

**RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
VIRTUAL MEETING
Minutes
January 11, 2024**

I) CALL TO ORDER

Ramon Navarro – Vice-Chairman (Hidalgo County RMA) 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:

MEMBERS PRESENT	
ENTITY	VOTING MEMBERS
Cameron County	Absent
Hidalgo County RMA	Ramon Navarro, Vice Chairman
Hidalgo County	Armando Garza, Jr.
City of Brownsville	Juan Peña Jr.
City of McAllen	Rene Gonzalez
City of Edinburg	Tomas Reyna
City of Harlingen	Absent
City of Mission	JP Terrazas
City of Pharr	Absent
City of San Benito	Johanna Maldonado
Starr County	Absent
TxDot Pharr District	Dora E. Robles
Valley Metro	Nancy Sanchez
Cameron County RMA	Eric Davila
Brownsville Metro	Simon Ortiz
McAllen Metro	Jon Ray Bocanegra
Port of Brownville	Absent
Port of Harlingen	Amy Lynch
Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District	Absent
Cameron County Spaceport Dev Corp.	Absent
Guest	
RGVMPO Interim- Executive Director	Luis Diaz
LRGDVC	Javier Dominguez
RGVMPO Staff	
Alliance Transportation Group Representatives	
TEDSI Representatives	

III) PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments

IV) CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of November 30, 2023

Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro asked if there were any corrections to the minutes and no corrections or comments were presented.

No corrections or comments were noted to the minutes. Johanna Maldonado with the city of San Benito made a motion to approve the minutes of October 12, 2023. The motion was seconded by Eric Davila with Cameron County RMA. Motion carried.

Approved February 8, 2024

B. Discussion and Action on the February 2024 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Revision Cycle.

Rodolfo Zamora began by explaining that the Statewide TIP is updated quarterly, and the RGVMP staff is currently revising the short-range Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). He mentioned that a 30-day Public Involvement period was scheduled from December 11, 2023, to January 11, 2024, and all revisions and modifications would require approval by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Transportation Policy Board (TPB) members during the scheduled January meetings.

Rodolfo also informed the members that modifications are identified on both TIP and MTP tables, and a summary sheet had been provided.

Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro asked about pending items related to restructuring or moving of some financing from the county's request. Rodolfo Zamora explained that they had received a response from the county and were in communication with them. They were planning to address these items in the next revision cycle, which would be the May revision cycle for 2024.

Dora Robles from TxDOT mentioned that a small issue related to the Liberty Blvd project had been resolved, and they were not proposing to reverse the limits as initially submitted.

Rodolfo thanked Dora for the clarification and mentioned that this would help expedite the approval process.

Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro opened the floor for further discussion and questions.

Hearing no further discussion, Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro called for a motion to accept the revisions. Johanna Maldonado made a motion to accept the revisions, and Juan Pena Jr. seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro confirmed the motion and second and announced that the motion had passed.

C. Discussion and Action on the Adoption of Safety Performance Measures and Targets (PM1)

Miguel Arispe began his presentation by explaining that the RGVMP is required to establish Safety Performance Targets annually. He mentioned that the State PM-1 Targets inform the development of the Texas Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) and that states must establish and report HSIP targets by August 31 of each year.

He also mentioned that MPOs must establish HSIP targets within 180 days of the state establishing and reporting its HSIP targets, which gave them a deadline of 2/27/2024.

Miguel Arispe requested approval to continue supporting the Statewide Targets for the year 2024 (Resolution 2024-01) and the adoption of the TxDOT Statewide Safety Targets for the year 2024 as reported to FHWA. He explained that these targets are updated annually, and MPOs are required to either support these targets or create their own.

Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro asked if there were any further discussions or concerns from the members. Hearing none, Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro asked for a motion to approve the five items as presented. Juan Pena from the City of Brownsville made a motion to approve, and Johanna Maldonado seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro confirmed the motion and second and announced that the motion had passed.

D. Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) – Subcommittee Score and Consultant Selection.

