

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization (HCMPO)
Transportation Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
June 23, 2016

TAB I ROLL CALL

- Vice Chairman Ambrosio Hernandez noted at Chairperson San Juanita Sanchez was out of town; and therefore he would be conducting the Policy Meeting. Vice Chairman Hernandez 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, City of Hidalgo, La Villa, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Palmhurst, Palmview, Penitas, Pharr, San Juan, Sullivan, TxDOT, Weslaco, Hidalgo County RMA ,and Valley Metro. Ex-Offio Members Present: McAllen Economic Development

TAB II CITIZEN INPUT

- None at this time.

TAB III PRESENTATION / ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A) Adoption of Minutes from:

➤ **May 19, 2016 and June 9, 2016 (TPC Workshop)**

Vice Chairman Ambrosio Hernandez asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of May 19, 2016 and June 9, 2016. ***No corrections were noted to the minutes of May 19, 2016 and June 9, 2016; City of Palmview made a motion to approve the minutes of May 19, 2016 and June 9, 2016, as presented by staff. The City of McAllen 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)

- Hector Gonzalez, Jr. with TxDOT provided the Monthly Letting Report to members present and noted that projects are moving forward as expected. One project that was address was the Rehabilitate Continuous Highway Illumination to let in August 2016; TxDOT noted that signatures from each Mayor on the "Title Sheets", will be required and TxDOT is hoping to expedite that request right after the Policy Meeting. The Monthly Letting Report is filed with the June 2016 agenda packet. ***Report only, no action taken at this time.***

C) Discussion and Action of Additional Projects to be selected for Proposition 1, Proposition 7, and Category 7 UTP Funding that is still available

- Mr. Canon noted that as discussed and as per the consensus by the members that attended the Policy Workshop on June 9, 2016, staff has provided a spreadsheet of projects that were recommended for Proposition 1, Proposition 7 and Category 7 as listed below; along with several letters received from other cities since the workshop; requesting some alternatives to the spreadsheet :

- 2018 – SH 107 from FM 495 to FM 676 was a duplicate from 2025 and was removed and replaced with SH 107 from US 281 to FM 493 from 2020 with same \$5.6M Prop 7 and Category 7 funding
- 2019 – Hi Line East from Cage to Veterans was added for \$4,523,551 in Category 7
- 2020 – In place of SH 107 from US 281 to FM 493 moved to 2018, FM 2220 from SH 107 to FM 1925 was added with same \$8M in Prop 7
- 2020 – FM 1925 from 10th St to Wallace received additional \$3M in Prop 7
- 2020 – Hi Line West from Cage to Jackson was added for \$5,860,000 in Category 7
- 2021 – Anaya East from Cage to Veterans was added for \$5,930,000 in Category 7
- 2021 – Inspiration from Military Hwy to Madero Bridge was added for \$9,000,000 in Category 7
- 2021 – Dicker Rd from 23rd St to Jackson Rd was added for \$2,500,000 in Category 7
- 2021 – Mile 3 N from Tom Gill to FM 492 was added for \$500,000 in Category 7
- 2023 – Moore Rd was replaced by Cesar Chavez from Bus 83 to Ridge Rd for \$7.6M in Category 7
- 2026 – US 83/2nd St Overpass received additional \$7M in Prop 7 and was moved from 2023 to 2026
- 2026 – SH 107 from Ware Rd to FM 681 was added for \$15M in Prop 1

- At this time Vice Chairman Ambrosio Hernandez and Policy Members went into discussion regarding the above projects:

- Commissioner Joseph Palacios noted that he had several changes as follows:

- 2018 - Cesar Chavez from Nolana to Owassa – \$800,000 in Category 7 for ROW
- 2018 - Owassa from I Rd to Cesar Chavez – \$800,000 in Category 7 for ROW
- 2018 - Nolana from FM 907 to FM 88 – \$3,500,000 in Category 7 for ROW

- City of McAllen for the record noted that she would have to vote against (Mile 5 proposition); due to not having any discussion with the Mayor or City Manager for projects in McAllen.

- Vice Chairman Ambrosio Hernandez noted that he also had a request, and that was to remove the funding for the- Regional Hike and Bike – only for the City of Pharr, due to non-compliance with the Linear Regional Project with the county. City of Pharr will be utilizing these funding towards city sidewalks. Vice Chairman Hernandez also noted that the City of San Juan would not be requesting any funding for their projects at this time.

- City of Mission requested to keep Madero Int'l Bridge Connector funding for \$9,000,000 in Category 7.

- City of Edcouch is requesting that FM 1925 from FM 88 to FM 491 to remain in place. Staff noted that FM 1925 from FM 88 to FM 491 was moved from 2031 to 2022 and will be allocated \$15,000,000 in Proposition 7 for construction instead of TRENDS, and \$5,000,000 in 2019 in Proposition 7 for ROW.

