

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
July 7, 2015

1) Roll Call

- Chairman Joe Califa called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm. The Technical Advisory Committee Meeting was held at the Hidalgo County MPO Office at 510 South Pleasantview Drive, Weslaco, Texas. Present were representatives from the Cities of: Alton, Donna, Edinburg, Granjeno, Hidalgo County, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, San Juan, TxDOT, Valley Metro, Hidalgo County RMA: Ex-Officio Members Present: Metro and HCCRD.

2) Adoption of Minutes

➤ June 2, 2015

Chairman Joe Califa asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of June 2, 2015. **No corrections were noted to the minutes of June 2, 2015; City of Edinburg made a motion to approve the minutes of June 2, 2015 as presented. The motion was seconded by the Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

3) Cost Over-Run Projects

- None given at this time.

4) Discussion and Action of Amendments to MTP, Highway/Transit TIP(S)

- Linda De La Fuente provided the final Summary of Changes for TIP & MTP – August 1<sup>st</sup> - STIP Revision as follows:

**FY 2015**

- Mile 1 E (PE) – Cost estimates were updated and the ROW phase was removed from FY 2015 and placed in FY 2025 with the construction phase

**FY 2016**

- Edinburg Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan – Added project as part of the 2015-2016 HCMPO TAP Program Call
- Veterans SH 495 Extension (ROW) – CSJ number changed from 0865-01-082 to 0865-01-108

**FY 2017**

- Hidalgo County Precinct #2 Regional Hike & Bike Trail Project – Added project as part of the 2015-2016 HCMPO TAP Program Call

**FY 2025**

- Mile 3 N Phase II – Cat 7 funding in the amount of \$2,030,000 was taken from this project and added to the Liberty Blvd Phase II ROW cost. The funding shortfall was replaced with local funding.
- Liberty Blvd Phase II ROW cost – The ROW for this project was moved up from FY 2031 to FY 2025 and funded with Cat 7 from the Mile 3 N Phase II project, cost estimates were also updated.
- Mile 1 E – Project was moved from the Unfunded projects to FY 2025 using Cat 7 from the FM 493 (La Blanca) project which was pushed to FY 2026 and funded with TRENDS.

**FY 2026**

- FM 493 (La Blanca) – Project was pushed down from FY 2025 to FY 2026 in order to fund the Mile 1 E project. Funding changed from Cat 7 to TRENDS.
- SH 68 Phases II and III – New projects were requested to be included into the MTP by TxDOT, funding for the moment is identified as Other until a specific source of funding is secured.

**FY 2031**

- Liberty Blvd Phase II – The ROW funding was moved up to FY 2025.
- East Eldora Rd Segment I – Limits changed from Raul Longoria to US 281 to Jackson Rd to I Rd by Precinct 2, costs stayed the same.

**FY 2036**

- Cesar Chavez Rd – Category 7 funding was transferred from E Eldora Segment II and Sioux Rd to Cesar Chavez Rd by Precinct 2. Costs were also updated.
- Bicentennial Blvd – City of McAllen requested a swap between the 29<sup>th</sup> St project funded in FY 2036 and Bicentennial Blvd. Cost estimates for Bicentennial were updated utilizing the Cat 7 available from the 29<sup>th</sup> St project and funding the shortfall with local funding.
- Sioux Rd – Category 7 funding was transferred to Cesar Chavez and TRENDS was transferred from Cesar Chavez Rd as requested by Precinct 2. Costs stayed the same.
- E Eldora Rd Segment II – Category 7 funding was transferred to Cesar Chavez Rd and TRENDS funding was transferred from West Eldora Rd by Precinct 2. Costs stayed the same.

**Unfunded**

- 29<sup>th</sup> St – McAllen requested to un-fund this project in order to fund Bicentennial Blvd.
- West Eldora Rd – Project was unfunded and TRENDS funding was transferred to E Eldora Segment II by Precinct 2.

City of Edinburg had a question on the TAP Funding, “is there a time frame where funds need to be spent”. Staff is to look into the time frame and get back with the City of Edinburg.

Staff concluded and stated that there were several Public Involvement Meetings held as follows: 1) June 30, 2015 - HCMPO Conference Room 2) July 1, 2015 - Transit TIP Public Meeting – McAllen Central Station; and 3) July 7, 2015 - Speer Memorial Library, Mission

➤ **Transit Tip Amendments for FY 2015-2018**

Maria Champine provided to members present a Summary of Transit Tip Amendments for FY 2015-2018, only one project was revised for FY 2015, LRGVDC – HCVI—057 – Transit Capital Improvement Program –Edinburg Terminal & Parking Facility – Amendment 7/16/2015 – CAT 5307 –Total Project Cost: \$1,652,955. Also made available to members present were the FY 2015 Transit Project Listings.

