

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2015

- 1) Roll Call
 - Chairman Joe Califa called the meeting to order at 1:32pm. The Technical Advisory Committee Meeting was held at the Hidalgo County MPO Office at 510 South Pleasantview Drive, Weslaco, Texas. Present were representatives from the Cities of: Alamo, Alton, Donna, Hidalgo County, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Pharr, San Juan, TxDOT, Weslaco, Valley Metro Hidalgo County RMA: Ex-Officio Members Present: Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District.
- 2) Adoption of Minutes
 - **January 6, 2015**
Chairman Joe Califa asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of January 6, 2015. **No corrections were noted; TxDOT made a motion to approve the minutes of January 6, 2015 as presented. The motion was seconded by City of Mercedes and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**
- 3) Cost Over-Run Projects
 - None given at this time.
- 4) Discussion and Action of Proposed Projects for Proposition #1 Funding
 - Linda De La Fuente noted that letter dated November 11, 2014 executed by Mayors from City of Mission and City of Palmview; Commissioner Flores and Commissioner Palacios, was submitted to the MPO indicating that they have been aggressively developing roadway projects toward a shovel-ready projects. They are respectfully requesting that two of their project which will be ready to receive bids in the early part of 2015, receive Prop #1 funding that will soon be made available. Project #1) Pct. #3 - La Homa Road; Project #2) Pct. #4 FM 1925, Monte Cristo Road and #3) US 83 La Joya Relief Route. Linda De La Fuente also informed members present that no Public Involvement is required, since these are State Funding. They are also requesting that the CAT 7 and CAT 11 allocation that will be freed up by the additional Prop #1 funding be assigned to 2 other corridor expansions. Andrew Canon reminded members present that projects selected will be for construction only. Chairman Califa reminded members present that they continue to develop their projects and be prepared for future funding from Prop #1. **No further discussion took place on this item; Hidalgo County made a motion to approve Proposed Projects for Proposition #1 Funding as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by TxDOT and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**
- 5) Discussion and Action on the TAP Application Process
 - Karina Maldonado noted that, the HCMPO has approximately \$4.6 million in Transportation Alternatives (Category 9) funds. Based on federal guidelines, the MPO is in charge of the competitive process and selecting projects to receive these funds. The BPAC recommended that 90% be for construction and 10% for Planning. To ensure a timely program process, staff is requesting action on the TAP Call for Projects Application, as recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC). The TAP Call for Projects is scheduled to open on February 20, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. and close on May 8, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. Applications will be evaluated, presented to TAC and TPC and up for action in May, June and July respectively. Ms. Maldonado provide handouts of the Program Application, Application Guide and the TAP Timeline, and also notified members present that this forms were upload to the HCMPO website for downloading. Ms. Maldonado concluded by making members aware that a workshop is scheduled tentatively for the month of February for interested parties wishing to learn more about the program. **No discussion took place on this item; the City of Mercedes made a motion to approve the TAP Application Process as presented. The motion was seconded by the City of Alamo and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**
- 6) Discussion and Action to Approve 2014 Thoroughfare Plan Amendments
 - Luis Diaz presented to members present the 2014 Thoroughfare Plan Amendments and the Hidalgo County Thoroughfare Plan Guide and indicated that a total 52 projects amendments were submitted from varies cities within Hidalgo County. Next step is to have Resolution 2015-03 approved by the TAC Committee, once that is done, next step will be to then have final approval by the Policy Committee. This process will begin again in August 2015, so if any other projects need to be presented that will be the time to submit those projects. After the TPC's Committee approval, the submissions will be presented in February 2015 to Hidalgo County Commissioner Court for approval at the County Level. City of McAllen noted that the legend were different from the previous map, and indicated that the City of McAllen will email HCMPO Staff the previous map for comparison. **After some discussion on the Map that was presented, the City of San Juan made a motion to approve the 2014 Thorough Fare Plan Amendments "Resolution 2015-03, with correction/additions if needed to the map, as per the City of McAllen. The motion was seconded by the City of McAllen and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**
- 7) Discussion of the Bicycle Plan Update
 - Karina Maldonado noted that in anticipation of the TAP Call for Projects, staff is currently working on an update to Bicycle Plan document, specifically the facilities identified in the Bike System Map. The map currently identifies the following bicycle facilities: 1) existing bicycle lanes, 2) existing bicycle routes and shared use lanes; 3) existing hike & bike trails or shared use paths; 4) existing roadways with shoulders, and 5) proposed bicycle improvements. Staff is requesting that the technical staff from your respective entities review the current bicycle system map and provide any necessary updates, including: 1) Inclusion of bicycle projects constructed after 2012 and 2) Inclusion of proposed bicycle projects. Staff will begin scheduling meetings with your city staff at your offices to gather this data when most convenient. Data may also be submitted as an excel table listing the project and project limits, a GIS shape file, or a PDF map of the facilities via email to staff. The City of McAllen noted that the Bicycle map identify the symbology, legends and labeling of the map for better description and the Multi Modal Plan. After some discussion on this item, it was the consensus of the TAC Committee to have the Bicycle Plan Map and Legend reviewed by the BPAC Committee at their next meeting. **Presentation only, no action taken.**

8) Discussion of GIS Information Required

- Cody Baczewski, noted that the Travel Demand Model (TDM) requires collection of comprehensive demographic and geographic data. This data enables more accurate simulations of “on the ground” conditions and enables us to better plan for the residents of the HCMPO planning area. Some of the demographic and geographic data needed includes:
 - Identification of all businesses in the planning area (including all 22 cities and unincorporated Hidalgo County) and obtaining 2014 employee counts for each business.
 - Collection of current and/or updated city limits, ETJs, and annexations for all 22 cities.

