

Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
 Minutes
 October 10, 2019

I) CALL TO ORDER

Pete Sepulveda, (Cameron County RMA) Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. The RGVTAC Meeting was held at the Ken Jones Boardroom located at 301 West Railroad, Weslaco, Texas

II) ROLL CALL

RGVTAC Representatives in attendance were as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT	
ENTITY	VOTING MEMBERS
Cameron County RMA	Pete Sepulveda, Chairman
City of Mission	JP Terrazas, Vice Chairman
City of Brownsville	Mark Lund
City of Edinburg	Tom Reyna
City of Harlingen	ABSENT
City of McAllen	Patrizia Longoria
City of Pharr	Omar Anzaldua
City of San Benito	ABSENT
Cameron County	ABSENT
Hidalgo County	Anthony Garza
TxDOT Pharr District	Melba Schaus
Valley Metro	Frank Jaramillo
Brownsville Metro	Norma Zamora
McAllen Metro	Jon Ray Bocanegra
Port of Brownsville	ABSENT
Port of Harlingen	ABSENT
Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District	ABSENT
Hidalgo County RMA	Eric Davila
Cameron County Spaceport Dev. Corp.	ABSENT
NON-VOTING MEMBERS	
LRGVDC	Ron Garza
Harlingen/San Benito MPO	J. Joel Garza
Hidalgo County MPO	Andrew A. Canon

III) PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

IV) PRESENTATION, ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of September 10, 2019

Pete Sepulveda (Cameron County RMA) Chairman asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of September 10, 2019 as presented by staff. **Norma Zamora (Brownsville Metro)** had a correction Under Section VI E - Brownsville Metro Presentation remove **“Rider 38 Funds”** from her Statement Report.

No further corrections were noted to the Minutes of September 10, 2019. The City of Brownsville made a motion approve the Minute of September 10, 2019 with corrections noted. The motion was seconded by the City of Edinburg; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

B. Consideration and Action approve the Highway TIP

Andrew Canon provided to the RGVTAC Members present the updated Highway TIP for approval and noted that it was part of the 45-day Public Involvement Process. Public Meetings were held in each respective region (Hidalgo, Harlingen and Brownsville) and information regarding the Highway TIP was made available for public review and comment. There were three (3) Public Meetings held at the following locations: 1) Harlingen City Hall – 118 East Tyler Ave, Harlingen - Tuesday, October 8, 2019 5pm – 7pm; 2) Brownsville Public Library - Main Branch, 2600 Central Blvd, Brownsville, Wednesday – October 9, 2019 from 5:15PM – 8:45PM and 3) Ken Jones Boardroom 301 West Railroad, Weslaco, Thursday – October 10, 2019 from 3:30PM – 6:00 PM. Staff concluded by noting that no Public Comments were received from the other two meetings there were held, and any comments In-house have been incorporated. Staff is recommending that the RGVTAC Committee approve the Highway TIP as presented to the RGVTCPB for their consideration and approval at the October 30, 2019 RGVTCPB Meeting. Mark Lund did ask for clarification “B-Metro” is shown on the TIP document, just want to make sure that it is also shown on the MTP. Andrew confirmed that after speaking with TxDOT staff, B-Metro will be documented on both the TIP and MTP.

After some discussion on this item, TxDOT made a motion to recommend the Highway TIP presented by staff to the RGVTCPB for their consideration and approval. Brownsville Metro seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

C. Consideration and Action to Approve the Transit TIP

Mr. Andrew Canon provided to the RGV TAC Members present the final Transit TIP for approval and noted that the Transit TIP has also gone through the 45-day Public Involvement Process. Public Meetings were held in each respective region (Hidalgo, Harlingen and Brownsville).

After some discussion on this item, TxDOT made a motion to approve the Transit TIP as presented by staff to the RGVTPB for their consideration and approval. Brownsville Metro seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

D. Consideration and Action to approve the 2045 MTP

Andrew Canon provided to the RGV TAC Members present an update on the 2045 MTP and noted this document is inclusive with the TIP Tables. Public Meeting were held accordingly in each respective region (Hidalgo, Harlingen and Brownsville). This document was prepared by Alliance Transportation Group, which they also prepared Harlingen and San Benito. Staff concluded by letting RGV TAC Members know that staff feels comfortable presenting the 2045 MTP to the RGVTPB Members for approval.

After some discussion on this item, the City of Edinburg made a motion to recommend the 2045 MTP presented by staff to the RGVTPB for their consideration and approval. HCRMA seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

E. Consideration and Action to Approve and Execute Contract with CoPlan for a Region Congestion Study

Andrew Canon gave a brief update regarding the status for a Region Congestion Study. Andrew noted that only one bid was received (CoPlan) after LRGVDC issued advertisements soliciting Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Region Wide Congestion Management Process (CMP). CoPlan did performed the CMP Studies for all three (3) of the RGV, Brownsville, Harlingen-San Benito and Hidalgo County. Staff has performed a Cost Analysis of the proposal as approved by the TAC at their September 10, 2019 meeting. Staff concluded by noting that the contract with CoPlan will not exceed \$347,897.50 and is under budget.

