

FULL POLICY BOARD AGENDA

POLICY BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, March 30, 2022 – 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.

IV. **Consent Agenda**

1. **Approval of Minutes:**

February 23, 2022

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Judge Eddie Trevino, Jr., Chairman

Item Summary: Approval of the February 23, 2022, Regular Meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item "A" will be requested.

Background: N/A

2. **Discussion and Action to approve Resolution 2022-07 for Federal Functional Classification of Russel Road CSJ: 0921-02-362.**

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Luis Diaz, Asst. Director

Item Summary: The RGVMPO is presenting project requesting Federal Functional Classification of Russel Road CSJ: 0921-02-362

Background: Federal legislation continues to use functional classification in determining eligibility for funding under the Federal-aid program. Transportation agencies describe roadway system performance, benchmarks, and targets by functional classification. As agencies continue to move towards a more performance-based management approach, functional classification will be an increasingly important consideration in setting expectations and measuring outcomes for preservation, mobility, and safety.

3. Discussion and Action to approve the Federal Functional Classification Resolution 2022- 08 - Amendment of East Loop CSJ: 0921-06-315.

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

Presenter: **Luis Diaz, Asst. Director**

Item Summary: The RGVMPPO is presenting project limits Amendment of Federal Functional Classification Resolution 2022-05 of East Loop CSJ:0921-06-315 to match project limits across all planning documents.

Background: Federal legislation continues to use functional classification in determining eligibility for funding under the Federal-aid program. Transportation agencies describe roadway system performance, benchmarks, and targets by functional classification. As agencies continue to move towards a more performance-based management approach, functional classification will be an increasingly important consideration in setting expectations and measuring outcomes for preservation, mobility, and safety.

4. Discussion and Action on 2021 Annual Project Listing (APL) for both Highway and Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

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

Presenter: **Luis Diaz, Asst. Director**

Summary: The RGVMPPO has reviewed the Annual Project List (APL) set forth by TxDOT which outlines how funds have been obligated in the preceding year, for all Highway and Bicycle / Pedestrian Projects. Staff is seeking approval for continuing the process for overall submittal to TxDOT.

Background: As required by the new transportation bill passed on December 4th, 2015, the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act outlines the requirement for Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to publish an annual listing of projects for which funds have been obligated in the preceding year including a listing of pedestrian and bicycle projects. From FAST-Act, 23 U.S.C. 134(j)(7)(B), 23 U.S.C. 135(g)(5)(B), 49U.S.C.5303(j)(7)(B), and 49U.S.C.5304(g)(5)(B): “...an Annual Listing of projects, including investments in pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, for which Federal funds have been obligated in the preceding year shall be published or otherwise made available by the cooperative effort of the State, transit operator, and metropolitan planning organization for public review. The listing shall be consistent with the funding categories identified in each metropolitan transportation improvement program (TIP).” This provision is intended to increase the transparency of government spending on transportation projects and strategies in metropolitan areas to State and local officials, and to the public at large. Realizing this objective involves promoting accuracy and responsiveness in financial planning and adoption of a proactive approach to sharing information with the public in a meaningful way, at an appropriate time, and in a user-friendly format.

5. Discussion and Action on the FY2022 Spring CMP

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Andrew Canon, Executive Director

Summary: The Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for the Users (SAFETEA-LU) stipulated the requirement for the use of the Congestion Management Process (CMP) in Transportation Management Areas (TMA). The CMP is a regionally-accepted approach for managing congestion that provides accurate, up-to-date information on multimodal transportation performance and assesses alternative strategies (Travel Demand Management, Transportation Systems Management, and Asset Optimization) for mitigating congestion that meets state and local needs. While a CMP is required in urbanized areas of over 200,000 (also known as Transportation Management Areas), RGVMP and other Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) have the flexibility to design their own methods and approaches when developing the CMP.

Background: In the past, the RGVMP has been responsible for gathering the traffic congestion data on its own. The RGVMP will examine the network of roads and highways in the urbanized areas of Cameron and Hidalgo Counties, for an approximately 1000 miles of roadways. The scope of this project is to gather data on congestion levels in the urbanized areas of Cameron and Hidalgo County. Cost analysis of the proposal has been completed and submitted to TxDOT and procurement procedures of the LRGVDC were completed.

