

# MINUTES

## Meeting of the Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (RGV MPO) Policy Committee

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

At  
1:30 pm

Web Ex Meeting

Presiding: Chairman Ambrosio “Amos” Hernandez (Mayor City of Pharr)

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Ambrosio “Amos” Hernandez called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM, a quorum was established. The Rio Grande Valley MPO Policy Committee Meeting was held as a WebEx Meeting with members present.

**II. Roll Call**

Roll call was taken, and present were representatives from each respective entity:

<b>Members Present:</b>	
<b>Entity</b>	<b>Individual</b>
City of Pharr	Mayor Ambrosio Hernandez (Chairman) Com. Eleazar Guajardo – Alternate
Cameron County	Judge Eddie Treviño, Jr. (Vice Chairman) Com. David A. Garza (Alternate)
Hidalgo County	Com. Eddie Cantu (Designee) Com. David Fuentes (Alternate)
City of Brownsville	Mayor Trey Mendez (Designee) Nurith Galonsky-Pinana (Alternate)
City of McAllen	Mayor Jim Darling (Designee) Roy Rodriguez (City Manager) Alternate
City of Edinburg	Mayor Ricard Molina (Designee) Comm. David White (Alternate)
City of Mission	Mayor Armando O’Caña (Designee) Comm. Jessica Ortega-Ochoa (Alternate)
City of Harlingen	Mayor Chris Boswell (Designee) Dan Serna (City Manager) Alternate
City of San Benito	Mayor Benjamin Gomez - Designee Manuel De La Rosa (Alternate)
Cameron County RMA	Frank Parker, Jr. (Designee) Arturo A. Nelson (Alternate)
Hidalgo County RMA	S. David Deanda, Jr. (Designee) Ramon Navarro, V (Proxyc)
Valley Metro	Tom Logan (Designee) Frank Jaramillo (Alternate)
TxDOT Pharr District	Pedro “Pete” Alvarez (Designee) Rex A. Costley (Alternate)
<b>EX-OFFICIO</b>	
RGV Partnership	Sergio Contreras (Designee)
<b>Others Present:</b>	
RGVMPO	Andrew Canon

**III. Public Comment**  
NONE

**IV. Presentation, Discussion and Action Items:**

**A. Adoption of Minutes From:**

*May 27, 2020*

*Chairman Ambrosio “Amos” Hernandez asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of May 27, 2020. No corrections were noted to the minutes of May 27, 2020. Mayor Jim Darling (City of McAllen) made a motion to approve the minutes as presented by staff. Tom Logan (Valley Metro) seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

**B. Consideration and Action on Resolution 2020-08 Regarding Category 7 Projects (TABLED)**

Andrew Canon noted that Resolution 2020-08 – Category #7 Funding is for Construction Purposes and projects are within the 10-Year horizon of the MTP. The (4) Four Year TIP funding have already been allocated and have executed Advance Funding Agreements and therefore, this measure shall take full effect beginning with Fiscal Year 2031 and shall remain in perpetuity or until amended by the RGVMPPO Policy Board.

Andrew Canon re-emphasized that there is “no additional “CAT 7” Funding” available, and provided a list on several request made as follows:

NOTES:

*24 Requests for increased CAT 7 funding -	\$ 39,963,656.00
*28 New Projects requesting CAT 7 funding -	\$ 249,288,906.00
* 3 Projects requesting additional CAT 2 -	\$ 5,057,713.00
* 2 New Projects requesting CAT 1 Funding -	\$ 16,500,000.00

17 Projects phases requesting acceleration  
6 Projects requested to be moved back

\*31 New Projects  
Requested to be added to the 2021-2024 TIP:  
Requested to be added to the 2020-2045 MTP:  
\*137 Total Projects Submitted

Chairman Ambrosio Hernandez informed Policy Members, this will not affect the current 10-year Construction Projects and recommends moving forward with “Resolution 2020-08 “Category 7 Projects” as presented. The Goal is moving more project forwards, that are shovel ready.

