

**RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

February 11, 2021

I) CALL TO ORDER

Pete Sepulveda, (Cameron County RMA) Chairman called the TAC Microsoft Teams Meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. The RGV TAC Microsoft Teams Meeting was held remotely with the following TAC Members.

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	Joel Garza
City of Edinburg	Tom Reyna
City of Harlingen	Ana Hernandez
City of McAllen	Yvette Barrera
City of Pharr	ABSENT
City of San Benito	ABSENT
Cameron County	Benjamin Worsham
Hidalgo County	Armando Garza, Jr.
TxDOT Pharr District	Melba Schaus
Valley Metro	Frank Jaramillo
Hidalgo County RMA	Eric Davila
Brownsville Metro	Antonio Zubieta
McAllen Metro	Robert De Leon
Port of Brownsville	Ariel Chavez, III
Port of Harlingen	ABSENT
Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District	ABSENT
Cameron County Spaceport Dev. Corp.	ABSENT
GUEST	
STAFF	
RGVMPO	Andrew A. Canon
RGVMPO	Luis Diaz
RGVMPO	Staff

III) PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

IV) PRESENTATION, ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of January 14, 2021

Pete Sepulveda (Cameron County RMA) Chairman asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of January 14, 2021. City of McAllen noted that on Items B and D, a lengthy discussion took place amongst the TAC Members, regarding the FY2022 UTP Submittals and Category 7 Targets Scoring Initiatives that are not reflected in the minutes. City of McAllen asked that Staff go back to the recording of January 14, 2021 TAC meeting and add those discussions that took place on those two items.

After some discussion on the minutes of January 14, 2021, City of McAllen made a motion to table the minutes until the next TAC meeting, with those changes as requested. The motion was seconded by the City of Brownsville; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

B. Consideration and Action to Finalize CMP Contract

Mr. Canon discuss and provided the Executive Summary of the Congestion Study from CoPlan for TAC members’ review and finalization. The CMP report was presented to both the Policy and TAC Committees in December 2020. Staff concluded that the final study has been received and the CMP Contract needs to be reflected as part of the minutes, along with the closeout of the final payout of the contract with CoPlan.

No discussion took place on this item, the City of McAllen made a motion to recommend approval of the Finalize CMP Contract with CoPlan to the Policy Board as discussed/presented by staff. The motion was seconded by Hidalgo County RMA; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

C. Consideration and Action on the Federal Functional Classification Amendment - Resolution 2021-01

Luis noted that staff continues working with local governments to assure Federal Functional Classification of Roadway needed with MPOs’ plans are moving forward. Therefore, after coordination with TxDOT, FM 509 and FM1599 are being re-submitted as Major Collectors for Federal Functional Classification since last approved in Resolution 2020-13 as a Minor Arterial. As per AADT requirements, these roadways would have not been met as requested roadway and will be re-classified as Major Collectors as recommended. (See Below Table).

APPROVAL OF FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION SUBMITTALS #5							
Entity	Road Name	CSJ	Current Classification	From	To	Length	New Classification
CCRMA	FM 509	0921-06-254	Not Classified	FM 508	FM 1599	2.4	Major Collector
TxDOT	FM 1599	N/A	Not Classified	FM 509	FM 507	2.2	Major Collector

No discussion took place on this item, Cameron County made a motion to recommend approval of the Federal Classification Amendment – Resolution 2021-01 to the Policy Board as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by City of McAllen; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

D. Consideration and Action on the 2020 Thoroughfare Plan Amendments - Resolution 2021-02

Luis noted that the Thoroughfare Plan Amendments are done on a yearly basis, and staff continues working with local governments to assure Right of Way information is recorded accurately on the RGVMPPO Thoroughfare Plan and displayed on the Interactive Map “UMAP”. The only Amendments received for this revision cycle were from Hidalgo County Pct. 1 (See Below Table).

