

# AGENDA

**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2022 – 10:00 AM**  
**RIO GRANDE VALLEY**  
**METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RGVMPO)**

## VIRTUAL MEETING

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- I. **Call To Order**
- II. **Roll Call**
- III. **Public Comments** – May be submitted online or may be submitted in paper form specifying the matter you wish to address.
- IV. **Consent Agenda**

1. **Approval of Minute(s) for:**

June 9, 2022

July 14, 2022 (Canceled)

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

**Presenter:**                      **JP Terrazas, TAC Chairman**

**Item Summary:**                      Approval of the June 9, 2022, Regular Meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item “A” will be requested.

**Background:**                      N/A

2. **Presentation on TSMO (Transportation Systems Management & Operations)**

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

**Presenter:**                      **Samit Deo (Arcadis)**

**Item Summary:**                      TSMO is a strategic approach to proactively improve mobility for all modes of transportation by integrating planning and design with operations and maintenance to holistically manage the transportation network and optimize existing infrastructure.

**Background:**                      In recent years, Transportation Systems Management & Operations (TSMO) has played an important role in managing, maintaining, and improving the safety and efficiency of existing roadway infrastructure at both the national and state levels. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has adopted a TSMO vision and mission statement as presented below. TSMO Vision Statement: Improve safety and mobility for all modes of transportation by integrating planning, design, operations, construction, and maintenance activities and acknowledging all opportunities for innovation. TSMO Mission Statement:

Through innovation, collaboration, and performance-based decision making, transportation facilities are developed, constructed, maintained, and operated cost-effectively, with the end user in mind.



The continuity of this process invariably will refine and improve the process by which projects are submitted for consideration as well as the projects themselves. The latest version of the RGVMPPO Off System Project Evaluation Form is reflective of 3 TAC workshops and TPB approval May 27, 2020.

#### 5. Discussion and Action on the RGVMPPO Self – Certification Document: An Administrative Modification

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Rudy Zamora Jr., Transportation Planner II

**Item Summary:** TXDOT Planning & Programming reached out to MPO staff requesting modifications to our self-certification. This recommendation is regarding compliance with federal regulations and staff is requesting approval of modifications made. Signatures will be required from the TXDOT District Engineer and RGVMPPO Policy Board Chairman.

**Background:** For all Metropolitan Planning Agencies, concurrent with the submittal of the entire proposed TIP to FHWA and FTA as part of the Statewide TIP approval, the State and the MPO shall certify at least every 4 years that the metropolitan transportation planning process is being carried out in accordance with all applicable requirements. TXDOT TP&P notified all MPO's that revisions within verbiage may need addressing. RGVMPPO staff has made the necessary corrections and presented the document within the meeting packet.

#### 6. Discussion on Category 7 Funding Requests for Highway Projects

Action       Possible Action       Information

**Presenter:** Rudy Zamora Jr., Transportation Planner II

**Item Summary:** Prioritized projects are listed within tables combining current programming and proposed requests for Category 7 funding. The proposed programming combines annual allocation from the Unified Transportation Program (UTP) and carryover funds from FY 2022. RGVMPPO staff is seeking discussion on proposed priority project funding for the next amendment to the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) & Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

**Background:** RGVMPPO staff received numerous requests for additional Category 7 funding for highway projects. The requests included additional funding for Construction, Construction Engineering, Right of Way Acquisition, and Preliminary engineering. Our planning partners prioritized their projects and requests for additional Category 7 funding.

The tables included within the TAC packet list funding requests by fiscal year, current & proposed programming, and a financial breakdown of proposed programming compared to funding availability. The annual allocation allocated to RGVMPPO was added to unobligated carryover funds from FY 2022 which produced the available funding amounts for our next programming update.

