

## Transportation & Infrastructure



### Priority projects and initiatives:

- **Coastal Texas Project** – BayTran supports legislation authorizing funding for design and construction of the storm surge protection system in the upper Texas Gulf Coast to protect the environment, industries, the national economy, and vulnerable communities within the region.
  - Support local partnerships to assess interior drainage benefits of the Clear Creek & Dickinson Bayou watershed components of the Coastal Texas Project.
  - Support any legislative efforts to ensure partnership agreements can be executed by GCPD and GLO for the Coastal Texas Project.
- **Grand Parkway** – Completion of segments A, B and C, and further expansion of the Grand Parkway is vital to connecting major freight corridors, port facilities, and to serve as a hurricane evacuation route for coastal communities.
- **Rural to Urban Connectivity** - Implement Transportation Demand Management strategies in planning that will improve connectivity and reduce congestion.
- **Port Infrastructure** – Increase funding for port transportation infrastructure needs, including channel improvements, to accommodate continued tonnage growth in exports and imports worldwide.
  - Support Proposed Deep-Draft Navigation Channel as evaluated by Cedar Port Navigation District consistent with Houston Ship Channel Depths.
  - Support Intermodal Investment in Chambers County to reduce congestion and improve air quality across Galveston and Harris County.

**For More Information, Contact:**

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- **Freight Infrastructure** – Increase funding for freight transportation infrastructure, including rail, and preserve and grow Legislative Rider funding for port connectivity.
  - Inclusion of the following projects into the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan: TxDOT SH 225 redevelopment, and the IH 610 Sidney Sherman Bridge replacement.

### **Keep existing funding tools:**

- **Rail Relocation Fund** - Allocate substantial dollars to the Texas Railroad Relocation and Improvement Fund during the 2025 legislative session and continue funding each biennium.
- **Toll Roads** – Toll roads are an important funding mechanism in high growth regions, the ability to utilize a toll road could make a difference in keeping up with growth vs. falling behind. BayTran strongly opposes legislation restricting the use of this important tool.
- **No Diversions** – BayTran opposes diversions of funds from transportation dedicated resources to non-transportation uses.

### **Review of potential sources for new revenue:**

- **Hybrid Vehicle Equity Fee** – Establish a fee to ensure that hybrid vehicle owners contribute a fair share of the cost to fund Texas roadways.

### **Recommendation:**

- Increased funding for the Rail Relocation & Improvement Fund.
- Continue to fund and support coastal resilience.
- Continued investment into new infrastructure and maintenance of existing structures.
- Encourage the use of Transportation Demand Management strategies in planning.

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