



Air Alliance Houston Public Comments on the Inner Katy METRORapid Project, submitted via METRO Houston's Public Comments website:

This project represents an excellent opportunity to expand access to public transit services for a number of Houstonians. Increasing equitable access to viable public transit will further encourage use of multimodal travel options, as opposed to continued car use; this may result in improved local and regional air quality, as well as a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. This project is aligned with the City of Houston's goal of reducing VMT per capita by 20% by 2050, as stated in the City of Houston Climate Action Plan.

Because this BRT project is much farther along in the regional planning process than TxDOT's proposed managed lanes concept (which was recently denied being placed in the H-GAC 2045 Regional Transportation Plan due to further studying needed), we encourage METRO to pursue alignment concepts #1 and #2. Our organization is concerned moving forward with the #3 proposed alignment will, in effect, combine METRO's BRT project and TxDOT's managed lanes project. While the BRT project has been fully vetted and approved by the region, the managed lanes project will not reach the same point in the process for potentially several years. We are concerned this will cause delays to the project that may be detrimental.