## METRORapid Gulfton Corridor Project Houston, Texas Small Starts Project Development Information Prepared June 2023

The Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO) proposes to extend its METRORapid Silver Line bus rapid transit (BRT) from its current southern terminus approximately 4.1 miles to the Gulfton area in southwest Houston. The project is being planned to connect high-density residential communities in southwest Houston with nearby recreational facilities, shopping centers, schools, and a social services center, as well as regionwide destinations via connections to other high-ridership transit routes. The project's current estimated capital cost is \$220 million. METRO is still considering how much Small Starts funding it will seek.

METRO believes that the project would improve mobility and connectivity in southwest Houston, supporting vibrant communities which generate high demand for transit due to the density of development, low rates of car ownership, and low household incomes. METRO further seeks to offer a safe and reliable transit option that would help relieve congestion and improve air quality.

METRO anticipates selection of the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) in June 2023 and its adoption in the region's fiscally constrained transportation plan in August 2023. Completion of the environmental review process is anticipated in late 2023. METRO anticipates receipt of a Small Starts Grant Agreement in late 2024 or early 2025, and initiation of revenue service in 2027.