7. **Discussion and Action on the Adoption of the RGVMPPO Public Participation Plan (PPP).**

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

**Presenter:**                      **Chris Nelson, Transportation Planner**

**Item Summary:**      RGVMPPO Staff has updated its Public Participation Plan. Significant updates include the addition of Starr County, which is now part of the MPO's Metropolitan Area Boundary (MAB), the updating of the Title VI Complaint form, which is now in English and Spanish, and the inclusion of language solidifying the RGVMPPO's commitment to Virtual Public Involvement (VPI) as an additional method to receive public comments. For the public involvement process for the PPP, a link to the document and a comment card were sent out via email to all TAC members and a notice was posted on the RGVMPPO's social media platforms on July 14th. RGVMPPO Staff also contacted ten homeowner's associations, six apartment complexes, and three manufactured housing parks by July 15th for notification.

**Background:**                      Per the Public Participation Plan, adopted on September 25, 2022, the plan is to be reviewed and amended, if necessary, every three years. The document itself is also required to undergo a 45-day public involvement period. In order to meet this deadline, RGVMPPO Staff has updated the plan and it can be considered for adoption by the RGVMPPO's Policy Board at the August 31st, 2022, Regular Meeting. The Public Participation Plan guides the mandatory public involvement process that the MPO must undergo for the approval of certain documents, including the MTP and TIP (**Resolution 2022-17 to be presented to Policy Committee for Approval on August 31, 2022**).

8. **Discussion on the RGVMPPO Request for Proposal for the FY 2022-2023 Corridor Study of FM509**

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

**Presenter:**                      **Chris Nelson, Transportation Planner**

**Item Summary:**                      RGVMPPO Staff has drafted a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the FY 2022-2023 Corridor Study of FM509. The RGVMPPO is responsible for gathering the corridor study data on its own. The scope of this project is providing preliminary engineering services for data collection analysis, preliminary drainage analysis, traffic projections, and traffic engineering and operations for FM 509 from US 281 to I-69E in Harlingen, Texas.  
Items shall include Traffic Data and Projections, Safety Analysis, Traffic and Operational Analysis and Evaluation of Constraints and Feasibility of Implementation.

**Background:**                      The release date for this RFP is scheduled for Sunday, September 4th, 2022. The anticipated award date is Thursday, December 15th, 2022. This project is intended to be completed by the end of FY 2023. If the study extends beyond this period, it will require that the obligated funds from the FY 2022-2023 UPWP be carried over into the FY 2024-2025 UPWP.

**9. Discussion on the RGVMPPO Request for Proposal for the Performance Management Framework Development and Implementation Study**

Action     Possible Action     Information

**Presenter:**            **Chris Nelson, Transportation Planner**

**Item Summary:**        RGVMPPO Staff has drafted a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Performance Management Framework Development and Implementation Study. The RGVMPPO is responsible for developing and establishing a Performance Management framework for its planning region.

The RGVMPPO is seeking to create an effective and efficient framework. The consultant should be prepared to perform the following tasks: assessment of current scoring process and program policies, review and synthesis report of regional, state, and federal performance goals and targets, assessment of tools, data, and capacity needed for performance target development and reporting, assessment of eligible funding categories and projects that can be submitted to the RGVMPPO. Develop a report on indicators of expected performance to be used in the development of assessment criteria in support of established goals expertise, develop proposed scoring categories applying to all projects, synthesizing high level goals and data-driven and technical expertise driven inputs – including BIL requirements, and develop recommendations and implementation scheme/toolkit.

**Background:**            The release date for this RFP is scheduled for Sunday, September 4th, 2022. The anticipated award date is Thursday, December 15th, 2022. This project is intended to be completed by the end of FY 2023. If the study extends beyond this period, it will require that the obligated funds from the FY 2022-2023 UPWP be carried over into the FY 2024-2025 UPWP.