6. Discussion and Action on Staff Attending the Annual AMPO Planning Tools and Training Symposium Conference

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Andrew A. Canon, Executive Director

Item Summary: Staff is seeking approval to attend the Out of State Annual AMPO Planning Conference to be held in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, on May 16 – 20, 2022. This trip has been approved as part of the 2022-2023 UPWP under TASK 1.5. This annual meeting allows staff an opportunity to coordinate with other Planners and GIS Specialist across the globe on best practices, and innovative initiatives on the horizon.

Background: The symposium takes place over the course of two and a half days and consists of multiple roundtable workshops. The workshops are divided into two tracks: Core Functions and Hot Topics. The Core Functions track is developed with junior staff in mind and seeks to provide practical training by topic area (i.e., MPO process and products, public involvement/environmental justice/Title XI, performance management, etc.). The Hot Topics track is developed with senior-level staff in mind and provides peer-to-peer exchange and training opportunities to discuss the state of the practice, innovation, and identify efficiencies.

7. Discussion on Updates for the FY 2023-2026 TIP Tables & 2045 MTP Amendment # 6

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Rudy Zamora Jr., Transportation Planner II

Item Summary: The FY 2023-2026 Highway & Transit TIP tables are undergoing development prior to submitting to TXDOT TP&P for review. All project updates submitted have been reviewed and a draft Summary Sheet has been provided within the TPB meeting packet. A workshop was held on March 17th, 2022, and results will be shared within this meeting's packet as well. RGVMPPO staff will continue working with our planning partners throughout development of the TIP & MTP tables.

Background: Existing projects (whether programmed into TIP or MTP years) and new projects required submission of an update. A timetable for completion of the FY 2023-2026 STIP is also included within the meeting packet. After conducting a 30-day Public Involvement, final approval of MTP & TIP tables will be needed from both TAC & TPB during the month of May.

8. Discussion on Updates from Federal Highway Administration for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Overview of Highway, Transit, and Other

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Javier Dominguez, Transportation Planner I

Item Summary: This is the first of many updates from RGVMPPO Staff regarding the newly signed Infrastructure BIL and the verbiage from FHWA and dollar amounts that are allocated on the national and state level to each of the new, expanded, and existing programs.

Background: On August 10th, 2021, the Senate passed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, and it was later passed by the House of Representatives on November 5th, 2021. Ten Days later President Biden signed the BIL into Law and this is the first update from the Federal Highway Administration with numbers on the national and state level.

V. **RGVMPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT AND UPDATES**

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Andrew A. Canon, RGVMPO

Item Summary: Financial Update

Item Summary: 2022 TxDOT Transportation Planning Forum
May 2-5, 2022 - Omni Hotel – Houston
The focus of the 2022 planning conference is to connect you with Texas planning: sharing knowledge and experience and provide other updated information about planning and programming processes, procedures, and tools used to coordinate the development of transportation projects. Transportation workshops and presentations will showcase various topics such as environmental affairs, federal and state legislation, sustainability, public involvement, freight, and multi-modal planning.

Item Summary: RGVMPO Policy Board Retreat – [Friday, June 3, 2022 Cameron County Amphitheater and Event Center - 53550 Dolphin Cove - SPI](#)

The polling is complete and the RGVMPO Policy Board Retreat will be held on Friday, June 3rd at the following facilities. A big “Thank You” to Cameron County for providing this facility to us. Staff is working with Jason Gray, who I know has worked some of our local governments on such retreats. I am attaching some of his materials for your review. As we get closer, we will discuss the menu for lunch and will have that delivered so we can stay focused on our tasks at hand and maximize our time together. I look forward to this, we have wanted to do this since the merger and Covid got in our way. I know nothing but positive paths forward will come from this Board Retreat.

VI. **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: Nancy Sanchez

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

VIII. **Next Meeting:** The next RGVMPO Policy Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at **1:30 pm**.