

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
March 05, 2013

1) Roll Call

- Chairman Ed Taylor called the meeting to order at 1:38pm. 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, Hidalgo County, Hidalgo County RMA, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, San Juan, Sullivan City, Weslaco, Valley Metro and TxDOT. ExOffio Members Present: Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District.

2) Adoption of Minutes from:

- February 5, 2013

Chairman Ed Taylor asked if there were any corrections to the minutes, there being none. The City of Edinburg stated that there was a minor typo on item four (4). ***The City of Mission made a motion to approve the February 5, 2013 with minor typo correction on item four (4) as presented. The City of Mercedes seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

3) Cost Over-Run Projects

- No reports were given at time.

4) Discussion and Approval of Urbanized Area Boundary (UAB)

- Mrs. Maria Champine stated that was a map that was provided for everyone to review. She noted that a certain section from the City of Mercedes is now included with the Harlingen San Benito MPO. She advised the members that she contacted FHWA and the Department of Census regarding the change in the UAB. She noted that Census advised her that there was no appeal process and no changes were going to be made to the map. After further discussion, the members decided that they will NOT support the map as provided. Michelle Leftwich, City of Mercedes, stated that the City is NOT in agreement with the map and does not want to deal with two (2) counties for any type of funding. ***The City of Mercedes made a motion to disapprove the Urbanized Area Boundary (UAB) as presented. The Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

5) Discussion & Approval of Metropolitan Area Boundary (MAB)

- Mrs. Champine stated that the MAB Map was provided for everyone to review. She noted that the MAB map shown is to incorporate the entire section to the NORTH of Hidalgo County. She briefly went through the map and what is currently located in that area. After further discussion, the members discussed what the pro's or con's will be if they include or don't include the Northern section of Hidalgo County. ***The City of Mercedes made a motion to disapprove the Metropolitan Area Boundary (MAB) as presented. The Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

6) Discussion & Approval of Functional Classification Update

- Mrs. Champine stated that the map was provided for everyone to review. She briefly went through the maps. She stated that this item will need to be brought back next month. She advised the members that staff will email the members the new and old maps for review. ***The City of Alamo made a motion to table this item and bring it back next month for approval. The Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District (HCCRD) seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

7) Discussion & Approval to Enter Into Contract with COPLAN for the CMP

- Mrs. Linda de la Fuente briefly went through the scope of services and the proposed budget. She stated that Mr. Steve Taylor was present to answer any questions. She advised the members that there was currently a budget of \$84,950.20 for 330 miles. The members asked if there was an option to increase the lane miles if there was room to increase the budget. Mrs. De la Fuente stated that at this time, the maximum funding amount was \$100,000. After further discussion, the members decided to look into increasing the lane miles and what the budget will be in the end. They requested for staff to look into options and bring them back to the members for approval. ***The City of Mercedes made a motion to approve to Enter into Contract with COPLAN for the CMP with the consideration of increasing the lane miles and submit final budget under \$100,000. The City of Alamo seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

8) Discussion on FY2013-16 TIP and FY2010-35 MTP Amendments

- Mrs. De la Fuente stated that staff is currently working on organizing several public meetings. She stated that two (2) Public meetings were scheduled for April 1st at Dustin Sekula Public Library in Edinburg at 5pm and April 16th at the HCMPO Office at 3pm. She stated that if any comments are submitted and all information is entered staff will email all of the members the updated information. ***Reports only, no action taken at this time.***

- 9) Discussion of FY2013-16 Transit TIP Amendment
- Mrs. Champine stated that Valley Metro and McAllen Metro will be meeting in the next couple of days to discuss how they are going to divide the funding that is available. Mrs. Champine stated that this item will need to be brought back next month. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**
- 10) Update on HCMPO Certification
- Mrs. Champine stated that the HCMPO did very well in the certification. She stated that they received applause on several items they are working on and only gave a couple recommendations. She thanked the City of Alamo and San Juan for being able to meet with FHWA and FTA and answer all of their questions. She stated that there was a public listening session scheduled for today and two residents showed up and met with FHWA and FTA. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**
- 11) Update on Sidewalk Inventory
- Miss. Karina Maldonado asked the members for assistance in submitting information regarding the cities sidewalk inventory. She noted that the deadline for submittals was Friday, April 5, 2013. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**
- 12) Monthly Letting Report
- Mr. Bazan gave a brief update.
- 13) Status Reports
- A. Calendar: March & April 2013
 - Mr. Champine stated that the calendars were provided for everyone to review. She stated that staff was working with the cities to try and get on the city commission meetings to present a 1-minute PSA video on Bicycle Safety Awareness. She advised the members that a copy of the PSA video will be given to the cities so it can be viewed on the city channel. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**
 - B. Legislative / RTAP Update
 - None at this time.
 - C. HCMPO Budget Report
 - Mrs. Linda de la Fuente gave a brief update on the HCMPO Budget.
 - D. HCMPO Project Update
 - None at this time.
 - E. Director's Update
 - None at this time.
- 14) HCRMA Update
- Mr. Eric Davila, from Dannenbaum, gave a brief update.
- 15) Valley Metro
- Mrs. Maribel Contreras gave a brief update on the Valley Metro.
- 16) Metro
- None at this time.
- 17) Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District
- None at this time.
- 18) Old or New Business
- Mrs. Champine advised the members that the HCMPO has new staff members: Channel Borrego, Robert Escobar and Isaac Longoria. Mrs. De la Fuente briefly mentioned that a spreadsheet was provided for everyone to review for the Texas Oklahoma Passenger Rail Study. She noted that there will be another meeting next month in the valley. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**
- 19) Adjournment
- **TxDOT made a motion to adjourn at 3:29 pm. The Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**