

**RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
IN PERSON MEETING**

**February 9, 2023**

**I) CALL TO ORDER**

JP Terrazas, Chairman (City of Mission) called the TAC Meeting to order at 10:14 AM. The TAC Meeting was held in person.

**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	Absent
City of Harlingen	Craig Cook
City of McAllen	Rene Gonzalez
City of Pharr	Daniel Chavez
City of San Benito	Johanna Maldonado
Hidalgo County	Armando Garza, Jr.
Starr County	Absent
TxDot Pharr District	Melba Schaus
Valley Metro	Nancy Sanchez
Cameron County RMA	Eric Davila
Hidalgo County RMA	Ramon Navarro
Brownsville Metro	Joel Garza
McAllen Metro	Jon Ray Bocanegra
Port of Brownville	Absent
Port of Harlingen	Absent
Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District	Absent
Cameron County Spaceport Dev Corp.	Mark Yates
<b>RGVMPO Executive Director</b>	<b>Andrew A. Canon</b>
<b>RGVMPO Assistant Director</b>	<b>Luis Diaz</b>
<b>RGVMPO</b>	<b>Staff</b>

**III) PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**No public comments**

**IV) CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Approval of Minutes**

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

- **January 12, 2023**

**Chairman JP Terrazas asked if there were any more corrections to the TAC minutes of January 12, 2023. Hidalgo County RMA, Ramon Navarro informed for the correction under HCRMA reports from Cameron to Hidalgo.**

**No further corrections or comments were noted to the minutes of January 12, 2023, Hidalgo County RMA Ramon Navarro made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 12, 2023, with the requested correction. The motion was seconded by City of McAllen, the motion carried unanimously.**

## 2. GIS Data Request

Fernando Cantu presented the form that will be used to request GIS data from all municipalities. He informed the board that the data is one more tool for TAC and Policy meeting reports and presentations. Mr. Cantu went over the form, reviewing the main points and the reference materials.

**(Information item only, no action required.)**

**Chairman JP Terrazas asked if there were any questions. After no questions or comments were presented Chairman JP Terrazas confirmed that the item was for information only and proceeded to move to item 3.**

## 3. 2022 Thoroughfare Plan Amendments

Luis Diaz gave an update on 2022 Thoroughfare Plan Amendments process. He highlighted that the current stage of the process is the last step before going to approval at the County level. He confirmed that it's an action item for a total of 8 Amendments from Hidalgo County; 3-City of Edinburg, 1-City of McAllen, 1-Hidalgo County Precinct 1, 2-Hidalgo County Precinct 4, 1-City of Donna. Once presented at the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court in March for approval, Amendments will be applied in April. After that

**Mr. Diaz open the floor for questions and reiterated that this is an action item for approval of 8 amendments. TxDOT, Melba Schaus asked to clarify the discrepancy between 11 items in the packet and 8 in the presentation. Mr. Diaz confirmed that Precinct 1 removed 2 and Precinct 2 removed another one. Total of 3 removal after the agenda packet went out.**

**Chairman JP Terrazas asked if there were any questions. After no questions or comments were presented Chairman JP Terrazas asked for a motion to approve the Item. Ramon Navarro from HCRMA made a motion to approve Item 3, the motion was second by Eric Davila. Motion carried unanimously.**

## 4. Adoption of the 2023 Safety Performance Targets (PM1) as reported by TXDOT (Resolution 2023-05)

Miguel Arispe presented action item for the adoption of a resolution supporting the 2023 TXDOT Statewide Safety Targets as reported to FHWA. The Texas Strategic Highway Safety Plan targets are updated annually.

**Chairman JP Terrazas asked if there were any questions. After no questions or comments were presented Chairman JP Terrazas asked for a motion to approve the Item. City of Brownsville Joel Garza made a motion to approve Item 4, the motion was second by City of Harlingen, Craig Cook. Motion carried unanimously.**

## 5. Discussion and Update on the Annual Bike/Ped Program

Eva Garcia presented a summary of the various Bike/Ped programs and 2022 activities. The updated included information regarding the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Bicycle and Pedestrian Counter Data Program; Active Transportation Map and upcoming or planned activities for the current year. Mrs. Garcia highlighted the RGVMPPO Active Transportation Plan's Key principles & supporting goals.

**Chairman JP Terrazas asked if there were any questions. After no questions or comments were presented Chairman JP Terrazas confirmed that the item was for information only and proceeded to move to Executive Director's report.**

## V) RGVMPPO Executive Director's Report and Updates

Andrew Canon provided financial update and updates.

