

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes  
October 18, 2012

**TAB I ROLL CALL**

Chairwomen Diana Martinez called the meeting to order at 5:32 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, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, McAllen, Mission, Palmhurst, Penitas, TxDOT, HCRMA and Valley Metro.

**TAB II CITIZEN INPUT**

- None at this time.

**TAB III PRESENTATION / ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A) Adoption of Minutes from:

- September 20, 2012

Chairwomen Diana Martinez asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. *The City of Alton made a motion to approve the minutes: September 20, 2012 as presented. The City of Penitas seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

B) Discussion and Approval of HCMPO Planning Contract

- Mr. Andrew Canon stated the contract was provided for everyone to review. He noted that this contract has changes in language but still reads the same as the previous contract. Mr. Canon briefly discussed the changes made. *Hidalgo County made a motion to approve the HCMPO Contract as presented. The City of Penitas seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

C) Discussion and Approval of FY2013-2016 TIP Amendment #2/MTP Amendment #9

- Mrs. Linda de la Fuente stated that the FY2013-16 TIP Amendment #2 and MTP Amendment #9 attachments were provided for everyone to review. Mrs. De la Fuente briefly discussed what changes were needed to be made. *The City of Edinburg made a motion to approve the FY2013-2016 TIP Amendment #2 and MTP Amendment #9 as presented. The HCRMA seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

D) Discussion and Approval of "No Truck in Left Lane" Resolution

- Mr. Canon stated that a poll was conducted that found the Resolution to be minimally invasive to truck drivers. The Resolution would move trucks and slow moving vehicles to the right lanes and would free up the left lane for passing only. *The HCRMA made a motion to approve the "No Truck in Left Lane" Resolution as presented. The City of Peñitas seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

E) Discussion and Approval of CAT 7 Resolution

- Mr. Canon stated that the Resolution was provided for everyone to review. He noted that the Texas Transportation Commission meetings may not always coincide with TPC meetings. The Resolution allows TxDOT to move forward with seeking approval of Cost-Overruns based on specific formulas listed. *Hidalgo County made a motion to approve the CAT 7 Resolution as presented. The City of McAllen seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

F) Discussion and Approval of Transportation Enhancement Program Call

- Mr. Canon stated that a total of 5 projects were submitted to the MPO for the Transportation Enhancement Program Call. He noted that 4 projects came from the City of McAllen and 1 came from the City of Edinburg. Mr. Canon stated that each project will need letters of support from the MPO Policy Committee. He noted that the HCMPO apportionment totaled to \$1,375,100. *The City of Alton made a motion to approve the template for letters of support for projects submitted under the Transportation Enhancement Program Call as presented. Hidalgo County seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

**G) Discussion of Legislative Sub-Committee**

- Mr. Canon stated that a legislative sub-committee will be assembled. He noted that a legislative agenda will be put together with the designation of members. *Reports only, no action taken at this time.*

**H) Monthly Letting Update**

- Mr. Mario Jorge, TxDOT, gave a brief update and he also provided a handout. *Reports only, no action taken at this time.*

**TAB IV STATUS REPORTS**

**A. Calendar: November & December 2012**

- Mr. Canon stated that the calendars were provided for everyone to review. He noted that the Border Conference will take place from November 13 to November 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Canon stated that Secretary of State Esperanza "Hope" Andrade and Representative Sergio Muñoz, Jr. will be keynote speakers. He noted that the next policy meeting will be held December 13, 2012.

**B. Legislative/ RTAP Update**

- No reports were given at this time.

**C. HCMPO Budget Report**

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

**D. HCMPO Project Update**

- Mr. Mario Jorge, TxDOT gave a brief update on certain projects.

**E. Director's Update**

**Discussion and Approval of Out of State Travel**

- Mr. Canon stated that the Resolution was provided for everyone to review. He noted that the Cameron County RMA was requesting a Resolution of support for the SPI 2<sup>nd</sup> Access Project. Mr. Canon stated that as the project develops we will more information. Mr. Canon stated that the Travel was provided for everyone to review. He noted that *The City of Mission made a motion to approve the Out of State Travel. The City of Peñitas seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

**TAB V OFF SYSTEM REPORT**

- No reports were given at this time.

**TAB VI TXDOT CONSTRUCTION REPORT**

- Mr. Valente Olivarez, Jr., P.E., gave a brief update.

**TAB VII HCRMA REPORT**

- Mr. Pilar Rodriguez gave a brief update

**TAB VIII HIDALGO COUNTY COMMUTER RAIL DISTRICT**

- None 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**

- Mr. Mario Jorge, TxDOT stated that TxDOT, the City of McAllen, and Hidalgo County Pct. 4 will be partnering within the next month of December to move the Ware Road project forward. The portion from Mile 3 to Mile 5 will be added.

**TAB XII ADJOURNMENT**

- *The City of McAllen made a motion to adjournment at 6:35 pm. The City of Edinburg seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*