



**Galveston-Houston Rail
Demonstration Project, Commuter Rail Feasibility, and Alternatives Analysis
Fact Sheet Summary**

- **1999:** The City of Galveston was awarded an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) demonstration project supported by Congressional support and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) research office in Washington, D.C.
- **2002-2003:** The City of Galveston managed successful rail passenger demonstration runs on key holiday weekends, in partnership with Amtrak, Union Pacific Railroad, League City, and Galveston Railroad Museum, carrying approximately 2,500 to 3,000 passengers per weekend.
- **2006:** The City of Galveston worked with FTA to complete a Galveston-Houston ITS Commuter Rail Feasibility study based on the success of the rail passenger demonstrations.
- **2007-2008:** Completion of the Galveston-Houston ITS Commuter Rail Feasibility study, conducted by the City of Galveston, which resulted in the following findings:
 - Reduced VMT - 51.7 million miles per year
 - Reduced Fuel - 425,000 gallons per year
 - Reduced Pollution - 509 tons per year
 - Value Added - \$1.1 billion
 - Jobs Added - 21,000
 - Increased Municipal Tax Revenues - \$131 million
 - New Transit Riders - 11,480
 - Evacuation Capacity per 24-hour period - 6,900+
- **2008:** The Houston-Galveston Area Council's (H-GAC) Regional Rail Connectivity Study (2008) confirmed the Galveston study findings and, as a result, *The Galveston-Houston Rail Corridor was ranked #1 within the eight-County region in terms of ridership potential.*
- **2008:** Federal discretionary funds, through the efforts of Senator Hutchison, are allocated to support a Galveston-Houston Corridor Alternatives Analysis (AA) study, under FTA "New Starts" guidelines.
- **2009:** The City of Galveston initiates the Galveston-Houston Corridor AA, in consultation with the FTA's New starts Office in Washington, D.C., the FTA Regional Office, H-GAC, Galveston County, Houston METRO, and the municipalities along the corridor. Study is scheduled to be completed in early 2010.
- **2009:** The City of Galveston requests \$10 million in Preliminary Engineering (PE) funds in the upcoming Transportation Reauthorization Bill.
- **2009:** The Senate FY2010 Appropriations Committee designates \$2 million to assist Galveston in beginning the PE phase of the commuter rail process pursuant to FTA New Starts guidelines.