Vice Chairman informed the board that the scoring sheet was emailed, and it was not included within the agenda packet.

Fernando Cantu presented the item, explaining that the RGVMP selectively outsources tasks that exceed their in-house capabilities or scope. To maintain compliance with fiscal guidelines and regulations, they adhere to the procurement process established by the LRGVDC, serving as the fiscal agents for the RGVMP.

He mentioned that the RFP subcommittee evaluated three proposals submitted by consultants, including ATG, LJA, and TJKM. The subcommittee recommended going with TJKM as they scored the highest according to their evaluation form.

Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro asked if there were any questions or discussions regarding the consultant selection. Hearing none he requested a motion to select TJKM as the consultant for the Safe Streets and Roads projects.

Eric Davila from CCRMA made the motion, and Tomas Reyna from the City of Edinburg seconded it. Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro confirmed the motion and second and announced that the motion had passed.

V) **REPORTS AND UPDATES**

A. Request for Donation of Promotional Items for Public Outreach

Fernando Cantu presented the item, explaining that they are seeking donations of promotional items that can effectively engage and attract the public during their community outreach events. These items serve as valuable tools to increase awareness about their organization's mission and services.

He mentioned that they used to purchase promotional materials using local funds, but those funds have depleted due to the impact of COVID-19 and other factors. Therefore, they are now seeking donations of promotional items. Jon Ray Bocanegra asked how promotional materials were purchased before.

Fernando Cantu explained that they used to have a local funds account funded by event registrations and conferences, but these events have been on hold, and the funds have run out.

Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the request. Hearing none, he acknowledged the request on behalf of the board and moved on to the next agenda item.

B. GIS Data Requesting

Fernando Cantu presented the item, explaining that they are requesting GIS data from all municipalities to update their City Limit and ETJ boundary data. This updated information will help them plan for the region's future transportation needs.

He requested that planning partners provide the most up-to-date data in GIS format if possible, and in PDF format if GIS is not available.

He mentioned the importance of data accuracy and encouraged partners to visit their online interactive mapping tool, RGVMPPO UMAP, to review the data and report any discrepancies to their office.

Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the data request.

Hearing none, Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro acknowledged the request on behalf of the board and moved on to the next agenda item.

C. RGVMPPO Executive Director's Report and Updates

Luis Diaz provided an update on the budget, mentioning that since the start of the new budget year in October, they have expended \$149,764.24 out of a maximum budget of \$354,088.87. He assured the board that they are well within budget.

He also mentioned that they are working on functional classification (FC) requests and expressed appreciation for the letters of support and resolutions received. They are diligently working on these requests to classify the roadways.

Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the Executive Director's report. Hearing none, he acknowledged the report on behalf of the board and moved on to the next agenda item.

D. TxDOT Project Status Report

Dora Robles provided an update on various TxDOT projects from the past calendar year.

Two projects with Cameron County related to sidewalk improvements had concluded their bid analysis, but they received only one nonresponsive bid for each project. TxDOT is working with the county to reschedule these projects for letting.

A project with the City of Pharr also concluded its bid analysis, and some issues with the bid led to the recommendation to re-let the project. TxDOT is working with the city to schedule the project again.

A project with UTRGV is well underway in the bid analysis stage, with multiple bids received. A project with the City of Brownsville is still in the middle of the bid analysis.

In January, one on-system project opened bids, and more updates are expected next month.

Projects with the City of Pharr and others are scheduled for letting in the coming months, including the twin bridge project at the Pharr International Bridge.

Dora Robles mentioned that it's a busy spring and summer for TxDOT with numerous projects scheduled for letting.

Vice Chairman Ramon Navarro asked if there were any questions or concerns for Dora Robles.

Hearing none, he acknowledged the TxDOT status report and moved on to item six, other business, old or new.

VI) **NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

VII) **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the RGVMPPO TAC Members, Vice-Chairman Ramon Navarro called for a motion to adjourn. Juan Pena with the City of Brownsville made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:33am. The motion was seconded by Dora Robles with TxDOT, meeting was adjourned.

Approved February 8, 2024