

**RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING
ORGANIZATION
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes**

March 12, 2020

I) CALL TO ORDER

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

II) ROLL CALL

RGVTAC Representative 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	Helen Ramirez
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	Sarah Ward/Jon Ray Bocanegra
Port of Brownsville	Ariel Chavez, III
Port of Harlingen	ABSENT
Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District	ABSENT
Hidalgo County RMA	Eric Davila
Cameron County Spaceport Dev. Corp.	ABSENT
STAFF	
RGVMPO	Andrew A. Canon

III) PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

IV) PRESENTATION, ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of February 13, 2020

Pete Sepulveda (Cameron County RMA) Chairman asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of February 13, 2020, as presented by staff. *No corrections were noted to the minutes of February 13, 2020, City of Harlingen made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 13, 2020 as presented. The motion was seconded by the TxDOT; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

Norma Zamora (Brownsville Metro) had a request, for future meetings, make mention both “Brownsville Metro and Island Metro” under “Status Reports”.

B. Consideration and Action on the 2020 Congestion Management Process (CMP) Recommended Signal Optimization Intersections

Andrew Canon provided an updated presentation on the 2020 Congestion Management Signal Optimization Map, with listings of Intersections by Intersections county wide. Total Optimization Intersections are 175 with (5) additional intersections submitted by Harlingen-San Benito, given a total of 180 Intersections. Andrew Canon concluded his presentation by letting TAC Members know that staff will be working with CoPlan and if any other intersections need to be included, please send them to staff at the earliest.

No further discussion took place on this item, Cameron County moved to approve the 2020 Congestion Management Process (CMP) Recommended Signal Optimization Intersections as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by the Hidalgo County RMA and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

C. Discussion on the Transportation Alternative Set-Aside (TASA) Application Scoring Criteria and Project Call Timeline

Rudy Zamora noted that Staff has updated the TASA Application with recommendations as submitted for the application and scoring criteria for the upcoming 2021-2022 Transportation Alternatives Program TAP (TASA) Call for Projects. There revisions are highlighted in RED and in CAPS to the TASA Application. The timeline consisting of workshop date, beginning of project call, deadline for submittals, and review/approval process was comprised and shared accordingly. Rudy Zamora concluded by noting that any the TAP (TASA) Application will be reviewed one final time by the BPAC Committee at their April Meeting, and re-submitted to both TAC and Policy Committees for their final approval. Total estimated funding \$785,000 towards Cameron County – \$2.6 Million (Hidalgo)

Cameron County asked if UMAP has captured all their data and is it up to date, current compared to Hidalgo County. Staff response was “Yes”, but if any updates need to be done, please have those forward to staff.

Staff noted that the next BPAC meeting is scheduled for April 1, 2020 at 11:00 AM, and a possible workshop with the Alliance Group on April 8, 2020.

No further discussion took place on this item, Brownsville Metro moved to acknowledge report and proceed as discussed. The motion was seconded by the Hidalgo County and passed unanimously.

D. Discussion on Projects Submittals and Updates for 2021-2045 TIP / MTP

Andrew Canon provided a Draft of the 2021-2025 STIP Timetable for members review and noted in preparation of the 2021-2024 TIP and revisions to the current 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Staff is asking for submittals of new or revised projects for consideration. All submittals must be completed with the attached TIP/MTP form as developed by staff and approved by the Policy Board. The following timeline will be used for the 2021-2024 TIP Timeline develop and will be posted on RGVMPPO social media for reference purposes. This timeline must include the (3) three Regional Public Meetings and have board adoption in advance of the deadline for submittal to TxDOT.

TIMELINE

February 18	Call for Projects for 2021-2024 TIP and MTP revisions opens.
March/April	Three (3) Regional Public Meetings will be held, location/time TBD.
March 12	TAC Meeting, any submitted projects will be discussed for consideration.
March 25	TPB, Policy Board will review submittals and discuss as warranted.
May 1	Deadline to submit projects to RGVMPPO Staff by 5PM
April/May	Series of workshops to be held for ranking and reviewing projects within the TIP/UTP horizon.
May 14	Project Call closes and TAC will review and make final adoption
May 27	Projects will be submitted to TPB for review and final adoption
June 22	Deadline for RGVMPPO staff to upload all adopted projects to the eSTIP Portal

TxDOT noted for the record, that there will be no August Revisions, next revision is scheduled in November. No further discussion took place on this item, TxDOT moved to acknowledge the 2021-2045 TIP Timeline as presented by staff and proceed as discussed. The motion was seconded by the City of Brownsville and passed unanimously.

E. Discussion on Holding a Workshop for the Thoroughfare Plan Amendment Process

Luis Diaz noted that Staff conducted a Thoroughfare Plan Workshop on Wednesday, March 11, 2020, which was very well attended. Staff discussed the following:

Main topics discussed were:

- Thoroughfare Plan Amendment Process
- Resolutions for Projects to be approved by Policy and Commissioners Court
- Amendment Submittal Form
- Thoroughfare Plan Resources

Luis Diaz concluded his presentation by making TAC Member aware that the current Thoroughfare Plan Data can be viewed online VIA online interactive mapping tool UMAP on the RGVMPPO website WWW.RGVMPPO.ORG. Staff is available for assistance in navigating or utilizing through the UMAP online map, please feel free to reach out to Staff.