No discussion took place on this item, City of Brownsville made a motion to recommend Executing Contract with CoPlan for a Region Congestion Study not to exceed \$347,897.50 as presented by staff to the RGVTPB for their consideration and approval. The City of Pharr seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously

F. Consideration and Action to Approve and Execute Contract with Alliance Transportation Group for the Long-Range Plan, Bike-Ped Plan and Long-Range Transit Plan

Andrew Canon gave a brief update to RGV TAC Members present for the three-part (Region Wide Long-Range Plan (MTP), Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan and Long-Range Regional Transit Plan) contract with Alliance Transportation Group. Andrew noted that only one submittal was received, (Alliance Transportation Group) after LRGVDC issued advertisements soliciting Request for Proposals (RFP). Alliance Transportation Group has performed One (1) or more of the requested studies for all 3 regions of the RGV, Brownsville, Harlingen-San Benito and Hidalgo County previously. Staff has performed a Cost Analysis of the proposal as approved by TAC at the September 10, 2019 meeting. The bid was **\$176,361.00** less than budgeted in the approved FY 2020-2021 UPWP. Staff recommends execution of the contract not to exceed **\$997,843.94** with **Alliance Transportation Group**, to be signed on October 30, 2019 at the regularly scheduled RGV MPO TPB meeting.

After some discussion on this item, City of Edinburg made motion to move forward with staff recommendation to RGVTPB and Execute Contract with Alliance Transportation Group in the amount of \$997,843.94, to the RGVTPB for their consideration and approval. TxDOT seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

G. Consideration and Action to Approve the Selection of CMP and MTP Sub-Committee

Andrew Canon noted that the purpose for the CMP and MTP Sub-Committees, is to provide guidance to both staff and consultants. Pete Sepulveda, (Cameron County RMA) Chairman recommended that this item be table at this time, due to the poor attendance/participation by RGV TAC members and would like to have this item back on the agenda at the next RGV TAC Meeting.

No discussion took place on this item, the City of Pharr made a motion to table this time as recommended by the Chairman. Brownsville Metro seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

H. Discussion and Update of Title VI Documents

Andrew Canon presented to RGV TAC Members the Title VI Compliance Documents that were developed in both English and Spanish by staff and will be available for viewing by the public. These documents will be provided to the RGVTPB for their review and execution. Documents are as follows: **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

1. Complaint Procedures
2. Discrimination Complaint Consent
3. Discrimination Complaint Form
4. Nondiscrimination Statement
5. Title VI Assurances
6. Title VI DBE Assurances

V) RGVMPPO STAFF REPORT AND UPDATES

RGVMPO – Staff noted that FY2020-2021 TIP - Deadline is scheduled for February 2020 – A 30 Day Public Involvement will be held, and notice will be sent out.

TxDOT – Melba Schaus noted for the new TIP Revision FY2021-2024, there will be carry/added projects from FY2021-2022 into this new TIP. Staff needs to create a new form and or way to identified added project into this new TIP to help with the new RGVMPPO Process. Andrew Canon noted that one already exists that staff can revamp and will be sending it out to RGVTAC Members for them to review and send any comments back to staff, prior to the February deadline.

Ron Garza – Planner II - Mention that Job Announcement for Planner II has been advertised, with experience in Transportation and/or City/ County Planning in Cameron County. For the record only one application has been received, but not with the requirement requested by members. Hoping for more applicants to apply.

VI) STATUS REPORTS

A. TxDOT Project Status Reports

Melba A. Schaus with TxDOT provided an updated report on projects within the RGVMPPO area. Monthly Letting Projects listed were two projects for October 2019 and one Project in August 2020, which are added capacity projects only. RGVTAC Members present requested that TxDOT submit a listing of all the projects on a separate spreadsheet. Melba Schaus noted she will be providing the report as requested. The intention will be to cover only the RGV MPO Letting update. The Pharr District letting will capture all the non-mobility projects (i.e. traffic signals). **Report only, no action taken at this time**

B. Cameron County RMA

Adrian Rincones, Cameron County RMA provided a presentation on projects that are currently within the Cameron County RMA. All projects are moving forward as scheduled and Cameron County RMA monthly report is filed with the October 10, 2019 RGVTAC Packet. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

C. Hidalgo County RMA

Eric Davila, Chief Development Engineer with Hidalgo County RMA provided an overview and noted that all projects are continuing to move forward. Hidalgo County RMA monthly report is filed with the October 10, 2019 RGVTAC Packet. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

D. McAllen Metro

Jon Ray Bocanegra provided a brief update to RGVTAC Members present and noted that the Ridership Report covers from October 2018 to August 2019. McAllen Metro monthly report is filed with the October 10, 2019 RGVTAC Packet. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

E. Brownsville Metro

Norma Zamora provided a brief update to RGVTAC Members present and noted that the Brownsville Metro Report is filed with the October 10, 2019 RGVTAC Packet. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

F. Valley Metro

Frank Jaramillo provided a brief update to RGVTAC Members present and noted that Ridership continues to be study. Report is filed with the October 10, 2019 RGVTAC Packet. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

VII) NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- City of Edinburg – The City of Edinburg will launch a Six-Month Pilot Program in which Blue Duck will share ridership data to develop micro-mobility regulations fit for Edinburg. Users must download the Blue Duck app to unlock access to them for \$1 each time, then will be charged 25 cents every subsequent minute. The app reveals nearby ducks, and after choosing one to use, the rider can take it to any destination and park it there for the next user. Notices will be sent out to the various cities after the six months trail.

VIII) ADJOURNMENT:

- **There being no further business to come before the RGVTAC, Pete Sepulveda, (Cameron County RMA) Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. The City of McAllen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 AM. The motion was seconded by City of Pharr; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**