Staff is requesting that the technical staff from your respective entities review the information requested above and give extra attention to businesses that opened between late 2013 and March of 2014. Please submit business data as a table or list and city limits, ETJs, and annexations as GIS shapefiles, PDF maps, or written or informal descriptions of the respective geographies via email to cbaczewski@hcmppo.org by February 17, 2015 (two weeks after the February 3, 2015 TAC meeting). Meeting will be scheduled whenever is most convenient with your city staff at your offices to gather any outstanding data. **Presentation only, no action taken.**

9) Discussion on RFP for Fall FY 2015 CMP Scope

- Linda De La Fuente noted that the HCMPO is due for another CMP study. This time it will be Fall 2015. The HCMPO needs guidance on the scope of work this study should include. The RFP is expected to be released in April, so a finalized scope needs to be determined by March at the latest. As a reference the work performed includes the past few CMP's. Spring 2013 – CMP Applied volume to the delay, the resulting volume weighted performance measure was ranked into the top 20, a combined performance measure was developed reflecting Congestion Index and volume weighted delay. Consultant visited with jurisdiction of each top 20 intersections to evaluate elements of operation including controller type, condition of all loops, communication capabilities, etc. Consultant identified intersection Turing Movement Counts at 20 intersections. Consultant developed Synchro model in coordination with MPO staff. A total of 415 centerline miles were studied. Fall 2011 CMP – Study included 3 runs of each AM and PM peak periods, identified speed limits and balance of attributes, the limits were based on controlled intersections, added 95 miles to original study area including Expressway 83, Business 83, FM 1925, FM 1015 and SH 107. A total of 334 centerline miles were studied. Linda De La Fuente concluded by letting the TAC members know that this item will be brought back again as an action item at the next TAC Meeting in March 2015. Members present asked what the status was on the “On System Project”, staff to provide update at the next meeting. **Presentation only, no action taken.**

10) Discussion of TIP and MTP Amendments for March Out of Cycle Revision

- Linda De La Fuente informed TAC Members present that she has been working with Lorie Laurel, TxDOT regarding the TIP and MTP Amendments for March Out of Cycle revision to include Proposition #1 Projects. Public Involvement will start February 13 thru March 13, 2015 and then it will be presented to the TAC and TPC Committee in March for final approval. Not included is Category #7 at this time. **Presentation only, no action taken.**

11) Monthly Letting Report

- Mr. Homer Bazan provided to TAC Members present with handouts of the TxDOT Monthly Letting Update for January 2015 on Projects within the Hidalgo County MPO Area. **Presentation only, no action taken.**

11) Status Reports

A. Calendar: February & March 2015

- Andrew Canon reported on the Calendars as follows:

Month of February 2015:

- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for February 2, 2015
- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for February 3, 2015
- Regional Transit Coordination Workshop – Corpus Christi - Scheduled for February 23-24, 2015 (Both Maria and Linda attending)
- TPC Meeting – Scheduled for February 26, 2015
- TxDOT Commission Meeting Re: Proposition #1 – February 25-26, 2015

Month of March 2015:

- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for March 2, 2015
- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for March 3, 2015
- CAC Meeting – Scheduled for March 4, 2015
- TPC Meeting – Scheduled for March 19, 2015
- FHWA Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Workshop – San Antonio - Scheduled for March 17-28, (Both Linda and Luis attending)

B. HCMPO Budget Report

- Linda de la Fuente gave a brief update on the HCMPO Budget.

C. Director' Updates

- - None

11) HCRMA Update

- George Ramon with Hidalgo County RMA provided a brief update.

12) Valley Metro

- Gabriel Zuniga, Mobility Manager gave a brief update on Valley Metro.

13) Metro

- No reports were given at this time.

14) Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District

- No reports were given at this time.

15) Old or New Business

- Mr. Bazan noted that TxDOT will be holding a Public Meeting to discuss the proposed improvements to IH 2 from FM 2220 (Ware Road) to McColl Road and Bicentennial Blvd from Toronto Avenue to Lindberg Ave. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2015, at the McAllen Convention Center Meeting Room 101-ABC.
- Proposition #1 funding for the next two years is estimated is about 2/3 more than this year and cities should continue to work on shovel ready non system projects and be ready for presentation to both the TAC and TPC Committee for consideration.
- Jacinto Garza w/ L&G Engineers – City of Mercedes Project is ready and hoping to use TRANS Funding (\$6 million). Asking for HCMPO staff to look into this project and see how the City of Mercedes can get funding to move forward with their project.
- 5th Annual Rock N Rolla Event to be held in conjunction with the City of Edinburg “Cool City Celebration” scheduled for April 25, 2015. Asking all the cities to help with this event by being sponsors. Sponsorship Form was made available to city members present.

16) Adjournment

- **The meeting adjourn at 3:05 pm.**