**10. Discussion on the RGVMPPO Request for Proposal for the Comprehensive Sustainability and Resilience Analyses for MPO's**

Action     Possible Action     Information

**Presenter:**            **Chris Nelson, Transportation Planner**

**Item Summary:**        RGVMPPO Staff has drafted a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Comprehensive Sustainability and Resilience Analyses for the RGVMPPO region. The RGVMPPO is responsible for developing and establishing Comprehensive Sustainability and Resilience Analyses for the region. The consultant should be prepared to create a resulting report that will outline the methodology used to develop a scalable framework within the MTP update process that allows the MPO to leverage existing processes to analyze sustainability and resilience moving forward.

The selected consultant(s) should be prepared to review existing plans to determine how planning and policy driven mechanisms affect the sustainability and resilience of a community, perform a multimodal needs analysis, review recently completed analysis to identify stressors, perform analysis of site conditions to identify external stressors (land use, demographics, floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, fires, soil conditions, heat), and host a series of workshops with the general public, stakeholders, and MPO staff to review identified resources, assets, and stressors and solicit input.

**Background:** The release date for this RFP is scheduled for Sunday, September 4th, 2022. The anticipated award date is Thursday, December 15th, 2022. This project is intended to be completed by the end of FY 2023. If the study extends beyond this period, it will require that the obligated funds from the FY 2022-2023 UPWP be carried over into the FY 2024-2025 UPWP.

### 11. Discussion and Possible Action on IJJA Infrastructure BIL, specifically on the Safe Streets for All Grant Program

Action                       Possible Action                       Information

**Presenter:** Javier Dominguez Jr., Transportation Planner I

**Item Summary:** Presentation is based on updates on the notice of funding opportunities for the Infrastructure BIL and the upcoming application opportunity for Safe Streets for All Grant that is due on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**Background:** The US Department of Transportation has released a schedule of when the Notice of Funding Opportunities can be expected to be opened for the various program grants under the IJJA Infrastructure BIL. The RGVMPPO Staff will go over updates on these programs and discuss the Safe Street for All Grant application which has an application deadline of September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### 12. Discussion on the Texas Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan

Action                       Possible Action                       Information

**Presenter:** Javier Dominguez Jr., Transportation Planner I

**Item Summary:** Presentation of TxDOT Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan that is going through its approval process with the Federal Highway Administration.

**Background:** In partnership with the Texas Commission On Environmental Quality and the State Energy Conservation Office, TxDOT is developing an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan which lays out the next several years of EV charging station infrastructure deployment that will provide charging stations across the state. The RGVMPPO will present on a preliminary plan that includes a partnership with TxDOT and the MPO's across the state.

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

Action     Possible Action     Information

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

**Item Summary:**              Financial Update

**Item Summary:**              **Category 7, Metropolitan Mobility (STBG) Funding - for the selection of regionally significant Off-System Projects in consultation with TxDOT** - RGVMPO staff are presenting for consideration and possible adoption an updated resolution supporting the long-adhered policy of Category 7 funding being capped at the amounts approved by the TPB upon adoption at the August 31, 2022 Policy Meeting.

**Item Summary:**              **Policy Meetings November and December 2022 -**  
Staff is recommending to the Policy Board to combine the Policy meetings for (November and December) and that it be held on December 14, 2022.

**Item Summary:**              **2023 TxDOT UTP Public Comment** – Letter was mail out on behalf of Chairman – Judge Trevino to Mr. Bugg, Chairman of Tx Department of Transportation on July 25, 2022, regarding the Development of the 2023 TxDOT UTP (**See Attachment**).

**Item Summary:**              **Donna Project - TASA Update:** The RGVMPO and TxDOT have been formally notified of the City of Donna's decision to terminate their TASA Project, the Donna Sidewalks - South International Boulevard Project.

## VI. STATUS REPORTS

### 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:      Ramon Navarro

### D. McAllen Metro

Action       Possible Action       Information  
Presenter:      Jon Bocanegra

### E. Brownsville Metro

Action       Possible Action       Information  
Presenter:      Antonio Zubieta

### F. Valley 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 RGVMPPO Technical Advisory Committee is schedule "VIRTUAL" at **10:00 am on September 8, 2022.**