

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization  
 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
 October 6, 2016

**1) Roll Call**

- Chairman Xavier Cervantes called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. 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: Edinburg, Hidalgo County, McAllen, Mission, Pharr, San Juan, TxDOT, Hidalgo County RMA: Ex-Officio Members Present: Metro.

**2) Adoption of Minutes**

➤ **August 4, 2016**

Chairman Xavier Cervantes asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of August 4, 2016. HCRMA had one **correction under Item 10, should read ... 365 Toll Way vs ... BSIF. No other corrections were noted to the minutes of August 4, 2016; Hidalgo County made a motion to approve the minutes of August 4, 2016 with correction. The motion was seconded by TxDOT; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

**3) Cost Over-Run Projects/Letting Report Project(s) (If Needed)**

- Homer Bazan, with TxDOT provided an update on the Monthly Letting Report to members' present. **Report is filed as part of the TAC Packet for the month of August 2016. Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

**4) Discussion and Action on TAP Process for New 2017-2018 Projects Call**

- Jon Ray Bocanegra presented to TAC Members present an updated outline of the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Scoring Criteria with the following changes:

- Page 1 – Under the attachment required with the completed application: **Added: Include Project development timeline (when available) \* Awarded entities will be responsible for continuous updates to HCMPO Staff.**
- Page 1 – Under the TAP Project Evaluation and Selection Process: **BPAC recommends 10% for Planning and 90% for Construction. Broken as \$254,000 Planning and \$2,286,000 for Construction. Remove "Safe Routes to School."**
- Page 2 Under Evaluation and Scoring Criteria: Making Linkages and Connections - **Remove "Neighborhoods" – "Public buildings or institutions"**
- Page 3 Under Evaluation and Scoring Criteria: Connecting to Employment, Households, and Activity Center (12 points Maximum: **Change...4 points to 3 points. Add public building or institutions. Add – 3 points - improve access to neighborhoods. (Total points 12)**
- Page 4 Under Above and Beyond Criteria (22 Bonus Points Maximum) **Remove "Segmented Phased" (Has to be phase of full length planned project)**
- Additional Recommendations from BPAC: **1) Request for sponsors to provide a project development timeline when possible 2) Develop a Plan B for when original project/sponsor awarded cannot proceed with project development.**

**HCMPO Staff recommends for Plan B**

**In case the sponsor of an awarded TAP project cannot proceed with project development/obligation, consider options:**

- A. If Inability Notification is received within six (6) months of TAP award, recommend honoring the next project in line based on scoring, provided project sponsor is still interested/able to continue with project development.**
- B. If Inability Notification is received after six (6) months of TAP award AND funds awarded still have over 18 months before they expire, consider pushing these funds to the next program call carried by the HCMPO.**

Staff concluded and noted that a workshop will be scheduled for those cities that would be applying for TAC, once projects are awarded/approved. The BPAC will evaluate and score each project and the Average Scores will be presented to TAC for their review; and TAC will present proposed project selections and awards to TPC; which TPC will have the final approval of all projects and funding. **After some discussion on this time, the City of Pharr made a motion to approve the TAP Process for New 2017-2018 Projects Call as presented by staff to the Policy Committee. The motion was seconded by Hidalgo County; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

**5) Discussion and Action on Amended Resolution 2016-01A – Functional Classification**

- Andrew Canon noted that one correction for the City of McAllen needed to be corrected and approved on the Functional Classification. The Amended Resolution 2016-01A – Functional Classification is as follows:

ROADWAY	FROM	TO	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Sprague Avenue	SH 336	SH 107	Local	Minor Arterial

**After some discussion on this item; TAC members present were in consensus to recommend the approval of the Amended Resolution 2016-01A Functional Classification as presented by staff to the Policy Committee. The motion was made by Hidalgo County to approve the Amended Resolution 2016-01A Functional Classification, as presented by staff to the Policy Committee. TxDOT seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