2020 Thoroughfare Plan Amendments				
Entity	Road Name	From	To	Requested Thoroughfare Classification
Hidalgo County PCT1	Mile 1 ½ West	Mile 12 North	Levee Road	Expansion Collector 80’
Hidalgo County PCT1	Mile 21 ½ North	FM 88	FM 491	Expansion Collector 80’
Hidalgo County PCT1	Uncle Peters Road	First Street in La Villa / Mile 17 North	Jaritas Road / CR 3301	Expansion Collector 80’

No discussion took place on this item, City of Brownsville made a motion to recommend approval of the 2020 Thoroughfare Plan Amendments – Resolution 2021-02 to the Policy Board as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by City of Harlingen; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

E. Consideration and Action on the Performance Measures and Target Setting – Resolutions 2021-03/04

Miguel noted that this item is to acknowledge the support of the Statewide Performance Targets in the areas of Safety, Bridge and Pavement Conditions. Also, included are the System Performance referred to as PM1, PM2, and PM3 Targets. The Targets included in the Resolutions attached herewith are basically updates to the Targets adopted in late FY2019, which are already part of the RGVMP. Staff included some examples in the TAC Packet showing similar trends when compared to the Statewide Targets to the Region for each of the Performance focus areas.

Staff concluded, by noting that the recommendations would be to keep supporting the State Targets as stated in the Resolutions 2021 – 03 and 04 (**Resolutions Part of Packet**).

City of Harlingen ask if these Targets would be the same as what was included in the latest MTP.

Staff informed TAC members present that these Targets are updated and may not reflect what is currently being presented. Safety Targets are updated every two years by TxDOT and reported to FHWA. The System Performance are reported every year but will be reflected as the MTP is updated.

No further discussion took place on this item, City of Harlingen made a motion to recommend approval of the Performance Measures and Target Setting – Resolutions 2021-03 and 04 to the Policy Board as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by Cameron County; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

F. Follow-Up Discussion Regarding City Limit and ETJ Boundary GIS Data

Luis noted that at the January’s (2021) Policy Board Meeting, discussion was held regarding providing a “Deadline” for Cities to submit their ETJ GIS Data to the RGVMP staff. Staff acknowledged request to providing a deadline and is asking for Cities to take a moment to review their Entity’s Limits and ETJ Boundaries on the Online Interactive map “UMAP” and provide data in the following available GIS Format (GIS, PDF, KML or CAD) by no later than February 10, 2021, as reflected on the email that was sent out on January 28, 2021. Staff concluded by reminding TAC members that the purpose of the Jurisdictions DATA on UMAP is to provide any updates or discrepancies from the cities. Please provide updates by email to staff by set deadline.

Andrew did note that Fernando Cantu (GIS Specialist II) has been spending considerable time contacting the smaller cities by phone, since they are not part of the TAC or Policy Boards, just to make sure all the Data is collected, and those smaller cities are not excluded.

No further discussion took place on this item, Hidalgo County RMA made a motion to acknowledge the City Limit and ETJ Boundary GIS Data as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by City of McAllen; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

V) RGVMP STAFF REPORTS AND UPDATES

A. Director Update

Cameron County RGVMP Office Space – Possible additional office location and negotiations ongoing with the COG and Brownsville Metro, are still in the works.

Edinburg RGVMP Office – Another possible office in Edinburg as well, still in discussion (Originally planned for the Edinburg EDC). Weslaco staff would be relocating to Edinburg. Staff had discussion with TTI regarding numbers of new hires. Discussion still being held with City Officials, to discuss growth of staff for both the Hidalgo and Cameron County Offices.

Financial Carry Over – Staff did the reconciliation with TP&P, and after the merger of the three MPOs’, there is Carry Over of funds. “Carry Over” are unobligated funds that MPOs received that they do not necessary use on any given year and are Carry forward. Total amount of funds that have been carried over is \$1.8 million and there are no budget concerns for those two office facilities. Estimated time for the new re-locations of staff are (Cameron County Staff early Spring and Hidalgo County Staff later in the Spring).

Road Hand Award - Congratulation to Chairman, Dr. Ambrosio “Amos” Hernandez for being announced as one of this years’ 3, Road Hand Award recipients at the Texas Transportation e-Forum. The Road Hand Award is a joint effort between the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Texas Good Roads/Transportation Association to recognize those special individuals who have freely given their time, energy, support, and vision toward accomplishing important transportation programs or projects in their communities, region, or the entire state.

