

Rio Grande Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes
January 9, 2020

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	Armando Gutierrez
City of Edinburg	Tom Reyna
City of Harlingen	Joel Garza
City of McAllen	Patrizia Longoria
City of Pharr	ABSENT
City of San Benito	Bernard Rodriguez
Cameron County	Benjamin Worsham
Hidalgo County	Armando Garza, Jr.
TxDOT Pharr District	Melba Schaus
Valley Metro	Frank Jaramillo
Brownsville Metro	Norma Zamora
McAllen Metro	Jon Ray Bocanegra
Port of Brownsville	Ariel Chavez, III
Port of Harlingen	Neil Haman
Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District	ABSENT
Hidalgo County RMA	Eric Davila
Cameron County Spaceport Dev. Corp.	Mark Yates
STAFF	
RGVMPO	Andrew A. Canon

III) PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

IV) PRESENTATION, ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of November 14, 2019

Pete Sepulveda (Cameron County RMA) Chairman asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of November 14, 2019 as presented by staff. *Norma Zamora noted one correction. Ms. Zamora was not in attendance at the TAC Meeting held November 14, 2019. No other corrections were noted to the minutes of November 14, 2019, Benjamin Worsham (Cameron County) made a motion approve the Minute of November 14, 2019 with correction. The motion was seconded by Norma Zamora (Brownsville Metro); and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

B. Consideration and Action on the MTP Contract for 10% Increase to Address Onboard Transit Surveys

Andrew Canon noted that after careful discussions with Planning Partners, and to address the motion set before the Policy Board on October 30, 2019 by the City of Brownsville to assure that surveys of the Transit Providers provided an accurate and current statistical information, staff is requesting the approval of a contract amendment to the MTP with Alliance Transportation Group in the amount of \$119,780.00. This amount is 12% of the current approved contract amount which will provide additional data collection and analysis consisting of the following:

- Collection of boarding and alighting counts along with onboard origin- destination surveys for the following systems:
 - Valley Metro /Jag Express
 - B-Metro
 - McAllen System
 - Island Metro
 - UTRGV

After some discussion on this item, Norma Zamora (Brownsville Metro) made a motion to recommend the MTP Contract Increase to Address Onboard Transit Surveys in the amount of \$119,780.00 (12%) of the current approved contract to the RGVTAC as presented by staff. Eric Davila (HCRMA) seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

C. Discussion and Action Regarding the MAB Expansion

Andrew Canon submitted for review and information the process that would need to be followed for an expansion of the planning boundary (MAB) of the Rio Grande Valley MPO. These efforts will both be coordinated with TxDOT and FHWA. Information presented will provide some guidance and clarification on the process and as always staff is here to assist.

- MPO submits a formal letter to TxDOT requesting the boundary expansion (presenting evidence that the area will be urbanized within the next (20) years).
- The Transportation Policy Board is required to approve a Resolution of Support for the boundary expansion. TxDOT TPP receives the resolution along with minutes of the Transportation Policy Board meeting in which the resolution was approved.
- Maps of the current and proposed MPO boundary are submitted.
- A copy of the new bylaws are submitted to TPP showing how the new areas would be represented/or no need for further representation on the Board due to the new area (city or town) to be included in the boundary already be represented by the county, etc.).
- Resolutions of support by the communities/cities to be included in the new boundary.
- This information will then be used to put together a memo, which along with all documentation are then submitted by TxDOT to the Governor's Office for approval.

After some discussion on this item, Benjamin Worsham (Cameron County) made a motion to recommend the MAB Expansion to the RGVTPB as presented by staff. Norma Zamora (Brownsville Metro) seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

D. Discussion and Action on the UTP 2021 Update

Melba Schaus (TxDOT) provided the 2021 UTP Update and noted that it is in the process of identifying projects for consideration for the ten (10) year proposed project listing. The Program Call will be done in May 2020 and there will be a 45 Day Public Comment Period and adopted in August 2020 for the UTP 2021. TAC Members presented ask staff to draw up letter from TPB, to TxDOT Administration to advocate for these projects. **(Projects Listing part of the packet).**

No further discussion was held on the UTP 2021 Update as presented by TxDOT, Tom Reyna (City of Edinburg) made a motion to recommend approval of the UTP 2021 Update to TPB as presented. Gabriel Gonzalez (City of Harlingen) seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

E. Discussion and Action on TIP/MTP Submittals for February 2020 (Including Administrative Changes)

Rudy Zamora provided the most recent changes to the Transit (TIP), one change was B-Metro, there were six (6) Administrative Changes in Fiscal Year 2019; including funding adjustment in one Project (103), which was a "Project Description Change". In FY2020 there will be an Added Project (#124) for Planning Assistance - 5307 Funds; with an estimated amount of \$32,550.00. Changes will be uploaded to the STIP Portal once presented and approved TPB.

Crystal Gonzalez provided to TAC Members present the February 2020 Summary of the STIP Revisions and Administrative Changes to the MTP/TIP Highway Amendments for review and approval. All new changes/additions were highlighted in yellow and were made part of the packet.

