

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

**July 8, 2021**

**I) CALL TO ORDER**

Pete Sepulveda, (Cameron County RMA) Chairman called the TAC Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The TAC Meeting was held remotely with the following TAC Members in attendances.

**II) ROLL CALL**

**RGVTAC Representatives in attendance were as follows:**

| <b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>                     |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>ENTITY</b>                              | <b>VOTING MEMBERS</b>           |
| 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                          | Carlos Sanchez                  |
| City of McAllen                            | Yvette Barrera                  |
| City of Pharr                              | Omar Anzaldua                   |
| City of San Benito                         | Rick Guerra (Mayor)             |
| 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                              | Jon Bocanegra                   |
| Port of Brownsville                        | Ariel Chavez, III               |
| Port of Harlingen                          | <b>ABSENT</b>                   |
| Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District | <b>ABSENT</b>                   |
| Cameron County Spaceport Dev. Corp.        | Mark Yates / Crystal Gonzalez   |
| <b>GUEST</b>                               |                                 |
| LRGVDC                                     | Manuel Cruz, Executive Director |
| <b>STAFF</b>                               |                                 |
| RGVMPO                                     | Andrew A. Canon                 |
| RGVMPO                                     | Luis Diaz                       |
| RGVMPO                                     | Staff                           |

**III) PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**NONE**

**IV) PRESENTATION, ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**1. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of June 10, 2021**

Pete Sepulveda (Cameron County RMA) Chairman asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of June 10, 2021.

*No corrections were noted to the minutes of June 10, 2021, and the City of Edinburg made a motion to approve the minutes of June 10, 2021, as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by City of Harlingen; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

## 2. CONSENT AGENDAS

### 2.1 Discussion and Possible Action of Amendment to Targets for Roadway System Performance Targets - Resolution 2021-09

Miguel Arispe, GIS Specialist II provided a brief update on Amendment to Resolution 2021-04 which states the RGVMPPO agrees to support the updated Statewide PM2 and PM3 Performance Targets (Approved 02/24/2021). On February 24,2021, the RGVMPPO Policy Board approved Resolution 2021-04 agreeing to support the Statewide Targets set forth by the Texas Department of Transportation for PM2 and PM3 Performance Targets. The Amended “Resolution 2021-09” reflects 3 Revised Targets which were initially displayed incorrectly are highlighted in **RED** as follows:

The State of Texas Department of Transportation has adopted the following adjusted 2022 targets for Bridge and Pavement Conditions and Roadway System performance:

1. Pavement in Good Condition
  - a. National Highway System (Interstate): 66.5%
  - b. National Highway System (Non-Interstate): 54.1%
  
2. Pavement in Poor Condition
  - c. National Highway System (Interstate): 0.2%
  - d. National Highway System (Non-Interstate): 14.2%
  
3. National Highway System Bridge Condition
  - a. Good: 50.42%
  - b. Poor: 1.50%
  
4. Interstate Reliability: **70.0%**
5. Non-interstate National Highway System Reliability: **70.0%**
6. Truck Travel Time Reliability: **1.76**

*No discussion took place on this item, City of Brownsville made a motion to recommend approving the Amendment to Targets for Roadway System Performance Targets - Resolution 2021-09 to the Policy Board; with the corrections noted and as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by City of Benito; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

### 2.2 Discussion and Possible Action on 2021-2024 TIP & 2045 MTP Revisions and Administrative Modifications

Rudy Zamora updated TAC Member present on the quarterly TIP & MTP Revisions and Administrative Modifications (Attachment Provided). Staff noted that due to issues with fiscal constraint, the original deadline (May of 2020) for approval of these documents were set back significantly. A fiscal constraint reset was approved by our TPB in January of 2021. The State TIP (STIP) is pending official approval but a proposed deadline for revisions to the Highway and Transit TIP tables was set for August of 2021. A deadline of July 27<sup>th</sup> has been assigned for all revisions and modifications to be uploaded via the E-STIP Portal. A 30-day Public Involvement period began on June 11<sup>th</sup> and will end on July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Please take in consideration all updates received from our local governments, the diligent communication between RGVMPPO staff, TXDOT staff, our TAC & TPB, and all items reviewed during the workshop held on July 7<sup>th</sup>, before approving these documents. RGVMPPO staff is available to address any questions, comments, or concerns.

Staff concluded his presentation and is seeking approval of the 2021-2024 TIP & 2045 MTP revisions /Administrative Modifications. A final draft copy of the Highway & Transit TIP, MTP, and Summary Sheets have been included for TAC Members’ review.