#### 6) Discussion and Action on 2015 MTP/2017TIP

- Linda De La Fuente provided hand-outs to TAC members present and went over the 2015 MTP/2017 TIP reports and noted that this item was approved before at the August meeting. McAllen-Bicentennial has been updated. TxDOT/HCMPO are going through any redlines and if any changes are done; this will reflect on all the cities. Staff concluded by letting TAC members know that, Public Involvement meetings will be held prior to the next TAC meeting. **After some discussion on this time, HCRMA made a motion to approve the 2015 MTP/2017 TIP as presented by staff to the Policy Committee. The motion was seconded by the City of Mission, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

#### 7) Discussion on Category #4

- Was discussed under Directors' Updates

#### 8) Discussion on the CMP Tier II - Update

- Steve Taylor provided to members present an updated presentation of the CMP Tier II Report and noted the Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization has an established congestion management process (CMP) to monitor the transportation network in Hidalgo County. The purpose of this study was to identify problem areas using travel time studies and to prepare recommendations to improve the traffic flow on the transportation system and on specific corridors. This projects is ongoing. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

#### 9) Discussion on Performance Measures – Update

- Jon Ray Bocanegra noted that staff continues to hold Performance Measures Sub-Committee Meeting, the next one is scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2016 The subcommittee members continue to discuss the process of creating a Performance Measure Project Selection Criteria in accordance with Texas House Bill 20. Staffs concluded by letting members know that this is an ongoing project. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

#### 10) Status Reports

##### A. Calendars 2016:

Andrew Canon provided Calendars to members present and noted the following:

##### Month of October 2016:

- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for October 6, 2016 at 10:00 AM
- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for October 12, 2016 - Cancelled
- HCMPO Public Involvement – October 12, 2016
- TPC Meeting – Scheduled for October 20, 2016

##### Month of November 2016:

- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for November 2, 2016 at 10:00 AM
- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for November 3, 2016 at 10:00 AM
- TPC Meeting – Scheduled for November 17, 2016 at 5:30 PM
- Andrew Canon – Scheduled to be on Vacation November 4 thru November 7, 2016

##### B. Director' Updates

##### Directors' Updates

- BTAC Meeting – El Paso – September 5-6, 2016 - - Update was provided to members' present.
- TRB Tools of Trade Conference – South Carolina - September 12-15, 2016 -- Update was provided to members' present.
- TxDOT Commission/Transportation Advocates Meeting – Austin – September 28-29, 2016 - - Update was provided to members' present.
- AMPO Conference – Dallas – October 24-28, 2016 - (This conference was moved from Seattle, WA to Dallas, Tx). Andrew Canon noted that during his meeting in Dallas he met up with Representative Foxx in Dallas, discussion was held regarding the Big 6 (Austin, El Paso, San Antonio, Hidalgo, Dallas and Huston) regarding pros and cons of Category 2 & 4 funding. More information to follow at the next TAC Meeting.
- MPO Merger Meeting – One important issue discussed at the last MPO Meeting was “The three Rio Grande Valley MPOs, Brownsville, Harlingen-San Benito and Hidalgo County.” This merger has been discussed for months. If there was one metropolitan planning organization for the entire Valley, it could mean an estimated \$146.7 million for the region over the next 10 years. If no merger, that number is zero. The \$146.7 million is for category four funding, which is essentially for rural connectivity — funds used in rural areas to connect infrastructure to urbanized areas. This item is up for discussion at the next Policy Meeting, but for now this is a short synopsis of what has been discussed.

##### C. HCMPO Budget Report

- Linda De La Fuente gave an update on the HCMPO Budget and noted “still below budget” year to date. **Report filed with TAC Packet**

#### 11) HCRMA Update

- Anthony Garza noted that HCRMA projects are moving forward as scheduled.

#### 12) Valley Metro

- No one to present report. **Report filed with packet.**

#### 13) Metro

- Robert De Leon provide an updated report to TAC members present regarding their Ridership for the month. **Report filled with packet.**

#### 14) Old or New Business

- Brownsville MPO Policy Committee – Is scheduled for Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at Mary Yturria Education Center (Historic Brownsville Museum) at 641 E. Madison Street.

#### 15) Adjournment

- The meeting adjourns at 11:20 a.m.