*After some discussion on these items; TxDOT made a motion to approve the Amendments to the MTP, Highway/Transit TIP(s) as recommended by staff. The motion was seconded by Hidalgo County and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*

**5) Discussion and Action of Final FY 2016-2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) - DRAFT**

- Linda De La Fuente reported that the FY 2016-2017 UPWP has been presented twice to both the TAC and TPC members for their review and comments prior to final approval and no changes have been done from the last submittal. The FY 2015-2017 UPWP is a two year budget in which the Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization (HCMPO) staff defines the tasks that are to be undertaken to meet the requirements of MAP21, and to provide open, transparent resources for the public on what funds are being expended to meet these requirements. The Budget Summary for FY 2016 total TPF = \$1,384,416.23 and Budget Summary for FY 2017 Total is \$1,060,466.35 and noted that not all PL-112 & FTA 5303 for FY2017 is being obligated due to the expected switch to Hidalgo County as the HCMPO's Fiscal Agent resulting in larger Fringe and Indirect cost savings. Staff concluded that this item will be presented to the TPC Committees for final approval as recommended by the TAC Committee and staff. **No discussion took place on this item; City of San Juan made a motion to approve the Final FY2016-2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by City of Mercedes and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

**6) Discussion of Pavement Management System (PMS) - Update**

- Maria Champine noted that HCMPO Staff continues updating the Pavement Management System (PMS); staff is seeking assistance from the various cities, by asking them to please send any updates the cities have done to new streets or on-system within the cities' limits. The deadline for submittal of data is July 31, 2015. All information submitted will be collected and mapped. After all information is collected, another workshop will be scheduled in the month of August to review what was submitted and what is missing. All submittals need to be emailed to Luis Diaz at [ldiaz@hcmppo.org](mailto:ldiaz@hcmppo.org). The PMS will be updated on an annual basis once these updates are approved and adopted by both the TAC and Policy Committees. TAC members present recommended that staff contact the other Precincts, so that their projects or updates, as well as; the City of Edinburg are part of the PMS update. **Presentation only, no action taken.**

**7) Monthly Letting Report**

- Mr. Homer Bazan provided to TAC Members present handouts of the TxDOT Monthly Letting Update for June 2015 on Projects within the Hidalgo County MPO Area. Mr. Bazan advised members present that several projects will be letting earlier throughout the year than originally scheduled. La Joya Project- Groundbreaking date still pending.
- Functional Classification Importance – Presentation / Hand-Out Provided.
- Propositions 1 & 7 Update – Presentation / Hand-Out provided – Staff recommended having a Workshop to discuss projects.
- Additional TxDOT Programming Authority – Presentation / Hand-Out provided. TAC members present recommended at the next TAC meeting to have TxDOT provide State High Corridors. **Presentation only, no action taken on these items.**

**8) Status Reports**

**A. Calendars 2015:**

- Andrew Canon reported on the Calendars as follows:

**Month of July 2015:**

- Office Closed – Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015 in Observance of 4<sup>th</sup> of July
- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for July 6, 2015
- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for July 7, 2015
- TPC Meeting – Scheduled for July 16, 2015
- Andrew Canon - Annual Leave – July 27 – August 10, 2015

**Month of August 2015:**

- BPAC Meeting – Scheduled for August 3, 2015
- TAC Meeting – Scheduled for August 4, 2015 – Meeting will be replaced with Workshop, August 4, 2015
- TPC Meeting – August 20, 2015

**B. Director' Updates**

- Legislative Update – June 2015 – TAC Members present were provided with a hand-out on the Senate and House of Representatives Bills that are going before the Legislative for consideration. (Hand-Out on File)
- Re-Designation for HCMPO- Still working with the governor's office, deadline approaching of October 2015 to relocate HCMPO staff. This will be brought forth to the TPC members at the next meeting for clarification on how to proceed.
- Out of Town – Transportation Director scheduled to be on (Vacation) from July 27 – August 10, 2015.
- Travel Demand Modal – Staff met with TxDOT on June 30, 2015 on the Travel Demand Modal – to be used for future projects.
- Andrew Canon noted that he and two of his staff members are seeking approval to attend the upcoming Annual AMPO Conference scheduled in Clark County, Nevada, October 19-23, 2015. Members present had no reservation regarding staff request. Staff will present travel request at the next TPC meeting for approval.

- Staff is requesting to cancel the TAC Meeting in August, since there are no action items to be considered and have a TAC Workshop to go over any construction projects each city might want to re-visit. TAC Workshop to be scheduled for August 4, 2015. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

**C. HCMPO Budget Report**

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

**9) HCRMA Update**

- Eric Davila with Hidalgo County RMA provided an update regarding HCRMA. Staff recommended that a full report be provided at the next TPC meeting to clarify any questions Chairman Salinas had regarding the SIB Loan and FONSI for the Segment #4 Project.

**10) Valley Metro**

- Gabriel Zuniga, Mobility Manager gave a brief update on Valley Metro.

**11) Metro**

- Sandra Gama gave a brief update on the Metro Report.

**12) Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District**

- No update was given at this time.

**13) Old or New Business**

- Congress Filemon Vela – Staff noted that a letter from the office of Congressman Vela was provided to members present, regarding a meeting to be scheduled in the near future amongst the three MPOs'. Discussion will be regarding a proposal to merge all three Rio Grande Valley MPO's into a single entity to be able to better advocate on behalf of the region and an analysis is underway to determine the potential effect of such a merge.
- TAP Funding – Question by TAC members present was “when must the TAP funding be used (time frame)”. Staffed noted that as per TAP Guidelines, “Projects must advance to construction within three (3) years from the date of selection or risk the loss of Federal Funding. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

**14) Adjournment**

- **The meeting adjourn at 3:26 pm.**