

**FULL TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

**Wednesday, September 25, 2024 – 1:30 PM**

**RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RGVMPO)**

*Pursuant to Chapter 551, Title 5 of the Texas Government Code, the Texas Open Meeting Act, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the RGVMPO POLICY BOARD will be held In Person at the LRGVDC Main Campus, 301 W. Railroad Street, Building B, Ken Jones Executive Board Room in Weslaco, TX.*

**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 minutes for: August 28, 2024.**

**Action**

**Possible Action**

**Information**

**Presenter:** Commissioner David L. Fuentes, **Chairman**

**Summary:** Approval of the August 28, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes

**B. Executive Session**

- I. Personnel Matters Pursuant to Section 551-074 (1) to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

RE: Interim Executive Director and Executive Director

- II. Reconvene into an Open Session to Consider ACTION, if any, on items Related to the Executive Session as described above.

**V. Presentations & Reports**

**A. Discussion on the FY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) November 2024 Revision Cycle**

**Action**

**Possible Action**

**Information**

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

**Summary:** The FY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program is under revision and a 30-day public involvement process has begun. An announcement flyer, timeline for the extent of this revision cycle, and links to short-range planning tables (TIP) and long-range planning tables (MTP) are included within the meeting packet. Please review our current programming and submit requests for revisions by October 1, 2024.

**Background:** Every two years, MPO's and Departments of Transportation prepare a new TIP with supporting materials including federal compliance, performance measures, resolutions, and programming tables for both TIP & MTP years. Public involvement for the November Revision Cycle will be held from September 9<sup>th</sup> to October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Both in-person and online/social media outreach will be conducted by MPO staff. TAC and TPB members will be asked to act on our planning table revisions during the scheduled October meetings. MPO staff are available to address any questions or concerns.

## **B. Discussion regarding Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 16 Revisions and Project Readiness Workshop.**

Action

Possible Action

Information

**Presenter:** Eva Garcia, RGVMPPO Planner III

**Summary:** RGVMPPO staff will present a synopsis of the TAC Chapter 16 revisions and its potential impacts. Project details were discussed with Technical Advisory Committee members and Project Managers during the Project Readiness Workshop held on September 12, 2024. Transportation Policy Board members will be presented with a summary of the Workshop's outcomes and proposed next steps.

**Background:** The Texas Transportation Commission approved Minute Order (MO) 116630 on January 17, 2024, officially amending the TAC. This MO impacts Transportation Allocation Funding Formulas for the Unified Transportation Program (UTP). The new TAC rules will require the RGVMPPO to increase allocation utilization and decrease carryover to avoid the transfer of Category 7 funds exceeding the 200% fiscal year allocation threshold.

## **C. Discussion on Annual RGV Thoroughfare/ROW Plan Amendment Process**

Action

Possible Action

Information

**Presenter:** Luis M. Diaz, RGVMPPO Interim Director

**Summary:** As part of the Yearly RGV Thoroughfare Plan Amendment Process, Staff will be accepting amendments to the RGV Thoroughfare Plan until December 20, 2024. Please keep in mind that all Thoroughfare Plan Amendments must be accompanied by an online [Thoroughfare Plan Amendment Submittal Form](#) and Approved Resolution or Ordinance from the Jurisdictions Governing Body

**Background:** The RGVMPPO performs a yearly Thoroughfare Plan Amendment Process. Where planning partners throughout the region are asked to compare their jurisdiction's Right of Way (ROW) data with the RGVMPPOs [UMAP Interactive Map](#) Thoroughfare Plan Data and provide any amendments to the data reflected.

## **D. Update on RGVMPPO TMA Planning Certification Process**

Action

Possible Action

Information

**Presenter:** Luis M. Diaz, RGVMPPO Interim Director

**Summary:** RGVMPPO will provide an update on the upcoming TMA Planning Certification Review performed by FHWA and FTA.

**Background:** The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) personnel have been working closely with the Rio Grande Valley MPO and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to establish the dates for the upcoming Transportation Management Area (TMA) certification review required under title 23 United States Code (USC) 134(k) and 49 USC 1607. The review of the RGVMPPO metropolitan transportation planning process will take place on December 5-6th, 2024 at the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (Ken Jones Boardroom, Building B at 301 W. Railroad, Weslaco, TX 78596). The last federal TMA Certification Review was completed in December 8-10, 2020, and in May 2021 FHWA offices transmitted a letter certifying that the RGVMPPO was substantially compliant with USC 134(k) and 49 USC 1607.

## E. RGVMPPO Contract Updates

Action

Possible Action

Information

**Presenter:** Luis M. Diaz, RGVMPPO Interim Director

**Summary:** The RGVMPPO will provide an update on existing and pending contracts the MPO has initiated.

**Background:** In pursuit of excellence and comprehensive planning, the RGVMPPO acknowledges the value of expertise and collaboration, thus utilizing consultants on an as-needed basis for specific plans and programs. Embracing a versatile approach, the RGVMPPO has engaged private consultants to provide a range of services, including legal expertise and invaluable assistance in the development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

## F. RGVMPPO Executive Director's 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 District TP&D 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 Transportation Policy Board meeting is IN-PERSON at 1:30pm on October 30, 2024.