1. Spotlight staff members for their work and promotions
  - a. Eva Garcia-2.5-million-dollar award
  - b. Javier Dominguez – 200,000 -Safe Streets for All grant award
  - c. Fernando Cantu & Miguel Arispe promoted to Planner III
  - d. Rodolfo Zamora – finances and UTP & MTP
  - e. Eva Garcia taking helping out with Transit
  - f. Christopher Nelson- Counters
  - g. Melany Rodriguez – AFAs
2. Update on Project Readiness Subcommittee
3. Project Readiness Scoring meeting update.
  - a. Hidalgo County, Armando Garza Jr. recognized and reminded everyone about the importance of

attendance and participation in this meeting. Mr. Garza along with Eric Davila asked a more detailed meeting schedule/setting. Mr. Canon reviewed the detailed email mailed out and reviewed the purpose and goals of the meetings.

Mr. Canon also clarified that this is a kickoff information for this month and the same thing next month when the update is given to the policy board. The goal is that in the next quarterly meeting there would be a more deep, longer and detailed conversation.

Mr. Garza chimed in to agree with Mr Canon on the importance of this meetings to have all the important facts for the best-informed decisions.

Mr. Garza act if it was possible to get an update on CAT 2, Mr Canon confirmed that regular updates are received but if something more in depth is required it can always be requested. Mr. Garza clarified that it would be to have the same update as the one being requested from them.

Melba Schaus informed that she will be going back to district staff to see what can be done. She also clarified the requirements for the update. Mrs. Schaus also added clarification on CAT 2, majority are TxDOT in house projects. TxDOT will revisit some on system projects that are being developed by local governments.

Chairman, JP Terrazas asked if TxDOT project managers will be present at the workshop. Mrs. Schaus responded no because it's only category 7.

Eric Davila and Melba Schaus provided suggestions about the report format; include let date and project completion date.

Mr. Canon closed by reviewing the expectations and purpose of the updates.

4. Financial Update
5. Mr. Canon asked the board to consider changing the next TAC meeting from March 9<sup>th</sup> to March 16, due to policy meeting date change.
  - a. Upon discussion the board agree to change the meeting.
6. RGV Valley Days

**Chairman JP Terrazas asked if there were any questions. After no questions or comments were presented Chairman JP Terrazas proceeded to move to Status reports.**

## VI) Status Reports

### A. TxDOT Project Status Report

Melba Schaus, (TxDOT) provided an updated TxDOT Project Status Report within the RGVMPO area. Mrs. Schaus reviewing the report highlighting the that last week was February's project letting. FM676 project from La Homa to SH107 was let. Mrs. Schaus reviewed the TxDOT monthly letting update. Furthermore, she urged local governments to get projects going so funds are not lost. She also reminded everyone to reach out to TxDOT for any assistance.

She also reminded local governments to make sure to provide realistic schedules to TxDOT project managers and only to make sure the best decisions are made withing TxDOT. Furthermore, the requests for updated estimates will continue in March and September.

Mrs. Schaus went over the process for TIP revisions, any revisions need to be coordinated with TxDOT and the MPO.

Lastly, Mrs. Schaus gave and update on the DRAFT 24UTP submittals.

City of Brownsville, Joel Garza asked for a clarification between 2023 and 2024 letting update, he asked if the listing for letting December 2023 is correct. Mrs. Schaus stated that is not correct because is the intent but is the one that needs to be let by August. Is listed for December because it might eventually be moved.

The intent is to have all the TASA projects really filled up by the end of FY 2023 to ensure that the funds do not lapse.

Mr. Canon asked if the causeway will be done by the end of spring break, Mrs Schaus will be getting with Pete to obtain an answer.

No questions were posed after presentation.

### B. Cameron County RMA

Eric Davila (Cameron County RMA) provided an updated presentation on projects that are currently within the Cameron County RMA.

No questions were posed after presentation.

**C. Hidalgo County RMA**

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

No questions were posed after presentation.

**(Report only, no action taken at this time.)**

**VII) NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Andrew Canon clarified the Transit Providers will be reporting quarterly, March.

Chairman informed that City of Mission and Cameron County are currently hiring for Engineers.

Benjamin Worsham suggested that it would be a good idea to have Space X do a presentation.

Finally, Chairman JP Terrazas confirmed that the next TAC meeting will be virtual on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**VIII) ADJOURNMENT:**

**There being no further business to come before the RGVTAC Members, Vice Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. Hidalgo County, Armando Garza made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:22am the motion was seconded by City of Brownsville Joel Garza; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**