

FULL POLICY BOARD AGENDA

POLICY BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, May 26, 2021 – 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 – Maybe submitted online or maybe submitted in paper form specifying the matter you wish to address.

1. Approval of April 28, 2021, Minutes

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Ambrosio Hernandez, Chairman**

Item Summary: Approval of the April 28, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Background: N/A

2. Consent Agenda

2.1 Discussion and Possible Action on FY 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Andrew Canon, RGVMPO**

Item Summary: A recommendation for Transportation Policy Board (TPB) approval of new staff budget (UPWP) for FY 2022-2023.

Background: The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is the office budget used to meet the daily needs of RGVMPO staff. This budget provides funding for salaries, fringe, and indirect fees as well as funding for contract services as needed, replacement and upgrading of office equipment and staff travel when needed. The UPWP also provides funding for planning partners such as transit providers and local governments when appropriate. TxDOT has identified an approximate budget of \$2.2M annually not including any carryover amounts from unexpended funds of previous years. **Item was approved unanimously at TAC. Staff recommends approval.**

2.2. Discussion and Possible Action on “Trade Fair” Partnership with NCTCOG

Action Possible Action Information

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

Item Summary: The Committee will be briefed on a proposed. “Trade Fair” partnership with North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) MPO and Rio Grande Valley MPO and will be asked to recommend Transportation Policy Board (TPB) approval of the partnership.

Background: The Rio Grande Valley MPO Executive Director approached NCTCOG with a proposal of creating a trade of Cat. 7, Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds. The Rio Grande Valley MPO is requesting to borrow cash flow/allocation authority from RTC/NCTCOG for a total of \$14,578,845 of STBG funds in FY2022. In turn, the RGVMPPO would repay the full \$14,578,845 of STBG funds back to NCTCOG in FY2026. The purpose of the request is to advance the Veterans International Bridge project, CSJ # 0921-06-313 which is presently identified in FY 2026 but is capable of being let to construction in FY 2022 should the funding be identified and approved. The terms of the repayment are still to be determined. This item was approved at the May 13th NCTCOG Policy Board meeting. **Item was approved unanimously at TAC. Staff recommends approval.**

2.3. Discussion and Possible Action of Re-Designation Amendment

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Andrew Canon, RGVMPPO**

Item Summary: A Re-designation Agreement is required by law to effectuate the consolidation of MPOs.

Background: The amended Re-Designation is needed to define the Composition of the Policy Board: There is an initial thirty-one (31) **VOTE** Policy Board and is seeking to amend to a 32**VOTE** Policy Board. The signatories to the Re-designation Agreement will be required to make any changes to the Re-designation agreement (i.e., changes cannot be made by simply amending the bylaws). The Policy Board approved the MAB expansion and By-Law amendment at the previous April 28th meeting. **Staff recommends approval.**

Tabled at May 13th TAC meeting

2.4. Discussion on 2021-2024 STIP Timeline Update

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Andrew Canon, RGVMPPO/TxDOT**

Item Summary: Staff will be providing and seeking additional information on the STIP timeline and MTP/TIP amendment process.

Background: The STIP was approved by James Bass, TxDOT Executive Director and forwarded to FHWA. Staff is seeking an update from TxDOT on next steps in the process and how this will impact the TIP/MTP update/amendment timeline.

2.5. Discussion and Update of Federal Certification Review from 2020

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Andrew Canon, RGVMPPO/FHWA**

Item Summary: The primary purpose of a certification review is to formalize the continuing oversight and day-to-day evaluation of planning process. The certification review process, which is conducted jointly by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA), ensures that the planning requirements of 23 U.S.C. 134(k)(5) and 49 U.S.C. 5303 (k)(5) are being satisfactorily implemented and all major transportation issues are being met.

Background: In December of calendar year 2020, FHWA, FTA and TxDOT met with staff via ZOOM, to examine and walk through the processes of the newly formed RGVMPPO and provide feedback to staff on the carrying out of the planning process. During this meeting FHWA, FTA and TxDOT met with several Policy Board members as well to ascertain their understanding and input of the planning process and staff performances. FHWA and FTA prepare a final report to provide the Policy Board and public, feedback on how MPO's are carrying out the planning process and to provide guidance where needed so MPO's can maximize their planning processes.

2.6 Discussion and Action of Official RGVMPPO Logo

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Andrew Canon, RGVMPPO**

Item Summary: The purpose of this action is to provide a logo, visual representation to associate the public with the RGVMPPO.

Background: Staff has provided several iterations and have narrowed down the selection process following guidance from Policy Board members. Staff took further steps and reached out to the vendors who print office business cards and shirts and were provided guidance that small text would be washed on small logo prints such as business cards and more colors in the logo would result in more cost associated with any reproductions of the logo on printed materials. **Staff recommends adoption of option #1.**

III. RGVMPPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT AND UPDATES

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Andrew A. Canon, RGVMPPO

Item Summary: **Recognition of Policy Member**

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Andrew A. Canon, RGVMPPO

Item Summary: **New Offices Location – Follow-up**

Action Possible Action Information

Item Summary: **FY2021-2022 TASA Update**

Action Possible Action Information

Item Summary: **Financial Update**

Action Possible Action Information

Item Summary: **Combined June/July meeting on July 14, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m.**

V. Status Report

A. TxDOT Project Status Report

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: TxDOT

B. Cameron County RMA

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Pete Sepulveda**

C. Hidalgo County RMA

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Eric Davila**

D. Regional Transit (Metro)

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Jon Bocanegra**

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

- VII. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the RGVMPPO Transportation Technical Committee is scheduled for **1:30 pm TBD by Policy vote on Item #IV Executive Director Update.**