No further discussion took place on this item, City of Harlingen moved to acknowledge report and proceed as discussed. The motion was seconded by the City of Brownsville and passed unanimously.

F. Discussion on Holding a Workshop for the Performance Measures Status and Off System Project Scoring Process

Luis Diaz noted that Staff will be conducting a workshop on Performance Measures to gather input and provide an opportunity for members of the committee to discuss this subject further. Staff will be sending out a survey with possible dates to better accommodate this workshop to members' schedules.

Main topics to be discussed:

- FHWA requirements/background
- Use of Decision-Lens
- Examples from other MPO's
- Off-system Scoring Sheet
- Assistance from ATG with project selection process

Andrew Canon noted that if TAC Members have any updates on current project, send those to staff as soon as able; so that staff can have those updates included as part of the Workshop.

No further discussion took place on this item, Hidalgo County moved to acknowledge report and proceed as discussed. The motion was seconded by the City of Brownsville and passed unanimously.

G. Discussion on Functionally Classifying Projects

Staff noted that they have been conducting a review of Functional Classification GIS Data in relation to projects funded on the 2045 MTP. Staff will be currently working with Federal Highway to resolve the process of Functionally Classifying Projects

After some discussion on this item, City of Brownsville moved to acknowledge report and proceed as discussed. The motion was seconded by the City of Harlingen and passed unanimously.

V) RGVMPPO STAFF REPORTS AND UPDATES

- A. Performance Measures Workshop – Scheduled for March 20, 2020 – RGVMPPO Conference Area from 10AM – 12 (Noon)
- B. Project Development Workshop – Was held Thursday, March 5, 2020. From 9AM to 12PM at the Ken Jones Boardroom – 301 Railroad (Weslaco)**
Staff noted that the Project Development Workshop was held on Thursday, March 5, 2020, at the Ken Jones Boardroom from 9:00 AM to 12 (Noon). Special thanks to TxDOT and their staff that assisted. Staff noted that there is the “slide presentation” available if anyone wishes to request a copy.
- C. Ron Garza, LRGVDC Executive Director is leaving to City of Edinburg (City Manager position). LRGVDC Board has appointed Ken Jones as Interim.
- D. TTI Consultants still working on RGVMPPO Staffing needs (GIS, BPAC, etc).

VI) STATUS REPORTS

A. TxDOT Project Status Report

Melba Schaus (TxDOT) provided an updated report on projects within the RGVMPPO area. Monthly Letting Projects; 3) the 2020 Pharr District Letting List, and 4) Non-Added Capacity List. TxDOT Project Reports are filed with the March 12, 2020, RGV TAC Packet. TxDOT did have a request for Brownsville Metro, project needs to move forward or it will be placed in-active list, but can be placed back on the accelerated list, when the project is ready to proceed.

City of McAllen had one request, have names and contact information on Project Managers assigned to respective cities' projects.

B. Cameron County RMA

Pete Sepulveda (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 report is filed with the March 12, 2020 RGV TAC Packet. *Report only, no action taken at this time.*

C. Hidalgo County RMA

Eric Davila, Chief Development Engineer (Hidalgo County RMA) provided an overview and noted that all projects are continuing to move forward. The Hidalgo County RMA monthly report is filed with the March 12, 2020 RGV TAC Packet. *Report only, no action taken at this time.*

D. McAllen Metro

Sarah Ward provided a brief update to RGV TAC Members present and noted that the Ridership Report covers from October 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020. The McAllen Metro report is filed with the March 12, 2020 RGV TAC Packet. *Report only, no action taken at this time.*

E. Brownsville / Island Metros

Norma Zamora provided a brief update to RGV TAC Members present and noted for the month of January 2019, Combined Ridership (Brownsville Metro and Island Metro) was at 183,960. The Brownsville Metro / Island Metro reports are filed with March 12, 2020 RGV TAC Packet. *Report only, no action taken at this time.*

F. Valley Metro

Frank Jaramillo provided a brief update to RGV TAC Members present and noted Ridership was 78,630 for the month of January 2020. Valley Metro report is filed with the March 12, 2020 RGV TAC Packet. *Report only, no action taken at this time.*

VII) NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **I-2/I-69C Interchange Project** – TxDOT noted that this project should get started in April 2020, estimated time of completion between 2-3 years.
- **I-69 Connector** – Pete Sepulveda (Cameron County RMA) Chairman requested an update on the I-69 Connector at the next TAC Meeting.

VIII) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the RGV TAC Members, Pete Sepulveda, (Cameron County RMA) Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. The City of McAllen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 AM. The motion was seconded by Hidalgo County; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.