

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization (HCMPO)
Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2015

TAB I ROLL CALL

- Chairman Norberto Salinas called the meeting to order at 5:30 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, Edinburg, Elsa, Hidalgo County, Mercedes, Mission, Palmhurst, Palmview, Pharr, San Juan, TxDOT, Weslaco, Hidalgo County RMA and Valley Metro. Ex-Officio Members Present: None

TAB II CITIZEN INPUT

- None at this time.

TAB III PRESENTATION / ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A) Adoption of Minutes from:

➤ **June 18, 2015**

Chairman Norberto Salinas asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of June 18, 2015. Andrew Canon noted that one correction/revision under the TAP Funding Project had been done and it reads as follows...**“The City of Pharr and the Hidalgo County are currently working on some due-diligence that needs to be cleared up. The City of Pharr abstained on voting on this item”.** No other corrections were noted; Hidalgo County made a motion to approve the minutes of June 18, 2015 with corrections/revision as presented by staff. The City of Mercedes 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 there were no updates at this time. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

C) Discussion and Action of Amendments to MTP, Highway/Transit Tips

- Linda De La Fuente provided the final Summary of Changes for TIP & MTP – August 1st - STIP Revision as follows:

FY 2015

- Liberty Blvd Phase II – ROW was moved to FY 2025 and costs were changed
- Mile 1 E (PE) – Cost estimates were updated and the ROW phase was removed from FY 2015 and placed in FY 2025 with the construction phase
- US 281 Military – Cost and funding changed from Local to Cat 12 Vehicle Registration Fee

FY 2016

- Edinburg Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan – Added project as part of the 2015-2016 HCMPO TAP Program Call
- Mile 6 W - PE & ROW were moved from FY 2015 and the 2 sections were separated. Costs also changed.
- FM 2220 – Project moved from FY 2015
- Veterans SH 495 Extension (ROW) – CSJ number changed from 0865-01-082 to 0865-01-108
- New CSJ's were given to all McAllen projects

FY 2017

- Anzalduas Port of Entry – Project was moved from FY 2016
- Hidalgo County Precinct #2 Regional Hike & Bike Trail Project – Added project as part of the 2015-2016 HCMPO TAP Program Call

FY 2018

- SH 68 - Project was moved from FY 2016
- Owassa – Project CSJ changed
- Hidalgo County Precinct #2 Regional Hike & Bike Trail Project – Added project as part of the 2015-2016 HCMPO TAP Program Call

FY 2024

- Dicker Rd – Funding was moved from construction to ROW

FY 2025

- Mile 3 N Phase II – Cat 7 funding in the amount of \$2,030,000 was taken from this project and added to the Liberty Blvd Phase II ROW cost. The funding shortfall was replaced with local funding.
- Liberty Blvd Phase II ROW cost – The ROW for this project was moved up from FY 2031 to FY 2025 and funded with Cat 7 from the Mile 3 N Phase II project, cost estimates were also updated.
- Mile 1 E – Project was moved from the Unfunded projects to FY 2025 using Cat 7 from the FM 493 (La Blanca) project which was pushed to FY 2026 and funded with TRENDS.

FY 2026

- FM 493 (La Blanca) – Project was pushed down from FY 2025 to FY 2026 in order to fund the Mile 1 E project. Funding changed from Cat 7 to TRENDS.
- SH 68 Phases II and III – New projects were requested to be included into the MTP by TxDOT, funding for the moment is identified as Other until a specific source of funding is secured.

FY 2031

- Liberty Blvd Phase II – The ROW funding was moved up to FY 2025.
- East Eldora Rd Segment I – Limits changed from Raul Longoria to US 281 to Jackson Rd to I Rd by Precinct 2, costs stayed the same.
- Mile 6 W - Construction costs were updated, funding did not change
- Veterans SH 495 Extension – CSJ number changed from 0865-01-082 to 0865-01-108

FY 2036

- Cesar Chavez Rd – Category 7 funding was transferred from E Eldora Segment II and Sioux Rd to Cesar Chavez Rd by Precinct 2. Costs were also updated.
- Bicentennial Blvd – City of McAllen requested a swap between the 29th St project funded in FY 2036 and Bicentennial Blvd. Cost estimates for Bicentennial were updated utilizing the Cat 7 available from the 29th St project and funding the shortfall with local funding.
- Sioux Rd – Category 7 funding was transferred to Cesar Chavez and TRENDS was transferred from Cesar Chavez Rd as requested by Precinct 2. Costs stayed the same.
- E Eldora Rd Segment II – Category 7 funding was transferred to Cesar Chavez Rd and TRENDS funding was transferred from West Eldora Rd by Precinct 2. Costs stayed the same.

