

RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RGVMPO)
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday October 10, 2024 – 10:00 AM

*The RGVMPO Technical Advisory Committee Meeting 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 Minute(s) for September 12, 2024

Action

Information

Presenter: Benjamin Worsham, TAC Chairman

Summary: Approval of the September 12, 2024

B. Approval of the 2024 RGVMPO Congestion Management Process

Action

Information

Presenter: Klarissa Gonzalez, RGVMPO Transportation Planner

Summary: The update to the 2024 RGVMPO Congestion Management Process (CMP) is complete. Staff will present the final report and identify changes that were recommended by federal planning partners after the report was last shared in July. RESOLUTION 2024-18 will be presented to the Transportation Policy Board on October 30th, 2024, for the final approval of the CMP.

Background: July of 2024, the RGVMPO presented the first draft of the 2024 update to the CMP. This is federally mandated activity for Transportation Management Areas (TMA), and the report will be considered during the certification of the RGVMPO in December. The purpose of a CMP is to identify, analyze, and monitor traffic congestion in urban areas to provide data-driven implementation strategies and evaluate their effectiveness over time.

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

Action

Information

Presenter: Rudy Zamora Jr., RGVMPO Transportation Planner II

Summary: RGVMPO staff are amending our short-range and long-range planning & programming tables: TIP & MTP. A 30-day Public Involvement period concludes on October 9th, 2024, and all revisions/modifications will require TAC & TPB members' approval.

Background: The Statewide TIP is updated quarterly and RGVMPPO staff is revising the short-range Transportation Improvement Program, and long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (TIP & MTP). Public Involvement, both virtual and in-person, was scheduled from September 9th, 2024, to October 9th, 2024. All revisions and modifications will require approval from our TAC & TPB members during the scheduled October meetings. Modifications are identified on both TIP & MTP tables, and a summary sheet has been provided.

V. Presentations & Reports

A. Presentation and Discussion regarding the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA; also known as Category 9) Program

Action Information

Presenter: Eva Garcia, RGVMPPO Planner III

Summary: RGVMPPO Staff will report the status of FY2019-2020 projects (working to reimburse funds), FY2021-2022 projects (working to obligate funds) and FY2023-2024 projects (working to execute AFAs) to ensure transparency with the RGVMPPO's policymakers and transportation officials. Additionally, Members will receive an update to the upcoming FY2025-2027 RGVMPPO TASA Call for Projects. This Call for Projects is anticipated to Open on Friday, November 1, 2024, with an accompanying TASA Workshop being held (virtually) the same day at 1:30pm. A second TASA Workshop will be held, also virtually, the following Friday, November 13, 2024, at 1:30pm. The content will be the same and the recordings will be posted on the RGVMPPO's Website and YouTube channel.

Background: RGVMPPO Staff have been leading TASA Working Group Meetings to collect feedback on the Program Guide, Scoring Criteria and Application, as part of the public involvement process for the competitive process for federal funds. We thank those engaged during those Working Group meetings for their valuable time and input. Regarding the updates to previously programmed projects, 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.

B. Presentation and Discussion regarding the RGVMPPO's Project Prioritization Process for Metro Mobility and Rehab (STP MM; also known as Category 7) Funds

Action Information

Presenter: Eva Garcia, RGVMPPO Planner III

Summary: RGVMPPO Staff will present Members with the results of the initial MentiMeter Questionnaire regarding the Project Prioritization Process and be asked further questions in a new MentiMeter. Staff aims to continue solicit feedback on the strategic direction, goals, objectives, and targets of the region's priorities for improved performance-based planning and programming of Category 7 funds. Input gathered will be utilized for the future evaluation of Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP; long-range plan) projects prior to their addition to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP; short-range plan).

Background: As part of the development of the 2050 MTP and ongoing conversations regarding utilization/carryover during the Project Readiness Subcommittee workshops, RGVMPPO Staff have been reviewing requirements within United States Code Title 23 Chapter 1 Section 134. Metropolitan transportation planning. Redeveloping the Project Prioritization Process is important to help us better understand how the investment of federal funds can impact regional mobility in different ways. It is both possible to forecast the expected impact and validate the results once a project is completed through the Transportation Performance Management (TPM) process, which Staff plans to further dive into in future Project Readiness Workshops.

C. TJKM - SS4A Comprehensive Plan Initial Project Status

Action

Information

Presenter: Nayam Amin, TJKM President

Summary: The RGVMPPO is developing a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan as part of the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) initiative. This plan focuses on improving road safety, particularly in Starr County, Hidalgo County, City of Harlingen, and City of Brownsville, and aims to enhance safety for all users across the region. The update will cover progress on the plan's development and upcoming steps.

Background: The RGVMPPO received SS4A grant funding to create the region's first Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. With over 50% of the population living in HDCs, the plan targets critical safety needs by identifying key countermeasures and potential pilot locations (Starr County, Hidalgo County, City of Harlingen, and City of Brownsville) for future implementation. This update will highlight current efforts, stakeholder engagement, and next steps in the project.

D. RGVMPPO Executive Director's Report and Updates

Action

Information

Presenter: Luis Diaz, RGVMPPO Interim Executive Director

Summary:

1. Budget Update
2. Hidalgo County Active Transportation & Tourism Plan
3. 2024 Thoroughfare Update

E. TxDOT Letting Report

Action

Information

Presenter: TxDot Pharr District TP&D Staff

F. Cameron County RMA Project Status Report

Action

Information

Presenter: Eric Davila, Cameron County RMA Chief Development Engineer

G. Hidalgo County RMA Project Status Report

Action

Information

Presenter: Ramon Navarro, Hidalgo County RMA Chief Construction Engineer

H. Transit Status Report

Action

Information

Presenter: Transit Representative

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 IN-PERSON at 10:00am on December 12, 2024.