

Transportation Advocacy Group 2925 Richmond Avenue, Suite 1200 Houston, TX 77098 832.459.5116

October 16, 2019

## **Advisory Council**

Ed Emmett Craig Doyal Bob Hebert Matt Sebesta Ned Holmes Patricia Harless Brenda Mainwaring George DeMontrond, III Wayne Klotz Gary Trietsch

## **Board of Directors**

Co-Chairs Dr. Carol Lewis Jeff Collins

Secretary Delvin Dennis

Treasurer Michael Pearson

## **Board Members**

Raj Basavaraju Jack Drake Veronica Chapa Gorczynski David Hagy Delia Mizwa Rob Maxwell Gregg Reyes Jim Russ Mustafa Tameez

Executive Director Andrea French The Honorable Sylvester Turner, Mayor The Honorable Members of Houston City Council City of Houston 901 Bagby Street Houston, TX 77002

Dear Mayor Turner and Council Members:

Transportation Advocacy Group (TAG) Houston Region strongly supports adoption of the proposed changes to the City sign ordinance designations an Airport Corridor District, providing for new technology and to deal with abandoned signs.

TAG's core mission is to secure additional funding for the Houston region's transportation infrastructure needs and these proposed changes support this critical endeavor. The potential to maximize TxDOT dollars towards freeway maintenance by combining funds with local Management Districts and to attract TxDOT green ribbon funding for special projects in the Airport Corridor District provide for better leveraging of funds and additional resources. Additionally, this designation will likely attract philanthropic support for targeted landscaping and other beautification projects along the corridor, further enhancing infrastructure.

Finally, these sign code changes include a removal project to rid the City of the existing blight of unsightly and dangerous abandoned sign structures. Over time, this will further improve the City streetscape for all.

City Council's adoption of the revisions to the sign ordinance creating the Airport Corridor District and other changes will go a long way toward enhancing these airport corridors (and the City) that not only form visitor impressions, but are the "spine" of neighborhoods across our entire city. TAG supports the adoption of the Airport Corridor sign ordinance and the other referenced changes, and appreciates this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Carol abel Lewis

Carol Lewis Co-Chair TAG-Houston Region

Jeff Collins Co-Chair TAG-Houston Region

cc: Andy Icken, Chief Development Office, City of Houston Ron Lewis, City Attorney, City of Houston Claudia Williamson, Interim President and CEO, Scenic Houston