

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF FORT BEND §

**RESOLUTION URGING H-GAC AND TXDOT TO ACCELERATE
SH 36A PROJECT’S INCLUSION IN 2050 RTP AND STATE’S UTP PROCESSES**

WHEREAS, Fort Bend, Brazoria and Waller counties are experiencing significant population growth and economic development in recent years that contribute to increased congestion and demands on our existing transportation infrastructure, and;

WHEREAS, the State Highway (SH) 36A corridor is included in the amended Houston-Galveston Area Council’s (H-GAC) 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for its potential to provide an efficient and expanded transportation and freight route from Port Freeport to US 290, with a southern segment from the Needville area to I-10; and a proposed northern segment to connect I-10 to US 290 in Waller County; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed 36A corridor is necessary for a variety of pressing needs, including:

- **Enhanced hurricane evacuation** – serve as a primary evacuation route for southern Fort Bend and Brazoria County residents;
- **Enhanced regional mobility** - Current population growth and additional housing developments threaten to overwhelm existing infrastructure without added capacity; H-GAC forecasts that the Houston Region will add an additional 3.6 million people by 2050; Fort Bend County alone is projected to add more than 600,000 (a 76 percent increase); Waller County an astounding 214 percent and Brazoria County’s population is projected to surge by 51 percent. (HGAC 2024 Regional Growth Forecast);
- **Efficient freight movement and safety** – H-GAC’s 2023 Regional Goods Movement Plan identifies expanded freight mobility as a critical priority. A key component of this effort is the Urban Core Relief Route, a long-range strategy designed to divert freight traffic away from Houston’s metropolitan center, to which 36A will clearly contribute; the Texas Department of Transportation’s (TxDOT) leadership also included the 36A corridor in its Strategic Corridor Plan because of its importance to the movement of freight throughout the State of Texas; the completion of Port Freeport’s Channel Harbor Improvement Project alone will contribute to a dramatic increase in port traffic and freight volumes to the Region’s capacity in the coming years;
- **Economic Development** – Investments in strategic infrastructure serve as catalysts for turning population growth into economic prosperity. As retailers and manufacturers move to serve expanding communities, robust transportation networks ensure these investments take root. Moving forward with the SH 36A project will:
 - o **Establish Employment Centers:** Attract freight-dependent businesses and complementary industrial clusters; and,
 - o **Strengthen Global Trade:** Enhance Texas’s position in international logistics through a surge in high-paying logistics and transportation jobs; and,
 - o **Diversify the Tax Base:** Expand Fort Bend County’s commercial and industrial revenue, reducing the current heavy reliance on residential property taxes.

WHEREAS, H-GAC’s Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is the long-range blueprint that guides how the Houston Region is prioritizing investments in roads, transit, freight, safety, and resilience over the coming decades, thereby shaping mobility and quality of life for more than 7 million residents today while ensuring the region can grow while maintaining access, safety, and economic vitality; we strongly support H-GAC to advance 36A in the 2050 RTP with focus on getting it included in TxDOT’s Unified Transportation Plan (UTP) at the earliest possible date; and,

WHEREAS, TxDOT’s Unified Transportation Program (UTP) serves as the agency’s statewide, 10-year planning and programming document that identifies, prioritizes, and allocates funding for thousands of transportation projects across Texas, with the UTP updated annually for approval by the Texas Transportation Commission, and serves as the official roadmap that determines which projects move forward into development and construction; and,

WHEREAS, the Highway 36A Coalition is a 501(c)4 nonprofit consisting of local governments, elected officials, private businesses, and individuals collaborating to advocate for a regional north/south transportation infrastructure in Fort Bend, Brazoria and Waller counties that improves evacuation routes, reduces vehicle congestion, facilitates domestic and international trade, enhances safety and provides more efficient freight and motorist mobility for our portion of the Houston Region and State of Texas; and the Coalition is enlisting support from counties, municipalities and various stakeholders to support the inclusion of the SH 36A project in the RTP and UTP;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County hereby offers its strong support for the SH 36A project by accelerating its inclusion in the RTP, and ultimate inclusion in the UTP at the earliest possible date.

SIGNED, THIS ____ TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026.

County Judge KP George

Commissioner Vincent Morales, Precinct 1

Commissioner Grady Prestage, Precinct 2

Commissioner Andy Meyers, Precinct 3

Commissioner Dexter McCoy, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

Laura Richard, County Clerk