

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2012

TAB I ROLL CALL

- Chairwomen Diana Martinez called the meeting to order at 5:36 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, Edcouch, Edinburg, Hidalgo, Hidalgo County, McAllen, Mission, Penitas, Pharr, San Juan, TxDOT and Valley Metro.

TAB II CITIZEN INPUT

- Chairwomen Diana Martinez recognized: Mr. Albert Juliano, Mr. Dennis Heidick and Mrs. Shawn Seale.

TAB III PRESENTATION / ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A) Adoption of Minutes from:

- January 19, 2012

Chairwomen Diana Martinez asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. *TxDOT made a motion to approve both minutes: January 19, 2012 as presented. The City of Edcouch seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

B) Discussion and Approval of Thoroughfare Plan Map

- Mr. Andrew Canon stated that a map was provided for everyone to review. He stated that staff received some updates from several entities. He noted that they have been implemented on the map. Mr. Canon advised the members that the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) have reviewed and approved the updated map. He stated that if anyone had another update that it will be implemented on the next update later on this year. Mr. Canon stated that the Map presented will also be presented at the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court Meeting for Adoption. *The City of Edcouch made a motion to approve the Thoroughfare Plan Map as presented. The City of Hidalgo seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

C) Discussion and Approval of Functional Class Revision

Mr. Canon stated that a map was provided for everyone to review. He noted that the TAC members have reviewed and approved the map as presented. *The City of Mission made a motion to approve the Functional Class Revision as presented. The City of Penitas seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

D) Discussion and Approval of Entering into Contract with Aldana Engineering

- Mrs. Linda de la Fuente briefly went through the contract. She stated that staff met with the LRGVDC Procurement and Albert Aldana to go through the negotiations. Mr. Canon stated that the TAC members reviewed the Contract and approved it. *The City of Hidalgo made a motion to approve to Enter into Contract with Albert Aldana Engineering. The City of Penitas seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

E) Discussion and Approval of JARC and New Freedom Application

- Ms. Amanda Hernandez stated that the entire application was provided for everyone to review. She stated that the TAC members have reviewed the application and approved it as presented. She noted that there were only minor changes from the last one. Ms. Hernandez stated that the application is current with the transit plan. She advised the members that the application will need final approval at the June Policy Meeting. *Hidalgo County made a motion to approve the JARC and New Freedom Application as presented. The City of Mission seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

F) Discussion and Approval of HCCRD Resolution of Support for Feasibility Study

- Mr. Canon stated that the HCCRD is requesting a Resolution of Support for the Feasibility Study. He noted that Mr. Jim Edge gave a brief presentation to the TAC members. He noted that resolution was provided for everyone to review. *Valley Metro made a motion to approve the Resolution of Support for the Feasibility Study as presented. Hidalgo County seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

G) Discussion and Approval of HCMPO Out of Town Travel for the AMPO Meeting

- Mr. Canon stated that the travel paperwork and agenda were provided for everyone to review. He stated that Amanda Hernandez and he were the only two planning to attend. Mr. Canon stated that this year the meeting will be in Baltimore, MD. *The City of Mission made a motion to approve the HCMPO Out of Town Travel for the AMPO Meeting in Baltimore, MD as presented. Hidalgo County seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

H) Discussion and Approval of MTP/TIP Amendments

- Mr. Canon stated that several entities submitted in a couple of projects for review. He advised the members that all of the information was provided for everyone to review. Mr. Canon stated that staff will be attending the UTP meeting this month. Mr. Mario Jorge, TxDOT, stated that some of the projects listed in the MTP/TIP will need to be moved back if they are not ready. Mr. Jorge stated that an updated listed with projects that are ready will be presented to the TAC members at next month's meeting. Mr. Canon stated that this item will need to be brought back next month for final approval. *Reports only, no action taken at this time.*

I) 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: March & April 2012

- Mr. Canon stated that the calendars were provided for everyone to review. Mr. Canon stated that the 2nd Annual Walk n Rolla event went very well and thanked The City of Edinburg for all of their assistance. Mrs. Maria Champine briefly reminded everyone regarding the Border-to-Border conference taking place in November 2012 at South Padre Island.

B. Legislative/ RTAP Update

- Ms. Amanda Hernandez gave a brief update on the Legislative/ RTAP.

C. HCMPO Budget Report

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

TAB V OFF SYSTEM REPORT

- No reports were given at this time.

TAB VI TXDOT CONSTRUCTION REPORT

- Mr. Valente Olivarez gave a brief update.

TAB VII HCRMA REPORT

- Mr. Louis Jones 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

- None at this time.

TAB XII ADJOURNMENT

- *The City of Pharr made a motion to adjournment at 6:23 pm. The City of Hidalgo seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*