Unfunded

- 29th St – McAllen requested to un-fund this project in order to fund Bicentennial Blvd.
- West Eldora Rd – Project was unfunded and TRENDS funding was transferred to E Eldora Segment II by Precinct 2.

➤ Maria Champine provided to members present a Summary of Transit Tip Amendments for FY 2015-2018, only one project was revised for FY 2015, LRGVDC – HCVM—057 – Transit Capital Improvement Program –Edinburg Terminal & Parking Facility – Amendment 7/16/2015 – CAT 5307 –Total Project Cost: \$1,652,955. Also made available to members present were the FY 2015 Transit Project Listings. **After some discussion on these items; The City of Alamo made a motion to approve the Amendments to the MTP, Highway/Transit TIP(s) as recommended by staff. The motion was seconded by Hidalgo County and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.**

D) Discussion and Action of the Transit Plan

➤ Maria Champine provided the final Transit Plan, to include surveys and maps that apply to the Transit Plan to members present. Secretary Randy Sweeten recommended that due to all the reading material that needs to be reviewed regarding the Transit Plan, he would like to have additional time to go through the Transit Plan, and therefore requesting that this item be tabled again and approved at the next TPC Meeting scheduled in September 2015. **No discussion took place regarding Mr. Sweetens’ request, members present were in consensus to table and approve this item at the next TPC meeting scheduled September 17, 2015.**

E) Discussion and Action of the Final 2016-2017 UPWP

➤ Linda De La Fuente reported that the Final FY2016-2017 UPWP is a two year budget in which the Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization (HCMPO) staff defines the tasks that are to be undertaken to meet the requirements of MAP21, and to provide open, transparent resources for the public on what funds are being expended to meet these requirements. Staff noted that the Budget Summary for FY 2016 total TPF = \$1,384,416.23 and Budget Summary for FY 2017 Total is \$1,060,466.35 and if the UPWP is approved by TPC Committee, not all PL-112 & FTA 5303 for FY 2017 is being obligated due to the expected switch to Hidalgo County as the HCMPOs’ Fiscal Agent, resulting in large Fringe and Indirect cost saving. **After some discussion on this item; Hidalgo County made a motion to approve the Final 2016-2017 UPWP as presented by staff. The City of Alamo seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

F) Travel Out of State Approval for AMPO Conference in Clark County, Nevada

➤ Andrew Canon noted that staff is seeking approval to have several HCMPO Staff attend the AMPO Annual meeting, where Mr. Canon serves as Policy Chairman for the National AMPO organization. This years’ AMPO Conference will be held in Clark County, Nevada, October 20-23, 2015. **No discussion took place regarding staff request to attend the AMPO Conference in Clark County, Nevada. The motion was made by the City of Mercedes to approve the Out of State Travel, AMPO Conference in Clark County, Nevada as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by Hidalgo County, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

G) Monthly Letting Update

➤ Toribio Garza, P.E., TxDOT provided the Monthly Letting Report to members present and stated that one of many Projects to be LETT in August 2015 are:

HWY	LIMITS	DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATE	FUNDING CATEGORIES
US 281 Military (Local Let)	From: 0.47 Mi. East of US 281 TO: FM 2557 (Steward Rd)	Construct 4 Lane Divided with Overpass at San Juan Rd	\$18,024,733	CAT 10 CBI, Cat 12-VRF Match
BSIF	From: US 281 (Military Rd) To: SP 29 @BSIF	Construct New Location Controlled Access Facility	\$1,268,642	CAT 3 Local

The Monthly Letting Report is filed with the July 2015 agenda packet. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

- Homer Bazan, TxDOT discussed and provided to TPC Members present the following handouts and noted that this items will be discussed again during the Workshop scheduled for August 4, 2015:
 - Functional Classification Importance – Presentation / Hand-Out Provided.
 - Propositions 1 & 7 Update – Presentation / Hand-Out provided – Staff recommended having a Workshop to discuss projects.
 - Additional TxDOT Programming Authority – Presentation / Hand-Out provided. TPC members present recommended at the next TPC meeting to have TxDOT provide a listing of State High Corridors. **Presentation only, no action taken on these items.**

