

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization (HCMPO)
 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
 October 15, 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, Edcouch, Edinburg, Elsa, Granjeno, Hidalgo County, La Villa, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Palmhurst, Penitas, Pharr, San Juan, Sullivan, TxDOT, Weslaco, Hidalgo County RMA and Valley Metro. Ex-Offio Members Present: Rio Grande Valley Partnership

TAB II CITIZEN INPUT

- None at this time.

TAB III PRESENTATION / ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A) Adoption of Minutes from:

➤ **September 17, 2015**

Chairman Norberto Salinas asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of September 17, 2015. **No corrections were noted to the minutes of September 17, 2015; Hidalgo County made a motion to approve the minutes of September 17, 2015 as presented by staff. The City of San Juan 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 Winter 2015 CMP To Enter Into Negotiation with Consultant

- Linda de la Fuente stated that a RFP for the Winter 2015 CMP proposal was reviewed at a Special TAC Meeting held October 6, 2015. A scoring sheet was provided to all TAC members present to score the technical proposals. All timelines have been met and the contract begins December 21, 2015. TAC members are recommending to the Policy Committee to award the proposal to Copeland as the selected consultant. **After some discussion on this item; City of Palmhurst made a motion to approve and award the RFP to Copeland for the "Winter 2015 CMP", as recommended by the TAC Committee and staff. The motion was seconded by Hidalgo County and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

D) Discussion and Action on the MTP, Highway and Transit TIP Amendments

- Andrew Canon stated staff is seeking approval on the MTP, Highway and Transit TIP Amendments as presented and provided a handout to members present for their review. The revised Summary of Changes for November 1st STIP Report is filed with packet. Staff concluded by letting members present know, that there is still \$1million available from last years' CMP, to be carried over to the next year. TxDOT will get a final timeline, once the MTP Highway /Transit are approved and these funds (\$1million) will apply only to on-systems projects through TxDOT. **After some discussion on this item, Hidalgo County made a motion to approve the MTP, Highway Amendments as recommended by the TAC Committee and staff. The motion was seconded by HCRMA; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

E.) Discussion and Action of Transit Program of Projects FY 2016

- Maria Champion noted that some project did not lett for FY2015 and Transit Providers are amending their Program of Projects for FY 2016, hand out was provided to members present. **After some discussion on this item; Hidalgo County made a motion to approve the Transit Program 2016 as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by the City of San Juan; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

F) Discussion and Action on the Resolution Supporting an Amendment to the Functional Re-Classification

- Andrew Canon provided a memo from TxDOT that was submitted for revisions (Maps were provided) to the Functional Classification of roadways in Hidalgo County, located in the Pharr District for review and approval as follows:

ROADWAY	FROM	TO	LENGTH	EXISTING FC	PROPOSED FC
Davis Rd	Doolittle Rd	Brush Line Rd	2.72 Mile	Urban Local	Urban Major Collector
Alamo Rd	FM 1925	Davis Rd	1.50 Mile	Urban Local	Urban Minor Collector
Sharp Rd	FM 1925	Mile 19 Rd	1.1 Mile	Urban Local	Urban Minor Collector
Mile 19 Rd	Brush Line Rd	Sharp Rd	0.3 Mile	Urban Local	Urban Minor Collector

Staff concluded and stated that TxDOT is requesting that a conference call be conducted with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) over these projects. **After some discussion on this item, Hidalgo County made a motion to approve the Resolution Supporting the Amendment to the Functional Re-Classification as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by the City of Mercedes; and upon a voted, the motion carried unanimously.**

G) Discussion and Action on Staff Out of Town Travel–TRB Conference – Washington- Jan. 2016

- Andrew Canon noted that he is seeking authorization from the Policy Board for staff to attend an Out of Town Meeting (Annual TRB Conference) scheduled for January 10-14, 2016 in Washington, D.C. The TPC has approved this trip as part of the 2016-2017 UPWP under Task 1.5. This annual conference will assist staff in attaining a wide variety of transportation planning workshops in one conference. The TRB Annual Meeting Program covers transportation modes, with more than 4,000 presentations in nearly 650 sessions and workshops. **No discussion took place on this request; Hidalgo County made a motion to approve for Staff to attend the TRB Conference in Washington, January 10-14, 2016 as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by TxDOT; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

