

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization (HCMPO)
Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2014

TAB I ROLL CALL

- Chairman Norberto Salinas called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm. The Transportation Policy 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, Mission, Palmhurst, Palmview, Penitas, San Juan, TxDOT Weslaco and Valley Metro. Ex-Officio Members Present: HCCRD and Rio Grande Valley Partnership.

TAB II CITIZEN INPUT

- None at this time.

TAB III PRESENTATION / ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A) Adoption of Minutes from:

➤ **June 26, 2014**

Chairman Norberto Salinas asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. No corrections or additions were made to the minutes of June 26, 2014, ***The City of Palmhurst made a motion to approve the June 26, 2014 minutes as presented. The City of Penitas seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

B) Cost Over-Run Project(s) (If Needed)

- Mr. Toribio Garza, Jr. P.E., TxDOT, stated that he would cover this under the Monthly Letting Update.

C) Discussion & Approval of FY 2013-2016 and FY 2015-2018 TIP & MTP

- Mr. Canon stated the Highway & Transit TIPs and Resolutions (8, 9, and 10) were provided for everyone to review and stated that the resolutions included the projects that needed to be approved. Mrs. De la Fuente briefly went through the Highway TIP Amendments; as well as; Ms. Maldonado reviewing the Transit Tips and stated that two (2) Public Hearing were held (information was provided to members present) in reference to MTP 2010-2035 Amendment #15, Highway/Transit TIP FY 13-16 Amendment #8, and Highway/Transit TIP FY 15-18 Amendment #1. After further discussion, ***The City of Edinburg made a motion to approve the corresponding Resolutions #8, 9, and 10 to; FY2013-16 and FY2015-18 Highway & Transit TIP Amendments #1, 8, and MTP 2010-2035 Amendment #15 as presented. The City of Penitas seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

D) Discussion & Approval of Resolution 2014-11 in Support of Proposition #1

- Mr. Canon noted that he had attended Senator Nichols' presentation in Austin, regarding Proposition #1; Proposition 1 is a constitutional amendment that would allow quorum an addition 1.4 billion in funds to go to infrastructure projects, state wide. This additional money is gas from additional funds going to the state rainy day fund and includes NO new taxes, funds cannot be used for toll roads and it is estimated that the funds will create approximately 30,000 new construction jobs statewide. Mr. Canon concluded by stating that he has several community outreach meetings scheduled with Chambers of Commerce, Rotary Clubs and the Rio Grande Valley Partnership Chamber regarding Proposition #1; in the next couple of months before the November Election. ***After some discussion, The City of Alamo made a motion to approve Resolution 2014-11 in "Support of Proposition #1" as presented. The City of Edinburg seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

E) Discussion & Approval of HCMPO Staff Out of Town Travel - AMPO Conference in Atlanta, GA – October 21-24, 2014

- Mr. Canon stated that several staff members will be attending the AMPO Conference in Atlanta, GA., on October 21-24, 2014. He stated that Linda De La Fuente, Karina Maldonado and he will be attending. Mr. Canon stated that the cost breakdown was provided for everyone to review. ***No discussion took place on this item; the City of Alamo made a motion to approve the HCMPO Staff out of Town Travel – AMPO Conf. – October 21-24, 2014 as presented. The City of Edinburg seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

F) Discussion of 2015-2040 MTP Update

- Mrs. Maria Champine stated that the 2015-2040 MTP spreadsheets were provided for everyone to review and stated that the MTP is updated every five years. Ms. Champine stated, the TAC has recommended that a sub-committee review the criteria and once the Sub-committee reviews the current criteria; it will be presented to the TAC to use the criteria for the project selection. Ms. Champine noted that the current projects are moving along and the MTP will be approved at the November 2014 meeting. **Presentation only, no action taken.**

G) Review of Selection Criteria for Transportation Alternatives Funding

- Mr. Canon stated that a very productive meeting was held with TxDOT, to address items in the Congestion Study Project, which included identifying the congested corridors, signals timing, synchronization and dual left turn movement. Total money set aside was \$1 million for operational improvement projects. **Presentation only, no action taken.**

H) Discussion of Possible Program Manager for Operational Improvements

- This was covered under "Item G".

I) Monthly Letting Update

- Mr. Toribio Garza Jr., P.E., TxDOT, gave a brief update. Had several bids under the estimate, with one project under \$3 million. Mayor Salinas asked that Staff look into assisting the City of Donna with the "Donna Bridge". Mr. Canon noted that he will be meeting with Representative Martinez to discuss possible funding for the "Donna Bridge". **Presentation only, no action taken.**

TAB IV STATUS REPORTS

A) Directors Update

- Mr. Canon reminded members present of the 5th Annual Border to Border Conference to be held in November 18-20, 2014, and stated that he met with the Secretary of State regarding Borders issues and extended an invitation for them to attend the Border to Border Conference; 2) Regionals MPO working together was discussed, after some discussion members present agreed to place this item on the next meeting for consideration to have all three MPO's working together. ***TxDOT made a motion to place this item on the next agenda, "Formal Vote of Regionalizing the MPO's". The motion was seconded by the City of Donna and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

3) Staff will work on all current projects, and will be contacting/mailing all the cities for feedback, to assure that all projects are listed.

B) HCMPO Budget Report

- Mrs. Linda de la Fuente briefly went through the Annual Performance & Expenditure Report (APER). She stated that the % of adjust. Budget spent is 33.33% below budget. ***Reports only, no action taken at this time.***

C) HCMPO Project Update

➤ 1) Transit Plan Survey

Ms. Karina Maldonado provided a brief update on the Transit Survey, a total of 400 responses were received and will be incorporated in the long term plan data. ***Report only, no action taken at this time.***

➤ 2) Freight Plan

Ms. Chanel Borrego provided a brief update on the Freight Plan meetings that are scheduled with various cities in the next couple of months. ***Reports only, no action taken at this time.***

TAB V OFF SYSTEM REPORT

- No reports were given at this time.

TAB VI TXDOT CONSTRUCTION REPORT

- Mr. Juan Sustaita, P.E, provided a hand-out of completed and pending projects.

TAB VII HIDALGO COUNTY COMMUTER RAIL DISTRICT (HCCRD)

- James Edge gave a brief update

TAB VIII HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY (HCRMA)

- No reports were given at this time.

TAB IX VALLEY METRO

- Mr. Tom Logan gave a brief update.

TAB X METRO

- No reports were given at this time.

TAB XI OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

- No reports were given at this time.

TAB XII ADJOURNMENT

- ***The City of San Juan made a motion to adjourn at 6:41 pm. The City of Alamo seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

ATTEST:

The Honorable Scott Crane
Transportation Policy Committee (TPC)
Secretary