

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
March 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, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, McAllen, Mission, Pharr, San Juan, TxDOT, Weslaco, Valley Metro, Hidalgo County RMA: Ex-Officio Members Present: Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District and Metro.

2) Adoption of Minutes

➤ February 3, 2015

Chairman Joe Califa asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of February 3, 2015. **No corrections were noted to the minute; City of McAllen made a motion to approve the minutes of February 3, 2015 as presented. The motion was seconded by City of Edinburg and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

3) Cost Over-Run Projects

- None given at this time.

4) Discussion and Action of FY2014-2015 UPWP Amendment #2

- Linda De La Fuente noted the FY2014-2015 UPWP Amendment #2 is un-obligating \$43,685.00 under several subtasks as well as transferring funds between subtasks in order to balance the budget in preparation for planned expenses during the rest of FY2015. The transfer of funds refers mostly to staff hour expenditures as well as adjustment in travel expenses. Linda De La Fuente concluded by noting that this item will also be presented to the Policy Committee for their review and approval at their March meeting. **After some discussion on this item; the City of Edinburg made a motion to approve FY 2014-2015 UPWP Amendment #2 as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by the City of McAllen and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

5) Discussion and Action of March Out of Cycle Highway and Transit TIP and MTP Amendments

- Linda De La Fuente reported that the Out of Cycle revision will reflect consistency with/between the 2015-2018 TIP and 2040 MTP update. Adoption of Proposition #1 Projects of La Joya Relief Route, FM1925 and SH364, and Category 7 Projects – Taylor Road and Veterans Road. Hidalgo County recommended transferring earmarks for PE from County section to the City of Penitas section. County PE will be funded by all local. **After some discussion on this item, approval of the Out of Cycle was contingent upon revision requested by Hidalgo County.**
- Maria Champine reported that Transit revised funding sources on some of the projects and McAllen removed three projects in order to add three new projects. Transit TIP projects removed were: 1) Design for Bus Terminal Expansion; 2) Downtown Multimodal Improvements; and 3) Rolling Stock. Transit TIP Projects added were: 1) Bus Shelters; 2) Pedestrian Access Walkways and Technology; and 3) Computer Hardware and Radio System upgrades. **After some discussion on this item; the City of Weslaco made a motion to approve the March Out of Cycle Highway and Transit TIP and MTP Amendments with revisions requested by Hidalgo County. The motion was seconded by Hidalgo County and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

6) Discussion and Action on the Recommendation of the 5310 Application Submittals

- Maria Champine noted that staff is seeking approval for the recommended applicants for the 5310 Program Call. The 5310 program is intended to enhance mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities by providing funds for programs to serve the special needs of transit-dependent populations beyond traditional public transportation services and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complementary paratransit services. There were 3 applications submitted from the City of Weslaco, City of Pharr and Valley Metro. Listed below is a brief description of the applications:
 - City of Weslaco – Connectivity of residential areas of high transit dependent population to regional public transit with approximately 1,650 linear feet of new and rehabilitated sidewalks that will ADA compliant. The location of the ADA compliant sidewalks are:
 - a. 2nd Street from Illinois Ave to Airport Drive
 - b. Airport Drive from 2nd Street to Business 83
 - City of Pharr - Improvement of sidewalks along Cage Blvd and Helmer Street by making ADA compliant with ramps and crosswalks.
 - Valley Metro - Mobility Manager Position specifically targeting seniors and persons with disabilities, and the agencies that service them, to increase mobility, coordination, and utilization of the transit systems in the urbanized area.

Maria Champine concluded by notifying TAC Members present that the applications total to the amount of \$473,498.68 of federal funds. Total Funds \$843,966, minus \$473,498.68 for the three applicants, with a balance of \$370,467 to carry over for next year. **After some discussion on this item, the City of Weslaco made a motion to approve the 5310 Applications submittals as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by the Hidalgo County and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

7) Discussion and Action on BPAC Applications

- Cody Baczewski noted that currently there are three (3) positions open on the BPAC Committee, and the BPAC Committee is recommending the following three applicants for consideration and approval: Armando Garza, Jr.; German Madrazo; and Richard W. Cavin. The BPAC is the committee responsible for evaluating TAP projects. BPAC will make their recommendations to TAC and all submittals will be presented to TAC for review and approval as needed. **After some discussion on this item, City of Alamo made a motion to approve the three (3) new applicants as submitted by staff. The motion was seconded by TxDOT and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

8) Discussion of Fall 2015 CMP Scope & Timeline

- Andrew Canon noted that a timeline has been developed for the CMP, however; HCMPO is seeking guidance on how to move forward with the signing of contract, if the HCMPO changes fiscal agent on October 1st. After some discussion on the 2015 CMP Scope & Timeline, it was recommended to wait until the transition takes place before HCMPO proceeds with any signing of contracts. **Presentation only, no action taken.**

9) Monthly Letting Report

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

10) Status Reports

A. Calendar: March & April 2015

- Andrew Canon reported on the Calendars as follows:

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
- Mission Day in Austin – Scheduled for March 4 & 5, 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)

Month of April 2015:

- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for April 6, 2015
- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for April 7, 2015
- CAC Meeting – Scheduled for April 8, 2015
- TPC Meeting – Scheduled for April 16, 2015
- TEMPO Meeting – Scheduled for April 1 & 2, 2015 (Andrew Attending in Austin)

B. HCMPO Budget Report

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

C. Director' Updates

- - Gave a brief update on the Cool City Celebration / 5th Annual Walk N Rolla Event to take place April 25, 2015 in the City of Edinburg

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. Passenger increased by 21%.

13) Metro

- Sandra Gama gave a brief update on the Metro Report. She reported that there has been a 3% decrease in the ridership for this month.

14) Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District

- No reports were given at this time.

15) Old or New Business

- Discussion took place on using Category 7 to upgrade light fixtures along the expressway.

16) Adjournment

- **The meeting adjourn at 2:51 pm.**