H) Discussion on TAC / TPC Meetings for November and December 2015

- Andrew Canon noted that staff is recommending for the TAC Committee to meet on November 17, 2015 vs, November 3rd and cancel the meeting in December 1, 2015. Staff is also proposing for the Policy Committee to combine both November and December meetings and meet for the last time for FY 2015 on December 17th. Policy members present were in consensus with staff recommendations regarding the TAC and Policy meetings to be held in November and December as presented. One of the items for up for discussion is the Transportation Directors' evaluation. Hidalgo County also noted that he would like for the Policy Members to consider looking into a contact for Mr. Canon in the near future. **Presentation only, no action taken.**

I) MPO Merger Committee Meeting – Update

- Vice Chair San Juanita Sanchez provided a summary of the MPO Merger Meeting that took place September 29, 2015. Vice Chairman San Juanita informed members present that at the last MPO Merger meeting, briefing examples of how policy board voting membership are addressed by the four largest metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) in Texas (Dallas-Forth Worth, Houston, San Antonio and Austin) and the three existing MPOs in the Rio Grande Valle (Brownsville, Harlingen-San Benito, and Hidalgo County). Included in the discussion were tables with information about member cities, membership clusters, and their populations (**Hand-outs were provided to members present**). Other agencies with voting members were detailed in the text. The four largest MPO policy boards are consistently comprised of elected officials from member cities and counties, as well as representatives from TxDOT, transit agencies, ports and rail authorities (depending on which agencies exist in each MPO). They do not have voting members from chambers of commerce, economic development agencies, and other similar organizations. After some discussion on this item, Policy members requested to have TTI Representative make a presentation to the Policy Board in the near future regarding the pros and cons of merging with Brownsville and Harlingen—San Benito. **Presentation only, no action taken**

J. Monthly Letting Update

- Toribio Garza, P.E., TxDOT provided the Monthly Letting Report to members present. The Monthly Letting Report is filed with the October 2015 agenda packet. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**
- HB 20 – **Initial Report – Hand out was provided to members present for their review.**

TAB IV STAFF REPORTS

A) Directors Update

➤ **Calendars Report**

Month of November 2015:

- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for November 5, 2015 and November 30, 2015
- TAC Meeting – Re -scheduled for November 17,
- TPC Meeting – Canceled for November 2015
- Veterans Holiday – November 11, 2015 – Office Closed
- Thanksgiving Holidays – November 26 & 27, 2015 – Office Closed

➤ **Month of December 2015:**

- BPAC Meeting – Cancelled
- TAC Meeting – Cancelled
- TPC Meeting – Re-scheduled for December 17, 2015
- Christmas Holidays – Scheduled for December 24 & 25 2015

➤ **Legislative Update 7/015:**

- Staff provided a hand-out on the current Legislative Updates to members present. No discussion took place on this item.
- HB-20 – Andrew Canon has been recommended by Ashby Johnson, Executive Director to serve on the HB Committee.

B) HCMPO Budget Report

- Linda De La Fuente briefly went through the Annual Performance & Expenditure Report (APER) and noted that Budget is (95.83%) and 20% below the balance budget.

TAB V TXDOT CONSTRUCTION REPORT

- TxDOT gave an update and provided a report of completed and pending projects (Hand out part of the packet)

TAB VI HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY (HCRMA)

- Secretary Randy Sweeten reported that US 281/Military Highway Overpass/BSIF Connector Project is moving forward as plan. Ground breaking is scheduled for next year on this project and invites will be sent out to Policy members. **Report filed in TPC Packet.**

TAB VII VALLEY METRO

- Reports was given and filed in TPC Packet.

TAB VIII METRO

- No reports were given at this time.

TAB IX OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

- MTP Project Selection Criteria – Staff provided hand-out to members present for informational purposes only.

TAB X ADJOURNMENT

- ***No other items were discussed; the City of San Juan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 pm. The City of Mercedes seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

ATTEST:

Transportation Policy Committee (TPC)
Secretary