No discussion was held on the TIP/MTP Submittals for February 2020 (Including the Administrative Changes), Norma Zamora (Brownsville Metro) made a motion to recommend approval of the TIP/MTP Submittals for February 2020 (Including Administrative Changes) to TPB as presented by staff. Melba Schaus (TxDOT) seconded the motion; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

F. Discussion on the Functional Classification Update

Luis Diaz informed TAC Members present, that staff will be conducting a review on Functional Classification GIS Data in relation to projects funded on the 2045 MTP. The current Functional Classification can be viewed online through the VIA Online Interactive Mapping Tool "UMAP" at <http://www.rgvmpo.org/gisapps/GISRGMPO/>. Staff concluded by letting TAC Members know, the RGVMP Office can be contacted should assistance be needed to navigate or utilize the UMAP Online. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

G. Discussion on the Thoroughfare Plan Updates

Luis Diaz informed TAC Members present, that staff will be conducting a review and updating the Thoroughfare Plan GIS Data. Staff is requesting from entities to view the VIA Online Interactive Mapping Tool "UMAP" for their respective entities "Thoroughfare Plan" for consistency and submit any inconsistencies identified to staff. The Official Thoroughfare Plan Amendment process will begin in or about August 2020. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

H. Discussion for the City Limits and ETJ Boundary Data

Fernando Cantu informed TAC Members present, that staff is working on updating the Zoning Districts, ETJ and Annexation datasets for all 37 Cities within the Region. Staff will be contacting each Planning Partner to coordinate and have entities submit data collection in either GIS or PDF Format. Staff concluded by advising TAC Members, to take a moment to visit the UMAP and review its respective entities Zoning and ETJ for consistency with the entity's internal plans. The current data can be viewed on the RGVMP interactive UMAP at (https://www.rgvmpo.org/gisapps/GIS_RGMPO/) website. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

I. Discussion on the Transit Route and Sidewalk Inventory

Fernando Cantu informed TAC Members present that the 2018 Sidewalk Data has been collected for the RGVMPPO area using aerials. This information collected will be utilize now and in the future. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

J. Discussion on the Performance Measures Updates

Miguel Arispe noted that prior to the merger, Staff was working on developing a Project Selection and Scoring Process as well as working to fulfill Map-21 and Fast Act requirements under HCMPO. Before the merger each MPO had their method of Project Selection/Scoring Process but was put on hold. Staff will pick up on this process again and look at other options that will work for the RGVMPPO area; to include the work that was previously done. Staff will be working with Alliance Transportation Group in which they have strong knowledge in developing Project Selection and Scoring Methods. Also, just before the merger staff developed an Off-System Project Scoring form which was presented to both TAC and TPB. **Report only, no action taken at this time.**

V) RGVMPPO STAFF REPORT AND UPDATES

- A. Budget Report** - Andrew A. Canon gave an update on the RGVMPPO Budget and noted “Still Below Budget” Year-To-Date. **Report filed with TAC Packet.**
- B. Project Development Workshop** – Survey Monkey will be sent out for a Date and Time to hold the Project Development Workshop in the month of February.
- C. TIP Form** – Form has been revised for TPB to review and for approval.
- D. 99th Annual TRB Conference – Washington, DC** - Andrew and Fernando Cantu to attend TRB Conference during the week of January 12 thru January 16, 2020.
- E. Border Trade Advisory Committee (BTAC) Meeting – Austin** – Andrew will be attending the BTAC Meeting to be held in Austin on January 20, 2020.

VI) STATUS REPORTS

A. TxDOT Project Status Reports

Melba Schaus (TxDOT) provided the followings reports: 1) Projects within the RGVMPPO area; 2) Monthly Letting Projects and; 3) the 2020 Pharr District Letting List. **Report is filed with the January 9, 2020 RGV TAC Packet.**

B. Cameron County RMA

Pete Sepulveda (Cameron County RMA) Chairman provided presentation on projects that are currently within the Cameron County RMA. All projects are moving forward as scheduled. **Cameron County RMA monthly report is filed with the January 9, 2020 RGV TAC Packet.**

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 January 9, 2020 RGV TAC Packet.**

D. McAllen Metro

Jon Ray Bocanegra provided a brief update to RGV TAC Members present and noted that the Ridership Report covers from October 2018 to October 2019. **McAllen Metro monthly report is filed with the January 9, 2020 RGV TAC Packet.**

E. Brownsville Metro

Norma Zamora provided a brief update to RGV TAC Members present and noted that the **Brownsville Metro Report is filed with the January 9, 2020 RGV TAC Packet.**

F. Valley Metro

Frank Jaramillo provided a brief update to RGV TAC Members present and noted that Ridership continues to be study. **Report is filed with the January 9, 2020 RGV TAC Packet.**

VII) NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1) Lynnette Villarreal with TxDOT will be handling the AFA, please reach out to her for any questions or guidance.

VIII) ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the RGV TAC, Pete Sepulveda, (Cameron County RMA) Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. Armando Gutierrez (City of Brownsville) made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:16 AM. The motion was seconded by Eric Davila (HCRMA); and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.