Vice Chairman Trey Mendez (Cameron County) asked, will this affect the current projects and how does the rest of the Policy Members feel about this Resolution being proposed (Audio was very hard to understanding).

Commissioner Eddie Cantu (Hidalgo County) had a concern on how it would affect, if any, other projects from the various cities and counties.

TxDOT noted that this is a local decision that needs to be made by the local officials and Policy Committee, and TxDOT will not be voting For or Against this Resolution. TxDOT will be available for any support, data or any information needed.

Several Policy members suggested that due to poor audio and having problems understanding what Policy members are trying to convey regarding this proposed Resolution 2020-08 - Category 7 Project, this should be tabled and discussed again at the next Policy Meeting.

**After much discussion on this item, Mr. Frank Parker (Cameron County RMA) made a motion to “Table” Resolution 2020-08 Category 7 Projects”. The motion was seconded by Mayor Jim Darling (City of McAllen); and upon a vote, the motion passed. TxDOT Abstained.**

Mayor Jim Darling (City of McAllen) noted that due to WebEx technical difficulties, recommended that items (C thru F) be presented by the Executive Director and all items be approved under one motion. Policy Members present were in consensus to proceed as recommended.

**C. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 2020-09 Functional Classification Projects**

Staff noted that HCRMA and CCRMA have submitted projects to be Functionally Classified as Principal Arterial and Major Collector (**Resolution Provided for Approval**).

**D. Consideration and Action to Approve FY2015-2040 MTP Amendment #3**

Staff provided MTP Amendment #3 for review and approval.

**E. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 2020-11 - FY2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Staff provided the updated FY2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for approval, and noted that additions/changes were highlighted in "RED"

**F. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 2020-12 – Revisions to FY2019-2022 Transit TIP**

Staff provided a brief update on the Revisions to FY2019-2022 Transit TIP and noted that Administrative changes and revisions to Brownsville, McAllen and Valley Metros have been made to the in-house document, marked with red indications, and will be uploaded to the TxDOT Portal accordingly. Staff will be functioning out of the 2019-2022 TIP until the 2021-2024 TIP is Approved. As soon as the 2021-2024 Tip is approved by FHWA/FTA, the 2019-2022 becomes null and void. Revisions made to transit projects are currently under review through Public Involvement.

No discussion took place on Items "C" thru "F", Commissioner Eddie Cantu (Hidalgo County) made a motion to approve items as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Jim Darling (City of McAllen) and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Jim Darling (City of McAllen) noted that maybe for the next Policy Meeting, members should consider hosting it at the McAllen Convention Center, which can accommodate all the Policy Members, including staff and provide social distancing. Facility is equipped with monitors and Wi-Fi. No discussion took place on this request by the City of McAllen, Policy Members present agreed to have the Executive Director set up the next Policy meeting at the McAllen Convention Center.

**V. RGVMPPO Executive Directors Reports and Updates**

A. Financial Update - (Report filed with RGVTPB Packet)

B. Consultant Update (As Needed)

C. Staff Updates – NONE

**VI. Status Report**

A. TxDOT Project Status Report (Action Taken as Required) - (Report filed with RGVTPB Packet)

B. Cameron County RMA - (Report filed with RGVTPB Packet)

C. Hidalgo County RMA - (Report filed with RGVTPB Packet)

D. Regional Transit (Metro) - (Report filed with RGVTPB Packet)

**VII. New or Unfinished Business**

- Staff noted that no TAC / Policy meetings are scheduled for the month of July 2020.

**VIII. Adjournment**

*There being no further business to come before the Policy Board, Chairman Ambrosio "Amos" Hernandez called for a motion to adjourn at 2:15 PM. WebEx Meeting. Pedro Alvarez (TxDOT) made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Jim Darling (City of McAllen) seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

ATTEST:

  
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RGVMPPO POLICY COMMITTEE  
(TPB) VICE CHAIRMAN