

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization
(HCMPO)
Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2016

ROLL CALL

- Chairperson San Juanita Sanchez 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, Hidalgo County, La Villa, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Palmhurst, Penitas, Pharr, San Juan, Sullivan, TxDOT, Hidalgo County RMA and Valley Metro. Ex-Officio Members Present: Metro

TAB II CITIZEN INPUT

- None at this time.

TAB III PRESENTATION / ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A) Adoption of Minutes from:

➤ **October 20, 2016**

Chairperson San Juanita Sanchez asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of October 20, 2016. **No corrections were noted to the minutes of October 20, 2016; City of Palmhurst made a motion to approve the minutes of October 20, 2016, as presented by staff. The City of Pharr seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

B) Discussion and Action on the Cost Over-Run / Monthly Letting Project(s) (If Needed) (TxDOT)

- Toribio Garza, TxDOT, provided the Monthly Letting Report to members present and noted that projects are moving forward as expected. Monthly Letting Report is filed with the December 2016 agenda packet. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

C) Discussion and Action on MPO Re-Designation Resolution

- Andrew Canon provided to Policy Members present the Proposed MPO Re-Designation Resolution for approval, after much discussion on this item regarding Category 2 Funds, **the City of Mission made a motion to Amend the MPO Re-Designation Resolution and include verbiage, that Category 2 funds be used for on and off system projects as approved by the new RGV MPO Policy Board in consultation with TXDOT. The City of Mercedes seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

D) Discussion and Action on Incorporation of Individual RGV Cities Model #2

- TxDOT presented the following Model to Policy Members present, after much discussion amongst the Policy members, on this Model, **the City of McAllen made the motion to move forward with the recommended changes in Red to the RGV Cities Model 2. Hidalgo County seconded the motion. City of McAllen abstained. Motion passed.**

Model 2 – All incorporated cities are individually represented on the Policy Board (cities below 50,000 population have varying seats or votes)

- Cities with populations below 5,000 have 1 vote each (15 members)
 - Penitas (4,403)
 - Primera (4,070)
 - Sullivan (4,002)
 - La Joya (3,985)
 - Edcouch (3,161)
 - Combes (2,895)
 - Santa Rosa (2,873)
 - Palmhurst (2,607)
 - Rancho Viejo (2,437)
 - Rio Hondo (2,356)
 - La Villa (1,957)
 - Palm Valley (1,304)
 - Los Indios (1,083)
 - Granjeno (293)
 - Progreso Lakes (240)
- Cities with populations of 5,000 –24,999 have 3 votes each (11 members)
 - San Benito (24,250)
 - Alamo (18,353)
 - Donna (15,798)
 - Mercedes (15,570)
 - Alton (12,341)
 - Hidalgo (11,198)
 - La Feria (7,302)
 - Elsa (5,660)
 - Los Fresnos (5,542)
 - Progreso (5,507)
 - Palmview (5,460)

- Cities with populations of 25,000 – 49,999 have 4 votes each (2 members)
 - Weslaco (35,670)
 - San Juan (33,856)
- Cities with populations of 50,000 – 99,999 have 5 votes each (4 members)
 - Edinburg (77,100)
 - Mission (77,058)
 - Pharr (70,400)
 - Harlingen (64,849)
- Cities and Counties with populations of 100,000 and greater have 6 votes each (3 members)
 - Brownsville (175,023)
 - McAllen (129,877)
 - Cameron County (136,486)
- Cities and Counties with populations of 200,000 and greater have 7 votes each (1 member)
 - Hidalgo County (240,273)
- All other agencies have 1 vote (6 members)
 - TxDOT Pharr District
 - Valley METRO
 - Port of Brownsville (Brownsville Navigation District)
 - Region One Education Service Center
 - Cameron County RMA
 - Hidalgo County RMA

TOTAL MEMBERS = 42

TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES = 107

E) Discussion and Action on Staff Out of Town Travel – Washington, DC – February 2017

- Andrew Canon noted that Staff Out of Town Travel to Washington, DC for February 2017, was not submitted on time, therefore; no discussion or action will be taken on this item.

