

**AGENDA**  
**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, June 8, 2023 – 10:00 AM**  
**RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RGVMPO)**  
**IN-PERSON**  
**City of Weslaco Legislative Chamber**  
**255 S Kansas Ave**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

**III. Public Comments** – May be submitted online or may be submitted on a paper form specifying the matter you wish to address.

**IV. Consent Agenda**

**1. Approval of Minute(s) for: May 11, 2023**

**Action**       **Possible Action**       **Information**

**Presenter:**                      **JP Terrazas, TAC Chairman**

**Item Summary:**              Approval of the May 11, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes

**2. Discussion and Action on FY 2022 Annual Project Listing (APL)**

**Action**       **Possible Action**       **Information**

**Presenter:**                      Rudy Zamora Jr., Transportation Planner II

**Item Summary:**              The FY 2022 Annual Project Listing (APL) has been reviewed and Public Involvement will conclude on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Pending any concerns, MPO staff is kindly requesting Advisory Committee members' approval.

**Background:**                      An Annual Listing of transportation projects, including investments in transit, pedestrian walkways, and bicycle facilities, for which federal funds have been obligated in the preceding year shall be published or otherwise made available by the cooperative effort of TXDOT, transit operators, and metropolitan planning organization for public review. In compliance with federal requirements, public involvement will be conducted for 30 days, and the APL will be presented to both TAC & TPB members for approval.

**3. Discussion and Action on FY 2023-2026 STIP & MTP Amendments – August 2023 Quarterly Revision Cycle**

**Action**       **Possible Action**       **Information**

**Presenter:**                      Rudy Zamora Jr., Transportation Planner

**Item Summary:**              The Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) - August 2023 Revision Cycle is upon us. Amendments to both short-range (TIP) & long-range (MTP) planning tables are included within this meeting packet for review & approval. Public involvement begins on June 14<sup>th</sup> and all revisions will be adopted by TPB on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Staff is available to address concerns and recommendations will be referred to our TPB.

**Background:**                      The Statewide TIP is updated quarterly and MPO staff has prepared draft

tables for review and approval. Public involvement is scheduled for June 14th - July 14th both virtually and in-person, at various locations region-wide. Revisions are highlighted on our long-range, Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), and notated on our short-range TIP.

4. Presentation of Preliminary CAT 7 Unified Transportation Program (UTP TxDOT 10 Year Plan) Off System Project Scores

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:**            **Andrew Canon, RGVMPPO Executive Director**

**Summary:**            The RGVMPPO is presenting preliminary scores for the current Unified Transportation Program (UTP TxDOT 10 Year Plan) CAT 7 Off System Projects. This process is being brought forth as a collaborative venture with all local governments to produce the most comprehensive scores for approval at our next TPB meeting.

**Background:**        Through an iterative discussion, the RGVMPPO staff and TAC refined a scoring for Category 7 projects to both leverage the technical expertise embodied in the TAC and reference performance criteria and regional goals to provide a robust scoring process for vetting and promoting projects geared to contribute towards targets. This scoring process likewise provides a platform to communicate with project sponsors and decision makers about project implications. The process also investigates what conditions a proposed project is improving and asks the sponsor to reflect on why they are submitting the project being reviewed. The continuity of this process invariably will refine and improve the process by which projects are submitted for consideration as well as the projects themselves. The latest version of the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Unified Transportation Program CAT 7 Project Evaluation Form is reflective of 4 TAC workshops and TPB approval April 26, 2023.

5. FY2024 AND FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:**            **Fernando Cantu, RGVMPPO Planner III**

**Summary:**            Staff is seeking approval from the Transportation Policy Board for the proposed FY2024 and FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

**Background:**        The Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (RGVMPO), has developed a draft FY2024 and FY2025 UPWP. This Work Program is an essential federal requirement for RGVMPPO, enabling us to secure federal Transportation Planning Funds. It effectively identifies the specific work activities that RGVMPPO staff will undertake between October 1, 2023, and September 30, 2025. The UPWP Document contains crucial policies that dictate how these federal Transportation Planning Funds will be allocated.

6. SWOT Analysis Virtual SWOT Analysis Workshop Proposal

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Javier Dominguez

**Summary:** The RGVMPPO is presenting a proposal to host a follow-up virtual SWOT Analysis Workshop for the RGVMPPO Resiliency & Sustainability Study during the allocated timeframe for the July TAC Meeting if no meeting is to be held.

**Background:** The RGVMPPO, in partnership with the consultant group ATG, held a SWOT Analysis Workshop for the RGVMPPO Resiliency & Sustainability Study in Edinburg, Tx on Monday April 17<sup>th</sup>, from 2:00PM – 4:00PM. Although there was a great turnout with even greater participation from the attendees, a follow-up virtual SWOT Analysis Workshop was requested to provide an opportunity for those who could not attend the chance to participate. The consultant group ATG has also completed further research and would like to present recommendations that would require feedback from the Technical Advisory Committee during this virtual SWOT Analysis Workshop.

