Air Quality Benefits Assessment



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Analysis Methodology

The air quality benefits from achieving the goals of the Angleton Livable Center Study are estimated based on measurable impacts to mode shift, reduced single-occupant vehicle (SOV) trips, shorter trips and internal trip capture.

Catchment Area

The Angleton Study Area is considered the catchment area for number of trips to potentially be affected by the recommended improvements and development. The area is defined as the traffic area zones (TAZs) inclusive of the study area from the H-GAC travel demand model (shown in **Figure** 1), the census tracts of the study area (approximate), or the H-GAC defined hex grids overlapping the study area from their commuter data web portal, depending on data source (Accessed 2021).

Trips Generated

The following trip generation rates, based on data from the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) and H-GAC for households and jobs, respectively, were used to estimate the average daily trips produced in the catchment area (2045):

- 9.4 trips per household (national average/ITE Trip gen)
- **3.4 trips per job** (H-GAC, Angleton subarea 2018*)

Demand

Based on the normative goals of the plan, an assumed 10% of the household and employment trips generated in the catchment area would either switch from single-occupant vehicle (SOV) trips to non-SOV trips or be reduced through

internal trip capture. The trip length of an estimated 20% of the trips generated by households in the catchment area were additionally assumed to be reduced by 40%, resulting from the increased activities and opportunities to work, live, and play in and nearer to Angleton.

VMT Reduction

The total vehicle miles traveled (VMT) is based on average trip lengths for Angleton from the H-GAC commutingpatterns web-app (average 12.5 miles/trip for trips to and from Downtown Angleton), as compared to the average trip length from the National Household Travel Survey (9.7 miles/ trip). Averages are combined with computed demand by the probable mode, per goal.

Air Quality Benefits

The MOSERS 11.1 methodology is used to estimate emissions reduction. Estimates for emissions per mile for the following air quality factors are:

- Nitrogen Oxides (NOx): 0.239 grams per mile
- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC): 0.315 grams per mile
- Carbon Monoxide (CO): 3.732 grams per mile

Total emissions were annualized to determine the reduction in annual kilograms (kg) resulting from achieving the Angleton Livable Center goals that may result in a shift in mode share from SOV to non-SOV trips (carpooling, telecommuting, bike, pedestrian, internal trip capture, and transit trips), found in **Table 2**, and from trip length reductions, found in **Table 3**.

* Angleton study area-based trips of the H-GAC TDM (2018- and 2045-Year data for Jobs in TAZ #3086, and number of Households in the study area, specifically) were adjusted downward, to reflect the market analysis completed as part of the Angleton Livable Centers Study, and site development plans in development by Brazoria County, to provide a more conservative basis for projected air quality benefits.

Growth in Benefit

Total emissions can be expected to grow as the area grows and as policies are gradually implemented. Given planned improvements and anticipated demographic growth, benefits resulting from the increased activities and opportunities to work, live, and play within central Angleton, managed parking program, transit services, and infrastructure improvements detailed in the study would gradually accrue over time. Total estimated air quality benefits are expressed as a range, with the upper end reflecting demographic growth projected in the H-GAC model for the study area by 2045. A summary is provided in **Table 1** (rounded).

Figure 1. H-GAC Travel Demand Model TAZs



Table 1. Air Quality Benefit Summary

| SUMMARY | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|---------|
| TOTAL ANNUAL EMISSIONS REDUCTION | NOx | 800 - 1,400 | kg/year |
| | VOC | 1,100 - 1,900 | kg/year |
| | со | 12,300 - 20,900 | kg/year |

Table 2. Mode Shift and Internal Trip Capture (to Non-SOV)

| CALCULATION STEP | EQUATION | VARIABLE | QUANTITY | UNITS |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|------------|----------|----------------|
| DOWNTOWN ANGLETON TRIP GENERATORS | а | Households | 200 | homes |
| | b | Employment | 2000 | jobs |
| TRIP RATES | С | Households | 9.4 | trips/day/job |
| | d | Employment | 3.4 | trips/day/home |
| TOTAL TRIPS | e=(a*c)+(b*d) | | 8,680 | trips/day |
| MODE SHIFT RATE | f | | 10% | percent trips |
| TRIPS REPLACED | g=e*f | | 868 | trips |
| MILES PER TRIP REPLACED | h | | 12.5 | miles/trip |
| VEHICLE MILES TRAVEL REPLACED | j=g*h | | 10,850 | miles |
| EMISSIONS FACTORS | k | NOx | 0.24 | gm/mile |
| | I | VOC | 0.32 | gm/mile |
| | m | СО | 3.73 | gm/mile |
| TOTAL EMISSIONS REDUCED | n=j*k | NOx | 2,604 | gm |
| | o=j*l | voc | 3,472 | gm |
| | p=j*m | со | 40,471 | gm |
| ASSUMED ANNUAL DAYS | q | | 260 | days/year |
| METRIC CONVERSION FACTOR | r | | 1,000 | gm/kg |
| ANNUAL EMISSIONS REDUCTION | s=(n*q)/r | NOx | 677 | kg/year |
| | t=(o*q)/r | VOC | 902 | kg/year |
| | u=(p*q)/r | со | 10,522 | kg/year |

Table 3. Trip Length Reduction

| CALCULATION STEP | EQUATION | VARIABLE | QUANTITY | UNITS |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|------------|----------|---------------|
| DOWNTOWN ANGLETON TRIP GENERATOR | а | Households | 200 | homes |
| TRIP RATES | С | Households | 9.4 | trips/day/job |
| TOTAL TRIPS | e=(a*c) | | 1,880 | trips/day |
| MODE SHIFT RATE | f | | 20% | percent trips |
| REDUCED DIST. TRIPS | g=e*f | | 376 | trips |
| MILES PER TRIP REDUCED | h | | 5 | miles/trip |
| VEHICLE MILES TRAVEL REPLACED | j=g*h | | 1,800 | trips |
| EMISSIONS FACTORS | k | NOx | 0.24 | gm/mile |
| | Ι | VOC | 0.32 | gm/mile |
| | m | СО | 3.73 | gm/mile |
| TOTAL EMISSIONS REDUCED | n=j*k | NOx | 451 | gm |
| | o=j*l | VOC | 602 | gm |
| | p=j*m | со | 7,012 | gm |
| ASSUMED ANNUAL DAYS | q | | 260 | days/year |
| METRIC CONVERSION FACTOR | r | | 1,000 | gm/kg |
| ANNUAL EMISSIONS REDUCTION | s=(n*q)/r | NOx | 117 | kg/year |
| | t=(o*q)/r | VOC | 156 | kg/year |
| | u=(p*q)/r | СО | 1,823 | kg/year |

| TOTALS | |
|--|------|
| 2018 AVERAGE TRIP LENGTH (ACS 2018 VIA H-GAC COMMUTING-PATTERN DATA) | 12.5 |
| PERCENT REDUCTION OF TRIP LENGTH BY 2045 | 60% |

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