were awarded under the FY 2015 and FY 2016 program.

Compliance Preview: The Goodman Corporation met with Senior Rides to review compliance requirements and request documentation, which was subsequently provided (Title VI program, Drug & Alcohol Testing program, and Vehicle Maintenance Program).

**New Danville Status of Award**

Purchase of Vehicles: New Danville is waiting for a signed contract from the City in order to join the State of Texas Cooperative Purchasing Program (CO-OP) using TxSmartBuy Ordering System. TGC reviewed the federal procurement process with New Danville on August 3, 2016.

Compliance Preview: The Goodman Corporation also met to discuss compliance and reporting requirements with New Danville.

**Section 5310 PMP**

The City submitted its PMP to the FTA for review and approval on December 14, 2014. An approved PMP is required prior to FTA award of FY 2015 funds. The City has requested an update from the FTA, but a definitive response was not provided.
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Transit Advisory Committee

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consider Announcements Regarding Other Regional Transportation Planning Activities – Discussion (5 minutes)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Background**

There are many transportation activities occurring throughout the region that directly and indirectly impact the Conroe-The Woodlands Township UZA.

**Purpose**

To discuss other regional transportation related activities.
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