After much discussion on this item; the City of Mercedes made a motion to approve the "Additional Projects to be selected for Proposition 1, Proposition 7 and Category 7 on UTP Funding that is still available, to include any additional projects and removal of projects as discussed. HCRMA seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

D) Discussion and Action to Support Resolution for SH 68

➤ Staff noted that TxDOT is asking for local cities to consider placing Resolution SH 68, on their agenda for support and approval. The SH 68 project is to: Improve north/south mobility; Increase travel capacity for local and regional traffic; and provide an alternate north-south evacuation route during emergency events. *After some discussion on this item, City of Alton made a motion to Support Resolution for SH 68, as presented by TxDOT. The motion was seconded by the City of Mercedes; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

E) Discussion and Action on the 2016 Program of Projects Amendment

➤ Maria Champine noted that the 2016 Program of Projects Amendment will only affect Valley Transit for FY2015 and hand-outs were provided to Policy members present for review. Program Projects for 2015 are already in the TIP for both McAllen and Valley Metro. **No discussion took place on this item; TxDOT made a motion to approve the 2016 Program of Projects Amendment, as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by the City of Mercedes; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

F) Discussion and Action on the 2017 Program of Projects

➤ Maria Champine went over and provided hand-outs of the 2017 Program of Projects Amendment to Policy members present and noted that this is the first time this will be submitted to FTA. *After some discussion on this item, City of McAllen made a motion to approve the 2017 Program of Projects, as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by Hidalgo County; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

G) Discussion and Action on the Pedestrian Plan Project

➤ Jon Bocanegra presented to Policy Members the Pedestrian Plan and discussed the outreach process and covered some safety and updated maps for Businesses, Schools and sidewalk inventory that was part of the Public Involvement. Staff concluded by providing each Policy Member with a hard copy of the Pedestrian Plan for final approval. *After some discussion on this item, the City of Villa made a motion to approve the Pedestrian Plan as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by the City Of Mission; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

H. Discussion on the CoPLAN on Winter 2016 CMP Draft Report - Update (Steve Taylor)

➤ Andrew Canon noted that Mr. Steve Taylor would be providing a final update on the Winter 2016 CMP Report. Steve Taylor provided to members present a presentation of the CoPlan Winter 2016 CMP Draft Report and noted that the results of this report when compared to previous study year roadways indicate higher levels of congestion, particularly when compared to respective seasons. Possible reasons for this include continued population growth and issues with signal timing and coordination. For those corridors that have been part of past signal timing improvements, the typical life before needing updates is 3 years, depending on volume changes and growth. In some cases, construction is completed and signal optimization is needed to maximize the efficiency of the new improvements. After some discussion on this item, Staff noted that this item would be presented to both the TAC and Policy members at their next meetings scheduled in July 2016, as an "Action Item". **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

I. Discussion and Review of Previous TAP Process for New 2017-2018 Project Call (MPO Staff)

Jon Ray Bocanegra noted that it was that time of the year again to update the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Scoring Criteria for each category. The Scoring Criteria form once finalized will be used during the selection process of projects submitted by cities. Available funding for FY 2017 is **\$2.54 Million**, with 100% of funding to go toward construction; BPAC will evaluate and score each project. The Average Scores will be presented to TAC for their review. TAC will present proposed project selections and awards to TPC. TPC has final approval of all projects and funding. Staff concluded by providing to Policy members a presentation and hand-out for 2017-2018 Project Call TAP Process. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

TAB IV STAFF REPORTS

A) Calendars Report

Month of July 2016:

- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for July 6, 2016
- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for July 7, 2016 at 10:00 AM
- TPC Meeting – Scheduled for July 21, 2016

Month of August 2016:

- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for August 2, 2016
- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for August 4, 2016 at 10:00 AM
- TPC Meeting – Scheduled for August 18, 2016

1. Directors' Updates

- 6th Bi-Annual Border to Border Transportation Conference Update - Staff noted that this conference will take place in Yuma, Arizona and staff is seeking sponsors for this event. Conference is scheduled for November 15-17, 2016.
- TxDOT Planning Conference in Houston Update – Staff noted that the TxDOT Planning Conference in Houston was very well attended by other cities and educational.

B) HCMPO Budget Report

➤ Linda De La Fuente gave a brief update on the HCMPO Budget. **(Report part of the Packet)**

TAB V TXDOT CONSTRUCTION REPORT

➤ Rene Garza with TxDOT gave an update and provided a report of all the completed and pending projects for the month of June 2016. **(Report part of the packet)**

TAB VI HIDALGO COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY (HCRMA)

- Pilar Rodriguez, along with Ramon Navarro gave brief update on their ongoing projects.

TAB VII VALLEY METRO

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

TAB VIII METRO

- No one was present to provide a verbal report. **(Report part of the Packet)**

TAB IX OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

- MPO Merger Meeting – Andrew Canon noted that next MPO Merger Meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2016 at 2:30 at the Pharr TxDOT Office.

TAB X ADJOURNMENT

- ***No other items were discussed; the Hidalgo County made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 pm. City of Mercedes seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

ATTEST: _____

Transportation Policy Committee (TPC)

Secretary