A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL EXPANSION CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, The Houston Ship Channel is a regional, state, and national asset that facilitates the movement of commerce for the 200-plus terminals the comprise the Port of Houston as well as the Port of Galveston, Port of Texas City and Cedar Bayou Navigation District; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Houston is the nation’s top port for exports, energy, petrochemical manufacturing, and foreign-borne tonnage which annually sustains 3 million U.S. jobs and generates $802 billion in economic value for the country; and

WHEREAS, the Houston Ship Channel is the busiest waterway in the nation with as many ship calls annually as the next three largest U.S. ports combined – Los Angeles, Long Beach, and New York/New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the growth in American energy production, manufacturing, and exports as well as the increase in ship size globally are driving the need to make improvements to this nationally-significant waterway; and

WHEREAS, widening and deepening improvements to the Houston Ship Channel are necessary to safely maintain two-way traffic on the waterway and continue facilitating national energy security and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be completing their Chief’s Report for the channel improvements and submitting it to Congress in April 2020; and

WHEREAS, Congress will consider authorization of the Houston Ship Channel Expansion Channel Improvement Project in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2020 legislation; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to implement innovative processes and funding partnerships to expeditiously design and construct these channel improvements to safely accommodate national economic benefits and facilitate future growth; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Policy Council supports the Houston Ship Channel Expansion Channel Improvement Project.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Transportation Policy Council of the Houston-Galveston Area Council that:

1. The Transportation Policy Council hereby provides support of the Houston Ship Channel Expansion Channel Improvement Project.
2. This resolution is effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of October 2019, at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Transportation Policy Council.

APPROVED: 

Hon. Kenneth Clark, Chairman
Transportation Policy Council

ATTEST: 

Hon. Tom Reid, Secretary
Transportation Policy Council