B. Financial Update

Mr. Canon provided the financial update and noted that the current budget continues with a positive trend. *Report filed with the January 14, 2021 RGVMP Packet.*

On a side note, Chairman Sepulveda ask that Staff plan something nice at the next Policy Meeting to acknowledge Chairman Hernandez as one of this years’ Road Hand Award recipients as announced at Texas Transportation e-Forum. Staff acknowledged request.

VI) STATUS REPORTS

A. TxDOT Project Status Report

Melba (TxDOT) provided an updated Via Microsoft Teams on the TxDOT Project Status Report within the RGVMPPO area. The following report included some of many TxDOT Monthly Letting Projects that has been extended from (September 2020 - December 2021).

Local Let Projects: February 2021 – PSJA Tri-City Ped-Safety (TASA Project)

April 2021 – 365 Toll Project (Pending Functional Classification)

May 2021 – Cano St Hike & Bike (TASA Project)

July 2021 - These Projects are in the City of McAllen, TxDOT Continues to work closely with the City of McAllen and it looks like these projects will be moved to August 2021.

August 2021 – South Parallel Corridor Phase 2 – (Pending Functional Classification approval from FHWA)

Melba concluded by reminding local governments in attendance, to please continue coordinating with their respective TxDOT Project Managers on a regular basis towards letting their local projects. It is critical that these projects Letting Dates be met, due to the fact that many of these projects have been on the book for several years.

Mr. Worsham with Cameron County had a minor correction on the Letting Project, for the South Parallel Corridor (Phase 2), TxDOT has it listed in Hidalgo County, should be listed in Cameron County. TxDOT acknowledged oversight and will be making that correction. ***TxDOT Project Status Report is filed with the February 11, 2021 RGVTAC Packet. Report only, no action taken at this time.***

TIP Updates – Andrew asked if this would be the right time to share with TAC Members regarding the TIP's Updates. Melba's response was as of now, the 2021-24-TIP, July is the Timeline. As of now TxDOT knows of no upcoming revisions date, assuming possibly August 2021, but has not been official from TP&P.

Chairman Sepulveda recommended that this be a re-occurring monthly item on the agenda until further notice. Staff acknowledged request.

B. Cameron County RMA

Pete Sepulveda (Cameron County RMA) provided an updated presentation Via Microsoft Teams on projects that are currently within the Cameron County RMA. All projects are moving forward as scheduled. ***Cameron County RMA report is filed with the February 11, 2021-RGVTAC Packet. Report only, no action taken at this time.***

C. Hidalgo County RMA

Eric Davila, PE, (Hidalgo County RMA) provided an updated presentation Via Microsoft Teams on projects that are currently within the Hidalgo County RMA; he discussed the major milestones of each project. ***The Hidalgo County RMA monthly report is filed with the February 11, 2021-RGVTAC Packet. Report only, no action taken at this time.***

D. McAllen Metro

Robert De Leon provided a brief update Via Microsoft Teams and noted a small passenger increase since the previous month. ***The McAllen Metro report is filed with the February 11, 2021-RGVTAC Packet. Report only, no action taken at this time.***

E. Brownsville / Island Metros

Antonio Zubieta provided an updated report Via Microsoft Teams which included the Brownsville Metro and Island Metro. These reports include on-going connecting community projects and combined ridership. ***The reports are filed with February 11, 2021 RGVTAC Packet. Report only, no action taken at this time.***

F. Valley Metro

Frank Jaramillo provided an update report Via Microsoft Team, noted a small increase in Ridership for the month of December 2020 of 16,000 with a low percentage compared to November 2020. Valley Metro continues to take precautions when it comes to riders and staff, assuring that all safety measures are met (Facemask, hand-sanitizing and social distancing). Fast Ride Micro-Transit Ribbon Cutting scheduled for February 26, 2021, more information will be provided as things develop.

VII) NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

January 14, 2021 Minutes - Andrew noted that staff will be getting with the City of McAllen regarding those changes/additions to the minutes of January 14, 2021 that were tabled as requested.

VIII) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the RGVTAC 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 11:05 AM. The motion was seconded by Port of Brownsville; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.