

**RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
VIRUAL MEETING**

**September 8, 2022**

**I) CALL TO ORDER**

JP Terrazas, Chairman (City Mission) called the TAC Meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The TAC Meeting was held “Virtually”.

**II) ROLL CALL**

**RGVTAC Representatives in attendance were as follows:**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	
<b>ENTITY</b>	<b>VOTING MEMBERS</b>
City of Mission	JP Terrazas, Chairman
Cameron County	Benjamin Worsham, Vice Chairman
City of Brownsville	Joel Garza
City of Edinburg	Tom Reyna
City of Harlingen	Craig Cook
City of McAllen	Rene Gonzalez
City of Pharr	Daniel Chavez
City of San Benito	Manny De La Rosa
Hidalgo County	Armando Garza, Jr.
<b>Starr County</b>	<b>Jose Escamilla / Rose Benavidez</b>
TxDOT Pharr District	Melba Schaus
Valley Metro	Jose Luis Silva / Nancy Sanchez
Cameron County RMA	Pete Sepulveda / Eric Davila
Hidalgo County RMA	Ramon Navarro
Brownsville Metro	Simon Ortiz
McAllen Metro	Jon Bocanegra/ Robert De Leon
Port of Brownsville	Ariel Chavez
Port of Harlingen	
Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District	
Cameron County Spaceport Dev. Corp.	Mark Yates
<b>GUEST</b>	
CoPlan	Steve Taylor
<b>STAFF</b>	
RGVMPO	Andrew A. Canon
RGVMPO	Luis Diaz
RGVMPO	Staff

**III) PUBLIC COMMENTS**

NONE

**IV) CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Approval of Minutes**

**Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of:**

- **August 11, 2022**

**Mr. Terrazas Chairman (City of Mission) asked if there were any corrections to the TAC minutes of August 11, 2022.**

**No corrections were noted to the minutes of August 11, 2022, TxDOT made a motion to approve the Minutes of August 11, 2022, as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by the City of Harlingen and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

**2. Presentation on the Executive Summary for the Spring 2022 CMP Multimodal Transportation Performance and Assesses Alternative Strategies**

Steve Taylor with CoPlan, LLC provide a brief update presentation of the Spring 2022 CMP. The CMP is a regionally accepted approach for measuring congestion that provides accurate, up-to-date information on multimodal transportation performance and assesses alternative strategies or mitigating congestion that meets state and local needs. While a CMP is required in urbanized areas of over 200,000. The CMP Analysis has been underway since March 2022.

CoPlan will be providing an update to the Advisory Committee as well as the Policy Board on study development and update as well as providing possible additional actions the RGVMPPO may wish to undertake to address identified areas of concern and operational improvement updates.

**After some discussion on this item, Chairman Trevino, along with TPB members present acknowledged and thanked Mr. Taylor for his presentation and insight on how to proactively improve Multimodal Transportation Performance and Assesses Alternative Strategies.**

**3. Discussion and Action to Extend the Winter Congestion Study Contract**

Andrew Canon presented the contract extension from October 24, 2022 to September 29, 2023 to perform analysis of the 172 priority intersections identified at a contract cost of \$383,936.00.

After discussion and clarification from Mr. Canon and committee members present on the scope of work the item was motion made by Chairman Trevino and second by City of Edinburg item unanimously approved.

**4. Discussion and Action on Category 7 Funding Requests for Highway Projects**

**Rudy** explained how prioritized requests for Category 7 funding have been previously reviewed by TAC & TPB members. It was recommended by our chairman that staff meet with planning partners that still needed to do so. Staff met and finalized pending requests and have selected the highest priority projects for additional funding. Rudy added that staff is available to address any concerns regarding the projects listed within the TPB meeting packet, or any other projects in concern. MPO staff will conduct the required 30-day public involvement during the month of October. MPO staff is kindly requesting TPB members' final review and approval before preparing drafts of our short and long-range planning tables.

**Vice Chairman Fuentes** mentioned the meetings held and projects proposed as being very helpful but there are still concerns regarding projects that did not receive additional funding. It would have been nice to fund all projects, but it is also important to avoid delaying projects from going to construction. AFA's need to be created and with an investment of millions of dollars per project, it is frustrating to place project's completion on hold for years at a time. The chairman also mentioned that moving forward with the projects proposed is acceptable but we as an organization should continue to find ways to fund our projects and move them into construction.

Rudy communicated that a listing of all projects requiring additional funding was included within the packet and **Chairman Trevino** elaborated that it is imperative to remember all projects listed as priorities and to continue to address these needs as time progresses. **Mayor Hernandez** commended TPB members for working together to establish these priorities with regional connectivity and overall improvement in mind.

TXDOT chose to abstain from voting but a motion to approve was made by the City of Pharr, Mayor Hernandez and was seconded by the Mayor of Mission. The item was unanimously approved.

**4. Discussion on the RGV Thoroughfare Plan Amendment**

Luis Diaz provided an overview of the yearly thoroughfare plan amendment process.

All amendments are reflected on the RGVMPPO UMAP Interactive Map for viewing by developers and planners. All amendments are to be accompanied by a city ordinance when coming from a city, amendments submitted by county are to be accompanied by a letter signed by county commissioner as RGVMPPO resolution of amendments is presented to County Commissioner's Courts. The Deadline for Thoroughfare Plan Amendments is December 21, 2022.

Mr. Canon mentioned the importance of updating the thoroughfare plan was presented as early right of way acquisition is key for cost saving for future projects.

Item was approved unanimously by board.

**V. RGVMPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT AND UPDATES**

**Financial Update**

**Andrew provided the financial update and noted that the current budget continues with a (24.74%) positive trend. Report filed with the August 11, 2022, RGVTAC Packet.**

**Item Summary:** Category 7, Metropolitan Mobility (STBG) Funding - for the selection of regionally significant Off-System Projects in consultation with TxDOT - RGVMPO staff are presenting for consideration and possible adoption an updated resolution supporting the long-adhered policy of Category 7 funding being capped at the amounts approved by the TPB upon adoption at the August 31, 2022, Policy Meeting.

**Item Summary:** Policy Meetings November and December 2022 - Staff is recommending to the Policy Board to combine the Policy meetings for (November and December) and that it be held on December 14, 2022.

**VI) STATUS REPORTS**

**A. TxDOT Project Status Report**

(TxDOT) provided an updated TxDOT Project Status Report within the RGVMPO area.

**B. Cameron County RMA**

Eric Davila (Cameron County RMA) provided an updated presentation on projects that are currently within the Cameron County RMA. All projects are moving forward as scheduled.

**C. Hidalgo County RMA**

Ramon Navarro, (Hidalgo County RMA) provided an updated presentation on projects that are currently within the Hidalgo County RMA.

**D. Regional Transit Report**

Nancy Sanchez with Valley metro provided ridership statistics for the region

**VII) NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Recommendation made by Commissioner Fuentes for the Region to consolidate thoughts and approach for the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Legislative Session**

**VIII) ADJOURNMENT:**

*There being no further business to come before the RGVMPO TPB Members, Vice Chairman Worsham called for a motion to adjourn. City of Pharr made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:54 AM. The motion was seconded by Cameron County RMA; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*