

FULL POLICY BOARD AGENDA

POLICY BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, August 25, 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 July 14, 2021, Minutes**

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Ambrosio Hernandez, Chairman

Item Summary: Approval of the July 14, 2021, meeting minutes contained in packet will be requested for approval.

Background: N/A

2. **Consent Agenda**

2.1 **Discussion on ROW Funding Update**

Presenter: Norma Garza, TxDOT

Item Summary: On May 3, 2021, the District was directed to cease work on ROW acquisition for projects not in FY 20 or FY 21 lettings due to Statewide ROW Budget issues (expenditures were projected to extend beyond allocation). ROW Directive was later expanded to also include Local Government (LG) projects ROW acquisition with reimbursement from Federal Funds (Category 7). In late June / early July 2021, ROW Division began having discussions on how to move forward and prevent the same budget issues from occurring in the future. **(Presentation will be provided at the Policy Board meeting for more clarification).**

2.2. **Discussion and Possible Action of FY2019 TASA Projects Updates and Potential AFA Amendments**

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Eva Garcia, Planner III/BikePed Program Coordinator

Item Summary: RGVMPO Staff continues to review and monitor projects that have been awarded TASA funds. To ensure regional FY 2019 funds are obligated by September 2022, staff has been working with local government agencies to collect project updates. This presentation will highlight project challenges and potential changes that may be considered to amend AFAs, or otherwise provide clarification on how to proceed.

Background: Two years have passed since FY 2019 TASA funds were programmed to awarded/selected projects. Through the project development process, some challenges and changes have been discussed. RGVMPPO Staff, and our TxDOT partners, intend to continue to ensure transparency with the RGVMPPO's policymakers and transportation professionals. After the presentation, staff will be seeking feedback and guidance from TAC members.

2.3 Discussion and Possible Action of Projects for FY2021-2022 TASA Funds

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Eva Garcia, Planner III/BikePed Program Coordinator
Item Summary: RGVMPPO Staff will present information regarding the evaluated and scored projects that have been recommended by the RGVMPPO's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

Background: The RGVMPPO opened the FY 2021-2022 TASA Program Call for Projects on June 1, 2021. The Call closed on Friday, July 30, 2021. The RGVMPPO BPAC reviewed, evaluated, and scored project submittals on Wednesday, August 4, 2021. RGVMPPO Staff anticipates discussion from TAC members on the presented project list. The official programming of funds, through consideration and action, is tentatively set to take place during the September 2021 RGVMPPO Transportation Policy Board meeting.

2.4 Discussion on the Emergency Management Funds

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Missy Lowe, TxDOT Maintenance Division
Item Summary: Presentation regarding Federal Reimbursement Programs for Emergency Situations (Floods, Hurricanes, etc).

Background: The presentation is regarding the federal reimbursement programs, determining which agency will reimburse for damages during disasters, what types of expenditures are reimbursable, and meeting federal reimbursement requirements.

2.5 Discussion on the RGV Thoroughfare Plan Amendment

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Luis Diaz, RGVMPPO
Summary: As part of the Yearly RGV Thoroughfare Plan Amendment Process, Staff will be accepting amendments to the RGV Thoroughfare Plan until December 17, 2021. Please keep in mind that all Thoroughfare Plan Amendments must be accompanied by a Thoroughfare Plan Amendment 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 [RGVMPOs UMAP Interactive Map](#) Thoroughfare Plan Data and provide any amendments to the data reflected. The 2020 RGV Amendments Thoroughfare Plan was presented and approved on April 13, 2021, by Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court. Thoroughfare Plan received were solely from Hidalgo County Commissioner Precincts 1 and 4.

2.6 Discussion on the City of Mission Ongoing Projects

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Mayor Armando O'Caña (City of Mission)

Item Summary: Project #1 - An update on the Mission Madero Multi Modal International Bridge.

Project#2 – Introduction High Speed Train to Mission. High Speed Rail to connect from Houston to Mission.

Project#3 – Introduction Multi-Counties Loop Video Presentation. Four County Loop Corridor for 18-Wheeler, Rail, and Freight Traffic.

Background: U.S. Department of State issued Presidential Permit to the City of Mission for the construction and operation of a Vehicular and Rail Bridge in 1978. As the only railroad bridge to Mexico between Brownsville and Laredo, this bridge will improve the international trade between Mexico and the United States.

IV. RGVMPPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT AND UPDATES

Presenter: **Andrew A. Canon, RGVMPPO**
Action Possible Action Information

Item Summary: New Offices Location – Follow-up

**Item Summary: TRB Conference – Washington, DC
January 9-13, 2022**

Item Summary: Financial Update

Presenter: **Javier Dominquez, Planner I**
Action Possible Action Information

Item Summary: Resiliency Update

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: **Frank Jaramillo**

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 **10:00 am on September 29, 2021.**