TAB IV STAFF REPORTS

A) Directors Update

➤ Calendars Report

Month of July 2015:

- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for July 6, 2015
- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for July 7, 2015
- TPC Meeting – Scheduled for July 16, 2015
- Transportation Director Annual Leave– July 27, - August 10, 2015

➤ Month of August 2015:

- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for August 3, 2015 - Cancelled
- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for August 4, 2015 – Cancelled – Holding Workshop to Discuss Proposition #1
- TPC Meeting – Scheduled for August 20, 2015 - Cancelled
- Transportation Directors’ Annual Leave – July 27, - August 10, 2015

➤ Legislative Update 7/015:

Andrew A. Canon provided hand-out of the current Legislative Updates to members present and also covered the following items under the Directors Report:

- ###### ➤ TAC/TPC August Meetings
- Staff is recommending to cancel both TAC and TPC meeting for the month of August 2015. There are no significant items that need to be address and the Director will be out on Annual Leave, therefore; recommending that both meetings be cancelled. Staff noted that TAC members recommended holding a workshop vs the regular TAC meeting, on August 4, 2015 to discuss Proposition #1. **After some discussion on this item, Hidalgo County made a motion to cancel both TAC and TPC Meetings for the month of August 2015 and hold a Workshop, August 4, 2015 as recommended by staff. The motion was seconded by City of Palmview, and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

➤ Re-Designation Update

Staff noted that the Re-Designation approval is still pending from the Governors’ office, have met with representative with the Governors’ office and awaiting on his response on who will be signing off on the Re-Designation Official Document for the HCMPO. HCMPO Staff move is still scheduled for October 2015.

➤ Merger Letter From Congressman Filemon Vela

Received letter from Congressman Vela in support of the proposed merger with the three Rio Grande Valley MPO’s, goal is to have a single entity to be able to better advocate on behalf of the region (Hand out provided to members present). Staff noted that a date is still pending on when all three MPOs’ will be holding their first Kick-Off Meeting. TxDOT is looking into holding it sometime in August 2015.

➤ AC Cuellar Letter

Staff noted that they were in receipt of a letter from Commissioner AC Cuellar, regarding Mile 6 West and his request for additional \$19 million in funding for this project. Staff noted that a response was sent to Commissioner Cuellar regarding his request for funding. (Letters were made available to members present).

➤ Internet Broadcast and Archive of Open Meetings

Staff noted that contact has been made with an out of state vendor, and received a quote for live video streaming of \$36,000.00 a year. Procurement is looking into the process and will work with vendor on the stats. More information will be made available once all the details with Procurement and vendor have been work out.

➤ MPO Merger

Mayor San Juanita Sanchez noted that she would like to have a meeting with the Smaller Cities with a population of 50,000 or less to brainstorm and further discuss the proposed merger between Hidalgo and Cameron MPOs and the impact this would have on the respective cities and region. It is very important to work collectively on a plan that would reflect the perspective of all small cities represented at the regional meeting. Mayor Sanchez noted that once a date has been determine staff will be sending out the invite to members of all the small cities with population of 50,000 or less.

➤ Off / On System – Proposition #1

Staff noted that this will be a discussion item at the next TAC /TPC Meetings.

B) HCMPO Budget Report

- Linda De La Fuente briefly went through the Annual Performance & Expenditure Report (APER). Budget spent is 87.50%, still below budget.

TAB V TXDOT CONSTRUCTION REPORT

- Rene Garza, P.E., TxDOT gave an update and provided a report of completed and pending projects. Also provided reports were Juan Sustaita and Judy Bosquez both from TxDOT. Reports filed.

TAB VI HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY (HCRMA)

- Randy Sweeten, HCRMA provided an update on the SIB Loan, the FONSI and noted that Segment #4 will be discussed at the next RMA meeting scheduled for July 28, 2015.

TAB VII VALLEY METRO

- Gabriel Zuniga gave an update and provided a report to members present.

TAB VIII METRO

- No reports were given at this time.

TAB IX OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

- No Old or New Business were discussed.

TAB X ADJOURNMENT

- ***No other items were discussed; the City of Mercedes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 pm. The City of San Juan seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

ATTEST:

Transportation Policy Committee (TPC)
Secretary