

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
July 03, 2012

1) Roll Call

- Chairman Ed Taylor called the meeting to order at 1:28pm. 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, Donna, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, La Joya, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Penitas, Pharr, San Juan, Valley Metro, Hidalgo County RMA and TxDOT. ExOffio Members Present: McAllen Metro and Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District.

2) Adoption of Minutes from:

- May 08, 2012

Chairman Ed Taylor asked if there were any corrections to the minutes, there being none. ***Hidalgo County made a motion to approve the July 3, 2012 minutes as presented. The City Penitas seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

3) Cost Over-Run Projects

- None at this time.

4) Discussion and Approval of JARC Application

- Ms. Amanda Hernandez stated that the application was provided for everyone to review. She noted that the application was similar to the last one the committee submitted but only had a few changes. She noted that Valley Metro submitted a request for funding. ***Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District (HCCRD) made a motion to approve the JARC Application as presented. The City of Alamo seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

5) Discussion and Approval of FY2012-13 UPWP Amendment #1

- Mrs. Linda de la Fuente stated that FY2012-13 UPWP Amendment #1 was provided for everyone to review. She noted that the amendment is due the obligation of the remaining carry-over the HCMPO has available in the amount of \$311,507. Such carry-over will be utilized in FY2013 to hire a consultant to assist the HCMPO in demographic data analysis and model validation to utilize in future base and forecast models. As well, funds related to staff time is being adjusted between subtasks based on the progress of such subtasks in preparation for the FY2012 Annual Performance and Expenditure Report. The amendment also includes an FTA 5307 planning grant that Valley Metro received in the amount of \$67,973 which will be utilized in conjunction with TxDOT funds to contract TTI to develop a service assessment study for Valley Metro. She noted that a breakdown of funding was provided in the packets for review. ***The City of Mercedes made a motion to approve the JARC Application as presented. The Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District (HCCRD) seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

6) Discussion of HCMPO Staff Travel to AMPO Conference

- Mr. Andrew Canon stated that he will be attending the AMPO Conference this year in Saratoga Springs, New York in September 11-14th. He advised the members that the information and agenda was in the packet for their review. He stated that he will submit his request to the Policy Board for final approval. ***Reports only, no action taken at this time.***

7) Discussion of "No Truck in Left Lane" Resolution

- Mr. Canon stated that the HCMPO received a letter from TxDOT requesting assistance for the "No Truck in Left Lane". Mr. Homer Bazan stated that TxDOT is in the process of gathering information to provide to all of the cities. He stated that TxDOT will be contacting the cities for assistance with passing a resolution of support and implementation of the "No Truck in Left Lane". Mr. Canon stated that once staff received the information we would pass it along to the cities for review. Mr. Bazan stated that TxDOT will also be scheduling several Public Meetings in different location. ***Reports only, no action taken at this time.***

8) Discussion of Thoroughfare Plan

- Mr. Canon stated that Mr. Joe Pena, Hidalgo County, was present and had some questions regarding the Thoroughfare Map. Mr. Canon stated that Mr. Pena had questions regarding the La Joya Relief Route Project. After further discussion, Mr. Pena was advised to meet with city representatives to provide the information he is requesting or had questions on. ***Reports only, no action taken at this time.***

9) Discussion on Edinburg Down Town Study

- Mr. Canon stated that only minor changes were made to the Edinburg Down Town Study. He stated that the study will be presented for approval at the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court Meeting and City of Edinburg Commission for approval. He noted that the information was provided for everyone to review. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

10) Discussion of Transportation Re-Authorization

- Mr. Canon briefly discussed the Transportation Re-Authorization but stated that this item will be brought back next month for discussion.

11) Discussion of Bike Plan

- Mr. Canon stated that the Bike Plan was provided for everyone to review. He noted that this item is currently going through a 30-day Public Involvement. He noted that staff will be scheduling meetings with the cities for assistance to implement the Bike Plan. He advised the members that the Final Bike Plan will be brought back for final approval next month. He noted that the HCMPO will be having several Public Meetings in different locations. He noted that staff will be sending out information to all the entities. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

12) Monthly Letting Report

- Mr. Homer Bazan, TxDOT, gave a brief update.

13) Status Reports

A. Calendar: August and September 2012

- Mr. Canon stated that the calendar was provided for everyone to review. He stated that the HCMPO will have several Public Meetings on the Bike Plan at City of Mission City Hall on Thursday, July 12th from 5-7pm and Thursday, July 19th at the HCMPO Office from 3-5pm and Thursday, August 2nd at the Dustin Michael Sekula Library from 5-7pm. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

B. Legislative / RTAP Update

- No updates were given at this time.

C. HCMPO Budget Report

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

14) HCRMA Update

No updates were given at this time.

15) Valley Metro

- Mr. Luis Guajardo gave a brief update on Metro.

16) Metro

- No updates were given at this time.

17) Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District

- Mr. Jim Edge gave a brief update.

18) Old or New Business

- No updates were given at this time.

19) Adjournment

- **Hidalgo County made a motion to adjourn at 2:38 pm. The City of Weslaco seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**