



# PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

## AGENDA REQUEST

<b>AGENDA OF:</b>	<b>JULY 22, 2010</b>	<b>AGENDA REQUEST NO:</b>	<b>II-A</b>
<b>INITIATED BY:</b>	<b>PATRICK WALSH, P.E. TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT:</b>	<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>
<b>PRESENTED BY:</b>	<b>PATRICK WALSH, P.E. TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR AND SUSAN ALLEMAN AND GEOFF CARLETON WITH TRAFFIC ENGINEERS, INC.</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT HEAD:</b>	<b>PATRICK WALSH, P.E. <i>PWW</i> TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR</b>
		<b>ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENT HEAD (S):</b>	<b>N/A</b>

<b>SUBJECT / PROCEEDING:</b>	<b>COMPREHENSIVE MOBILITY PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW WORKSHOP</b>
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<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	<b>PRE-INTERVIEW INFORMATION FROM THE CONSULTANT TEAM</b>
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CLEARANCES	APPROVAL
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<b>LEGAL:</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>INTERIM PLANNING DIRECTOR:</b>	<b>DOUGLAS SCHOMBURG, AICP <i>D.S.</i></b>
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### RECOMMENDED ACTION

Discuss long-term Sugar Land mobility planning issues with City staff and the Comprehensive Mobility Plan project consultant team.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City has initiated a project to create a Comprehensive Mobility Plan (Plan). The Plan will assess Sugar Land's mobility goals and needs and develop a long-term approach to addressing those needs. The Plan builds off of the City's Comprehensive Plan and the 2009-adopted "Vision 2025" document (excerpt attached), both of which contemplate having multiple travel modes available to Sugar Land. The modes of travel identified in these documents include the following:

- Commuter rail
- Relocation of freight rail
- Commuter park & rides
- Transit circulators
- Air travel
- Pedestrian and bicycle
- Automobile

The intent of the Plan is to take these broad mobility vision statements and create a more specific long-range implementation plan. The Plan will ensure the modes are coordinated with each other and identify funding sources.

The project includes a robust public input effort. One element of the public input is stakeholder interviews, and the project team identified the Planning & Zoning Commission as a stakeholder. During this “interview”, the project’s consultant team will lead the Commission through a series of questions to assess the Commission’s feelings on mobility issues. The team will also distribute a brief survey to the Commission. Additional workshops with the Commission are scheduled later in the project as well. The project is scheduled to be complete by spring of 2011.

Several members of the consultant team will be present to facilitate the stakeholder interview, led by Susan Alleman and Geoff Carleton of Traffic Engineers, Inc. The TEI team includes the following firms and associated responsibilities:

- Traffic Engineers, Inc. – Lead project manager; traffic & pedestrian/bicycle planning
- BGK Services, LLC – Public involvement & transit planning
- Dr. Carol Lewis (TSU) – Public involvement & transit support
- Morris Architects – Urban & land use planning
- TransSystems – Rail planning

The consultant team has prepared a pre-interview document to give interviewees an idea of what to expect during the interview. The document is attached.

**Pre-Interview Information from the Consultant Team**

In 2009, the City of Sugar Land adopted a “Vision 2025” document which included a broad visualization of “Superior Mobility” in Sugar Land. The Vision for Superior Mobility, as adopted by the Sugar Land City Council is provided below.

<b>PRINCIPLE G</b>	<b>SUPERIOR MOBILITY</b>
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**Means:**

1. Effective traffic management signal system facilitating predictable, acceptable travel times within Sugar Land
2. Effective intra-city public transportation system linking activity centers: trolley, electric bus, monorail, water taxi
3. North/south mobility with several corridors
4. Interstate and U.S. highways efficiently moving traffic through and to/from Sugar Land (U.S. 59, Highway 6, 90A)
5. Major corporate airport for businesses and general aviation
6. Commuter rail serving to link Sugar Land to the Greater Houston Metro Area and Fort Bend County / Southwest with relocation of freight rail
7. Pedestrian-friendly community with multi use trails network for bikes and pedestrians connecting neighborhoods and the community
8. Well-designed, well-maintained streets, sidewalks and multi use trails

The purpose of the Comprehensive Mobility Plan is to affirm and refine the City’s general vision for Superior Mobility by developing specific improvements and identifying funding mechanisms that will allow the City to develop the desired transportation system. During the stakeholder interview, the Consultant Team (Team) will be asking questions relative to the interviewee’s vision of what constitutes Superior Mobility for the City. As mobility is a broad topic that covers many different transportation modes, the Team will be asking questions about roadways, transit (intra-city, park & ride and commuter rail), pedestrians, bicycles and freight rail; additional topics will include vision, goals and outcomes of the Comprehensive Mobility Plan and the relationship between transportation and land uses. The Team will also ask you to fill out a brief survey on priorities and current service levels for transportation modes and their impact on mobility for the City now and in the future. The Team hopes that this allows for a frank and open discussion that identifies the highest priorities for the City to achieve the vision of Superior Mobility. If you have additional thoughts or comments that you are not able to convey during the interview, the Team is always happy to get additional feedback. Please e-mail additional comments to [susan@trafficengineers.com](mailto:susan@trafficengineers.com). Thank you for taking time out in your day to share your vision of Superior Mobility for Sugar Land. We look forward to visiting with you.