

# FULL POLICY BOARD AGENDA

## POLICY BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, September 29, 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 August 25, 2021, Minutes**

Action                       Possible Action                       Information

**Presenter:**                      **Ambrosio Hernandez, Chairman**

**Item Summary:** Approval of the August 25, 2021, meeting minutes contained in packet will be requested for approval.

**Background:**                      N/A

2. **Consent Agenda**

2.1 **Discussion on the 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. RGVMPO Staff, and our TxDOT partners, intend to continue to ensure transparency with the RGVMPO's policymakers and transportation professionals. After the presentation, staff will be seeking feedback and guidance from Transportation Policy Board members.

**2.2 Discussion and Action of Projects for FY2021-2022 TASA Funds and Approval of Resolution 2021-15 for Programming of 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 and further supported by RGVMPPO Technical 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. The RGVMPPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee took action recommending the full funding of six project proposals during their September 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting. This recommendation was further supported by action during the September 9<sup>th</sup> RGVMPPO Technical Advisory Committee Meeting.

**2.3 Discussion and Action on City of Edinburg Census (1 Additional Vote) to Include approval of Resolution 2021-16 Amended RGVMPPO Bylaws**

**Action**                       **Possible Action**                       **Information**

**Presenter:**                      **Andrew Canon, Executive Direction (RGVMPO)**

**Item Summary:** Based upon the 2010 Census, the composition of the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) voting membership is as follows: The signatory cities are allocated board votes are: Brownsville - 4, McAllen - 3, Harlingen - 2, **Edinburg - 2**, Pharr - 2 and Mission - 2. All other cities over fifty thousand (50,000) population are allocated one (1) board member.

**Background:** As per the RGVMPPO Bylaws, Cities with a population over fifty thousand (50,000) are allocated one or more **VOTES** on the Transportation Policy Board, along with the two (2) counties and other transportation partners. All population requirements will be determined based on the most recent U.S. Decennial Census. Transportation Policy Board membership shall be adjusted following publication of each official decennial census.

Cities will be given membership on the Transportation Policy Board based on one (1) member with one vote once the city reaches fifty thousand (50,000) population in an official census (the federal threshold for the creation of an MPO) and one (1) additional **VOTE** for each additional fifty thousand (50,000) population bracket marker reached. **City of Edinburg** has reached that threshold, which will allow them for one (1) additional vote, total vote of **three (3)**.

## 2.4 Discussion and Action on FY 2021-2024 Highway and Transit TIP & 2045 MTP - November Revisions and Approval of Resolutions 2021 – 17 & 18

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Rudy Zamora, Planner I

**Item Summary:** RGVMPPO Staff posted documents for Public Involvement via our website and social media outlets. Public Involvement will conclude on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, and these revised documents require approval by the RGVMPPO Transportation Policy Board. These documents (attached within TPB members' packets for review) include revised Highway, Transit TIP, & MTP tables with accompanying Summary Sheets. **Resolutions will need signatures by designated Board Members.**

**Background:** The FY 2021-2024 statewide TIP, or STIP, is pending updates from the July Revision period. Additional updates were received for the November Revision period, so all necessary changes have been identified. The MTP has been revised as well, with most recent changes highlighted throughout the document. The 30-day public involvement period is ending, Technical Advisory Committee members have approved these documents, and RGVMPPO staff is seeking final approval from TPB members. Once documents are uploaded to the E-STIP Portal, a 30-day comment period (at the state level) will begin on October 29<sup>th</sup>. The earliest date for FHWA/FTA approval is November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Staff appreciates your time and consideration and are available to address questions and/or concerns.

## 2.5 Action to approve Resolution 2021-19 to Support and Approve the Grouping of TASA Projects

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Andrew Canon, Executive Direction (RGVMPO)

**Summary:** The modification aligns with the recommendation from the Transportation Planning and Programming (TPP) Division of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to update the Group Project Definitions which was revised in accordance with 23 CFR 450218(g) and applicable classifications under 23 CFR 771.117 (c) and (d) and/or 40 CFR part 93 by Texas Park and Wildlife (TPWD) and TxDOT, the Federal Transit Agency (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on February 23, 2021.

**Background:** After several discussions with TxDOT, TPP, we believe it is in the best interest of the RGVMPO to group the TASA projects to assure or minimize any loss of TASA funds in the future. TxDOT does not list these Category 9 projects independently and this would bring the RGVMPO into alignment with TxDOT to assure a mirrored approach to the TASA planning efforts.

### IV. RGVMPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT AND UPDATES

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Andrew A. Canon, RGVMPO

**Item Summary:** Financial 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:**

**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 RGVMPO Transportation Policy Board is scheduled for **1:30 pm on October 27, 2021.**