*No discussion on this item, City of San Benito made a motion to recommend approving the 2021-2024 TIP & 2045 MTP Revisions and Administrative Modification to the Policy Board as presented by Staff. The motion was seconded by the City of Edinburg; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

### **2.3 Discussion and Possible Action on FY 2022-2023 United Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Christopher Nelson informed TAC members present that a Resolution for this UPWP had previously been adopted by the Transportation Policy Board. However, several revisions were subsequently made at the request of TxDOT, necessitating that another resolution be passed by the TPB. The changes made to the document following TxDOT's review include the following:

- Page numbers were added, for improved navigation through the document
- The language regarding the acquisition of drones was removed, as this found to be a duplication of TxDOT's resources
- Administrative modifications were made to numbers in the budget tables, in order to correct an administrative error that was made when inputting these numbers

*No discussion took place on this item, City of Brownsville made a motion to recommend approval of the FY2022-2023 UPWP to the Policy Board as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by Hidalgo County RMA; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.*

### **2.4 Discussion of Category 7 Funds for Direct State Cost**

Andrew informed TAC Members presented that Commissioner Fuentes had requested that this item be added to the agenda for discussion and clarification with our partners at TxDOT on the "Eligibility of Using Category 7 Funding" to cover the Direct State Cost associated with project development. It is believed that TxDOT is revising the way the Direct State Costs are charged to Off-System Roadways beginning with the Mile 6 Project. Staff concluded by letting TAC members know that "historically, Category 7 has been used at times to cover the Direct State Cost associated with projects.

As per the Texas Administrative Code – Title 43 – Chapter 15 Financing and Construction of Transportation Projects (4) Funding Arrangement. The agreement will specify the funding arrangement designated by the department. Funding arrangements in the agreement shall include any adjustments required by 15.55 of subchapter. The funding arrangement for drainage construction costs will be as specified under 15.54 of this subchapter (relating to Construction).

(B) Specified percentage. The local government is responsible for a specified percentage of actual projects costs.

- Minimum percentage participation amounts for preliminary engineering, construction engineering, construction, right of way, and eligible utilities for various state and federal funding programs will be designated by the department. In addition to the designated specified percentages, with this funding type, the local government is also responsible for the direct cost of any work included in the project which is ineligible for federal or state participation and all project costs that are greater than the maximum state and federal participation specified in the funding agreement between the department and the local government.
- For federally funded non-construction programs, the local government is responsible for any required match and for any work included that is ineligible for federal or state participation.

**After some discussion on this item TAC members noted to present this item to the Policy Board for further discussion at their next meeting.**

## **IV. RGVMPPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND UPDATES**

**New Office Location** –Edinburg Staff moving date is set for the first week of August 2021, phone numbers and emails for staff will remain the same.

**Brownsville Office** – Staff moving date is also set for the first week of August 2021. New phone numbers will be assigned for staff in Brownsville, emails will remain the same.

### **Financial Update**

Mr. Canon provided the financial update and noted that the current budget continues with a positive trend. *Report filed with the June 10, 2021, RGV TAC Packet.*

**TASA / Category 9 Update** - Staff provided background/current status/ and the next steps regarding TASA Funding discussions, decisions, and / or potential impact on future and other projects with the following slides: *(Report only, no action taken at this time).*

**V. STATUS REPORTS**

**A. TxDOT Project Status Report**

Norma Garza (TxDOT) provided an updated TxDOT Project Status Report within the RGVMPO area, Via Microsoft Teams. The following report included some of many TxDOT Monthly Letting Projects that has been extended from (November 2020 – August 2022). *TxDOT Project Status Report is filed with the July 8, 2021, RGVTAC Packet. (Report only, no action taken at this time).*

**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 July 8, 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 July 8, 2021, RGVTAC Packet. ( Report only, no action taken at this time).*

**D. McAllen Metro**

Jon Ray Bocanegra with McAllen Metro report was provided and is filed with the **July 8, 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 July 8, 2021, RGVTAC Packet. ( Report only, no action taken at this time).**

**F. Valley Metro**

Frank Jaramillo provided an update report Via Microsoft Team, for both the Rural and Urban areas for the Year-To-Date Report. **The Valley Metro Report was provided and is filed with the July 8, 2021, RGVTAC Packet. (Report on, no action taken at this time).**

**VI. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**TAC Meeting – Scheduled for August 12, 2021 (Virtual) Governor has issued an in “Persons Meeting” effective September 2021.**

**Policy Meeting – Rescheduled for July 14, 2021 “In Person Meeting” at Ken Jones Boardroom.**

**Funding Assistance / Emergency Maintenance Funds - To be discussed at the next TAC Meeting – TxDOT to provide presentation at the next TAC Meeting.**

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:**

**There being no further business to come before the RGVTAC Members, Chairman Sepulveda called for a motion to adjourn. City of San Benito made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 AM. The motion was seconded by Port of Brownsville; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**