## 7. Contract Extension of CoPlan - Congestion Management Process Planning Level Operations Study

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Fernando Cantu, RGVMPPO Planner III

**Summary:** Staff is requesting approval for a one-month extension and an additional \$10,000 to further enhance the Congestion Management Process Planning Level Operations Study.

**Background:** The Congestion Management Process (CMP) is a widely recognized and accepted approach for accurately measuring congestion, providing real-time data on multimodal transportation performance, and evaluating various strategies to alleviate congestion that align with state and local requirements. Although a CMP is mandatory in urbanized areas with populations over 200,000, our CMP Analysis Tier 2 has been diligently progressing since January 2023. To comprehensively evaluate the impact of our efforts, CoPlan has conducted a comparison between the "after" travel time runs and those representing the "before" period, which were collected during the Spring 2022 CMP initiative. This analysis has been instrumental in determining the effectiveness of our congestion management strategies. CoPlan measured performance indicators such as travel time, delay, control delay, fuel savings, and driver time savings. These performance measures provide valuable insights into the tangible benefits of our congestion mitigation efforts.

## 8. Update on the Performance Management Framework project

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Ben Magallon, Alliance Transportation Group Project Manager

**Summary:** Alliance Transportation Group staff will be providing an update on the Performance Management Framework project. The presentation will consist of a summary of our plan and process review memo.

**Background:** The RGVMPPO is currently working with Alliance Transportation Group on developing a performance management framework that will help develop a unified data-driven project scoring process for all projects for the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (RGVMPO). Another goal for this project is to develop a document to guide the management of the performance-based planning process.

**9. Discussion and Action on Adoption of PM2/PM3 (Pavement/Bridge condition and System Reliability) Targets**

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:**      **Andrew Canon, RGVMPPO Executive Director**

**Summary:**      RGVMPPO Staff RGVMPPO staff has been working with Alliance Transportation group to evaluate our current system performance and reliability targets as required by TxDOT and FHWA. MPO's are required to adopt targets for PM2/PM3 (Pavement/Bridge condition and System Reliability) performance measures by August 8, 2023. The presentation will consist of the draft targets and recommendations on moving forward in addressing the above-said requirements.

**Background:**      The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) requires the Texas Department of Transportation to establish targets for PM2 and PM3 (Pavement/Bridge condition and System Reliability). The IIJA also requires each MPO to either support the PM2 and PM3 targets established by TxDOT or adopt a separate set of targets no later than 180 days after TxDOT adoption.

**10. Action on the RGVMPPO Complete Streets Policy**

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:**      **Andrew Canon, RGVMPPO Executive Director**

**Summary:**      RGVMPPO staff has produced a regional Complete Streets policy. Staff is conducting public involvement until June 11th to ascertain feedback on this policy. Feedback will be implemented as necessary to then present a final version to the Transportation Policy Board for approval on June 28th. This policy is intended to represent a commitment by Policy Board members to plan, design, and construct Complete Streets throughout the region, as contextually appropriate.

**Background:**      Complete Streets are streets designed for users of all modes of transportation, including users of all ages and abilities. Complete Streets policies are intended to ensure the context-sensitive provision of these designs on streets, such as providing bike lanes, sidewalks, transit stops, and other features on new and existing streets. Since the authorization to begin work on the Regional Complete Streets Policy by the Transportation Policy Board on February 23, 2022, RGVMPPO Staff has conducted a literature review of existing Complete Streets policies in the region, researched Complete Streets policies, attended the Complete Streets workshop, and drafted the first-ever regional policy.

**11. Discussion and Possible Action on Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA; also known as Category 9) Projects**

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:**      **Eva Garcia, RGVMPPO Planner III: BikePed Program Coordinator**

**Summary:**      RGVMPPO Staff will provide one final status update regarding FY2019-2020 projects (to obligate funds in FY2023) but focus more of this presentation on FY2021-2022 projects (to obligate funds in FY2024 & FY2025). Members may take action to re-program funds for FY2021-2022 projects that have not met

the deadline to execute Advanced Funding Agreements (AFA). See 'FY2021-2022 TASA Program Schedule of Activities' table in packet for more information.

**Background:** To ensure transparency with the RGVMPPO's policymakers and transportation officials RGVMPPO Staff has been regularly communicating with RGVMPPO TAC & Policy Members regarding TASA projects to ensure the timely obligation of programmed funds. Staff continues to work with the Texas Department of Transportation Pharr District (TxDOT) and Local Government (LG) project sponsors to provide these updates to RGVMPPO Members. Thank you to all those involved for their continued communication and coordination.

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

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Andrew A. Canon, RGVMPPO Executive Director

**Item Summary:**

**VI. STATUS REPORTS**

**A. TxDOT Project Status Report**

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Dora Robles, Pharr District Advanced Project Development Director

**B. Cameron County RMA**

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Eric Davila

**C. Hidalgo County RMA**

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Ramon Navarro

**D. Transit Report**

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Transit representative

**VII. Other Business (Old or New):** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.

**VIII. Next Meeting:** The next RGVMPPO Technical Advisory Committee is scheduled "VIRTUAL" at **10:00 am on July 13, 2023**