F) Discussion on Proposed MPO Merger Bylaws

- Andrew Canon noted that the Proposed MPO Merger Bylaws are being presented to the Policy members again for their review and for any further discussion. These Bylaws will be presented in January 2017 for final approval. City of Pharr noted that, as discussed before the Bylaws should include (four positions) under the Officers Section, a Chairperson, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer from opposite counties and that they be alternating positions. City of Mission asked for clarification regarding projects currently on the UTP. TxDOT noted that those projects currently on the UTP, will be honored and remain in the 10 year plan and funded as per the UTP. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

G) Discussion Regarding Regional Linear Park Project

- Andrew Canon handed out a letter to Policy Members present from Hidalgo County Precinct 2, regarding the Regional Linear Park Project – Funding Redistribution from S. San Antonio Avenue to South 2nd Street. Commissioner Eddie Cantu reminded Policy Members present that the Hidalgo County Precinct 2 is fully committed toward the construction of this important public works project, and in order to proceed, Precinct 2 is respectfully requesting that the redistribution of allocated funds be as follows.

	CURRENT DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS	PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS
PHASE I	CAT 9 (TAP) = \$1,450,000	CAT 9 (TAP) = \$2,250,000
PHASE II	CAT 9 (TAP) = \$4,150,000 CAT 7 = \$840,000	CAT 9 (TAP) = \$3,350,000 CAT 7 = \$840,000
TOTAL	\$6,440,000	\$6,440,000

Commission Eddie Cantu concluded by letting Policy Members know that since the county have received the bids, the amended AFA will be based on actual numbers not just estimates. However, no additional funds are being requested, only a redistribution of the currently authorized funds between Phase I & Phase II of the project. **Report only, no action taken.**

H) Discussion On the Public Participation Plan – Update

- Linda De La Fuente provided a brief presentation on the Public Participation Plan and noted that as per TAC Members request, a Public Hearing will be held prior the next TAC meeting in January 2017. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

I) Discussion on Thoroughfare Plan – Amendment Deadline (December 16, 2016)

- Luis Diaz reminded Policy Members present the deadline to submit any Amendments is scheduled for December 16, 2016 and to this date no entities have submitted any Amendments. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

J) Discussion on TAP Process for New 2017-2018 Projects Call – Update

- Jon Ray Bocanegra gave an update, noted that November 7, 2016 was the first day to receive TAP Applications and the deadline is on February 10, 2017, to receive projects for consideration for funding. So far, no applications have been received. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

IV. TAB IV STAFF REPORTS

A. Calendars 2016:

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

Month of December 2016:

- B BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for December, will be held November 30, 2016
- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for December 1, 2016 at 10:00 AM
- TPC Meeting – Re-scheduled for December 8, 2016
- HCMPO Office will be Closed for the Christmas Holiday – December 23-26, 2016
- HCMPO Office will be Closed for the New Year's Holiday – January 2, 2017

Month of January 2017:

- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for January 4, 2017 at 10:00 AM
- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for January 5, 2017 at 10:00 AM
- TPC Meeting – Scheduled for January 19, 2016 at 5:30 PM
- HCMPO Office Closed for Martin Luther King – January 16, 2017

1. Director' Updates

- HCMPO Staff (Andrew, Fernando, and Miguel) to attend TRB Conference – Washington – January 7-13, 2017
- CAT #2 – Conference Call was held with the Big 6 Cities, still moving forward with discussion regarding amount of funding / percentage these cities will be eligible for, more information will be provided as discussions are held.

A) 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 Policy Packet**

TAB V TXDOT CONSTRUCTION REPORT

- Juan Sustita with TxDOT gave an update and provided a report of all completed and pending projects for the month of December 2016. **(Report part of the packet)**

TAB VI HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY (HCRMA)

- Ramon Navarro gave brief update on their ongoing projects. Every project continues to be on target.

TAB VII. VALLEY METRO

- Gabriel Zuniga reported that there continues to be an increase in Ridership. **(Report part of the packet)**

VIII METRO

- Sandra Martinez reported that there continues to be an increase in Ridership. **(Report part of the Packet)**

TAB IX OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

- TxDOT noted that two Public Hearings are scheduled as follows:
 - 1) Thursday, Dec. 15, 2016, at Sharyland Pioneer High School. Open House Period: 5:00 to 6:00 to discuss FM 494 (Shary Road), between SH 107 and FM 1924 (Mile 3 Road)
 - 2) Tuesday, January 3, 2017, at Donna North High School. Open House: 2 p.m. - 7 p.m. Currently, the SH 68 project is described in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) as a four-lane divided rural highway facility with future main lanes and overpasses in eastern Hidalgo County from US 83/I-2 to US 281/I-69C. The facility described in the MTP and STIP has a total project length of approximately 22 miles.

TAB X ADJOURNMENT

- **No other items were discussed; the City of Mercedes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 pm. City of La Pharr seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

ATTEST:
Transportation Policy
Committee (TPC) Secretary

PROXY
PEER
CASO