



MISSION

The Texas State Legislature created the Gulf Coast Rail District (GCRD) to enhance the economic benefits of rail, while improving regional quality of life through the following goals:

1. Improve safety and security, particularly safety at grade crossings and as it relates to rail transportation.
2. Increase mobility, access and quality of life.



VISION

Near term, the Gulf Coast Rail District's focus is to:

- Grade separate the rail crossings that will have the most impact on roadway safety and multimodal mobility.
- Initiate commuter passenger service in Harris, Fort Bend and Waller counties.
- Long-term, the Gulf Coast Rail District believes it is possible to enhance freight rail operations and capacity in a few of the region's existing corridors.
- Expand commuter passenger service to other counties proximate to Harris County.

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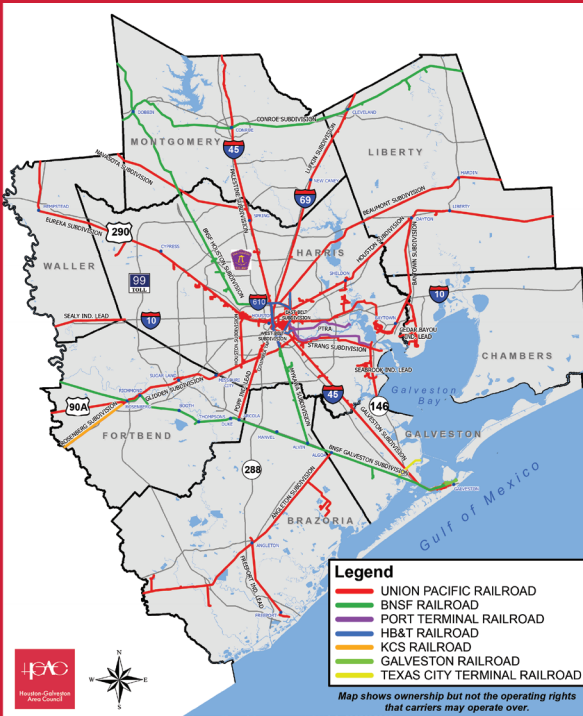


GULF COAST RAIL DISTRICT

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HOUSTON AREA RAILROAD SUBDIVISION MAP

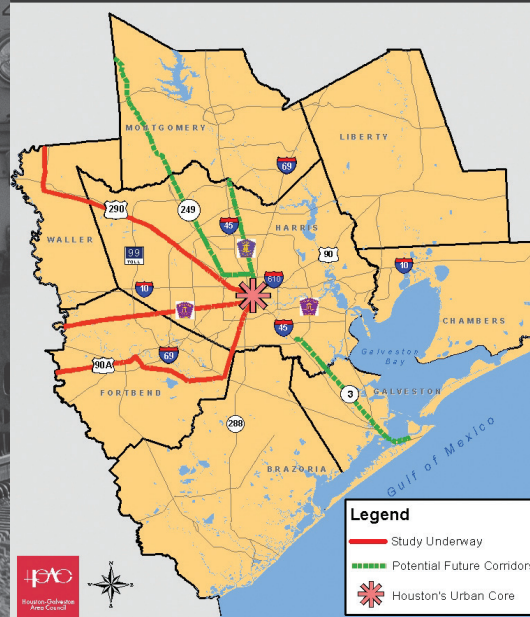
The Gulf Coast Rail District seeks to establish a comprehensive framework for developing freight and passenger transport systems that will serve the Houston metropolitan region's needs over the next 50+ years. We are working with agencies to identify regional benefits, funding solutions and policy considerations that identify bottlenecks and address safety and freight improvements along rail subdivisions.



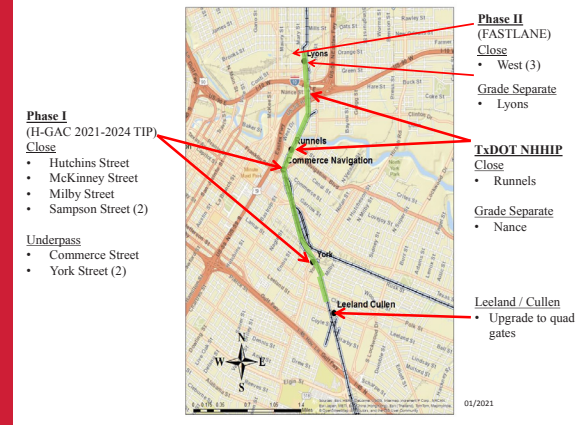
The GCRD works to enhance the economic benefits of passenger transport while improving regional quality of life, most notably through the addition of commuter rail and high-capacity transit.

It is our goal to work with stakeholders to ultimately provide a technical and operational framework from which the passenger transport lines and system infrastructure can be built.

POTENTIAL COMMUTER RAIL/ HIGH CAPACITY CORRIDORS



West Belt – Sealed Freight Rail Corridor



GRADE SEPARATIONS

GCRD endorses the use of grade separations to eliminate risk at street and rail grade crossings. Grade separations increase the safety of all transportation users by reducing blockages and promoting safe crossings for vehicles, pedestrians and bikes.

Potential Projects:

Commerce/Navigation grade separation
Mykawa/Long/Griggs grade separation, Project partnership with TXDOT and Class 1 Railroads.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

The GCRD seeks funding partnerships to advance the proposed rail projects for the region. Solutions will require regional support and public private partnerships, such as the West Belt Sealed Rail Corridor.