

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, November 30, 2023 – 10:00 AM - VIRTUAL MEETING

RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RGVMPO)
[Click Here to Join the Meeting](#)

- 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. **Action & Discussion Items**

A. Approval of Minute(s) for: October 12, 2023

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

Presenter: **Benjamin Worsham, TAC Chairman**

Summary: Approval of the October 12, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes

B. 2025 UTP – CAT 2 Project List

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

Presenter: **TxDOT Pharr District Staff**

Summary: As part of our yearly UTP efforts, we are asking for concurrence on the CAT 2 funded projects presented. Project development status and fiscal constraints were taken into consideration when determining what FY, a project is listed in. Changes are noted in red text for everyone's reference. The deadline for the Pharr District to submit this project listing to the TxDOT UTP team is December 1, 2023.

Background: Category 2 addresses mobility and added capacity projects on urban corridors to mitigate traffic congestion, as well as traffic safety and roadway maintenance or rehabilitation. Projects must be located on the state highway system. MPOs select projects in consultation with TxDOT districts using a performance-based prioritization process that assesses mobility needs within the MPO boundaries. Project funding must be authorized by the Texas Transportation Commission.

C. Metropolitan Transportation Plan – RFP Subcommittee Score and consultant selection

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

Presenter: **Fernando Cantu, RGVMPO Transportation Planner III**

Summary: On November 2nd, the subcommittee came together to evaluate the singular proposal presented by Alliance Transportation Group. The resulting score is within packet.

Background: The RGVMPO selectively outsources tasks that exceed our in-house capabilities or scope. To maintain compliance with the fiscal guidelines and regulations, we adhere to the procurement process established by the LRGVDC, serving as the fiscal agents of our MPO.

D. Passenger Rail Feasibility Study – RFP Subcommittee Score and consultant selection

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Fernando Cantu, RGVMPPO Transportation Planner III

Summary: On November 2nd, the subcommittee came together to evaluate the two proposals presented by AECOM and Triangle Railroad Holding Co. The resulting score is within packet.

Background: The RGVMPPO selectively outsources tasks that exceed our in-house capabilities or scope. To maintain compliance with the fiscal guidelines and regulations, we adhere to the procurement process established by the LRGVDC, serving as the fiscal agents of our MPO.

E. Weslaco, TX Southwest Loop Planning Corridor/Alignment Study – RFP Subcommittee Score and consultant selection

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Fernando Cantu, RGVMPPO Transportation Planner III

Summary: On November 2nd, the subcommittee came together to evaluate the singular proposal presented by TEDSI. The resulting score is within packet.

Background: The RGVMPPO selectively outsources tasks that exceed our in-house capabilities or scope. To maintain compliance with the fiscal guidelines and regulations, we adhere to the procurement process established by the LRGVDC, serving as the fiscal agents of our MPO.

V. Presentations & Reports

A. Presentation of the RGVMPPO Resilience and Sustainability Analysis produced by ATG

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Javier Dominguez, Executive Analyst
Ben Magallon, Project Manager with Alliance Transportation Group

Summary: Alliance Transportation Group (ATG) completed a regionwide comprehensive Resilience and Sustainability Analysis and is presenting the final deliverable listed on the RFP from 2022. The study determines how planning and policy driven mechanisms affect the resiliency and sustainability of our community. The report identifies chronic and acute stressors experienced in the RGV and includes a recommendations memo based on a cost-benefit and equity analysis. The report also identifies possible grant opportunities as this study serves as data driven research that supports the regions' need for funding related to sustainability and resilience such as the PROTECT grant.

Background: In 2022, Alliance Transportation Group (ATG) won a bid to perform a regionwide Resilience and Sustainability Analysis. Over the last year, ATG has been performing extensive research on natural disasters prevalent in the RGV Metropolitan Area Boundary. ATG utilized data gathered from a variety of sources to produce a "Recommendations Memo", "Equity Analysis", and "Cost Benefits Analysis". This is the final deliverable for this study from ATG.

B. Discussion and update on Performance Management Framework Project with Alliance Transportation Group

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Ben Magallon, ATG

Summary: The RGVMPPO is currently in contract with Alliance Transportation Group on the development of a performance management framework. This framework will help the RGVMPPO better address and comply with federal and state requirements on performance measures. The contract with ATG on the Performance Management Framework Study runs through December 2023.

Background: Alliance Transportation Group will be sharing an update on the development of a Performance Management Framework for the RGVMPPO. As part of this, a series of meetings, workshops, and staff interviews have been held to assess and evaluate the status of performance management work being done at the RGVMPPO. The ATG team will also be sharing an update on the status of any pending deliverables and items for the remainder of the contract and any meetings/workshops to be held in December.

C. Discussion and update on FM 509 Corridor Study with TEDSI

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Eric Dietrich, TEDSI

Summary: The RGVMPPO is presently engaged in a contract with TEDSI for the development of the FM 509 Corridor study. This comprehensive study encompasses planning services that include data collection analysis, preliminary drainage analysis, and traffic projections. The focus of the study extends from US 281 to I-69E in Harlingen, Texas, aiming to enhance planning and infrastructure considerations for FM 509.

Background: The city of Harlingen sought assistance for a corridor study, aiming to make informed decisions regarding alignment choices. This study is crucial for evaluating and determining the most effective route, providing valuable insights to enhance planning and infrastructure development in the region.

D. 5310 Call for Projects

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Eva Garcia, RGVMPPO Transportation Planner III

Summary: The RGVMPPO opened FY2024 Call for Projects for the 5310 Program on November 1st. Interested applicants should visit our website to view the 5310 Program Guide, the 5310 Scoring Criteria, and the 5310 Application. Applications should be submitted via email to info@rgvmppo.org no later than 5PM on Wednesday, December 20, 2023.

Background: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provides formula funding in the form of the 5310 Program to states and designated recipients to meet the transportation needs of older adults and people with disabilities when the transportation service provided is unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to meet these needs. The RGVMPPO follows the LRGVDC's 5310 Program Management Plan (PMP) which describes the process for administering, managing, programming, selection, and overseeing the implementation of the projects.

E. Federal Functional Classification (FC) Post TxDOT Training Update

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Luis Diaz, RGVMPPO Interim Executive Director**

Summary: The RGVMPPO will providing an update from the recent Federal Functional Classification Process Training held with TxDOT. Included within packet is the training presentation provided by TxDOT.

Background: Federal legislation continues to use functional classification in determining eligibility for funding under the Federal-aid program. Transportation agencies describe roadway system performance, benchmarks, and targets by functional classification. As agencies continue to move towards a more performance-based management approach, functional classification will be an increasingly important consideration in setting expectations and measuring outcomes for preservation, mobility, and safety.

F. RGVMPPO Executive Directors' Report and Updates

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Luis Diaz, RGVMPPO Interim Executive Director**

Summary: 1. Budget Update

G. TxDOT Project Status Report

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: TxDOT Pharr Area Office Staff

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

- A. The next RGVMPPO Technical Advisory Committee is "VIRTUAL" at **10:00 am on January 11, 2024**