

**RIO GRANDE VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
IN PERSON MEETING
October 14, 2021**

I) CALL TO ORDER

Pete Sepulveda, (Cameron County RMA) Chairman called the TAC Meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The TAC Meeting was held in Person at Valley Metro - 510 South Pleasantview Drive – Weslaco.

II) ROLL CALL

RGVTAC Representatives in attendance were as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT	
ENTITY	VOTING MEMBERS
City of Mission	JP Terrazas, Chairman
Cameron County	Benjamin Worsham, 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	Moises Beas
City of San Benito	Rick Guerra (Mayor)
Hidalgo County	Armando Garza, Jr.
TxDOT Pharr District	Melba Schaus
Valley Metro	Maribel Contreras
Cameron County RMA	Pete Sepulveda
Hidalgo County RMA	Eric Davila
Brownsville Metro	Antonio Zubieta
McAllen Metro	Jon Bocanegra
Port of Brownsville	ABSENT
Port of Harlingen	ABSENT
Port Isabel-San Benito Navigation District	ABSENT
Cameron County Spaceport Dev. Corp.	Mark Yates
GUEST	
LRGVDC	
STAFF	
RGVMPO	Andrew A. Canon
RGVMPO	Luis Diaz
RGVMPO	Staff

III) PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

1. Approval of Minutes

Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of:

- September 9, 2021
- September 22, 2021

Pete Sepulveda (Cameron County RMA) Chairman asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of September 9 and September 22, 2021.

City of Harlingen noted one correction to both TAC Meetings, for September 9, and 22, 2021; Carlos Sanchez was in attendance for both meetings. No other corrections were noted to the minutes, City of Edinburg made a motion to approve the Minutes of September 9 and September 22, 2021, with correction. The motion was seconded by Hidalgo County RMA; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

2. Consent Agenda

2.1 Discussion and Action on Election of Vice Chairman

Andrew noted that it's been two (2) years, and pursuant to the RGVMPO Bylaws Section 2.03, Terms of Office for both the Chair and the Vice Chair, shall serve two (2) years terms. In any given term, the Chairman shall be from either Cameron County or Hidalgo County with the Vice Chairman being from the other county and succeeding the Chair when the Chair's term is complete. No one can serve twice unless all board members have served at least once.

No discussion took place on this item, Pete Sepulveda, step down as Chairman, and JP Terrazas (Vice Chairman) assumed his role as Chairman of the TAC Committee pursuant to the RGVMPO Bylaws as presented by staff.

After some discussion on the Election of Vice Chairman, Mr. Sepulveda (Cameron County RMA) made a motion to appoint Benjamin Worsham (Cameron County) as Vice Chairman to the TAC Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reyna (City of Edinburg); and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Worsham acknowledge his nomination and thanked everyone for their support and vote as the new Vice Chairman for the TAC Committee.

Mr. Sepulveda thanked everyone in attendance for their support, guidance, leadership, and commitment while he served as Chairman for the TAC Committee. Reminded TAC members and staff; the objective is for everyone to work towards the same goal and in unity.

Andrew thanked Mr. Sepulveda for his leadership and guidance and did note that a plaque would be presented to Mr. Sepulveda in appreciation for his leadership as Chairman for the RGVMPO TAC Committee at the conclusion of the meeting.

Mr. Terrazas (Chairman) proceeded to the next item on the TAC Agenda according.

2.2 Discussion and Action on the FY2019 -2020 TASA Program

Eva Garcia, Planner III/BikePed Program Coordinator, noted that staff continues to monitor the region's transportation alternatives projects to ensure the obligation, and prevent lapsing, of federal funds. This item will highlight recent project updates and propose changes for consideration by the RGVMPO Technical Advisory Committee. FY2019-2020 TASA Program Funds were recently de-obligated during the September 2021 RGVMPO TAC Meeting and Transportation Policy Board Meeting. RGVMPO Staff has met with TxDOT Pharr District Staff, and Local Government Project Sponsors, to discuss the potential re-programming of these funds.

- **Proposing the re-programming of de-obligated funds for the Jackson Hike & Bike Project Phase II - \$400,232.**
- **Original request for TASA funds was \$2,376,000; \$400,232 was awarded during FY2019 HCMPO Program Call.**
- **AFA Amendments were already being discussed to increase the likelihood of obligating funds by the September 2022.**

After some discussion on this item, HCRMA made a motion to approve the FY2019-2020 TASA Re-Programming of the De-Obligated Funds to the Jackson Hike & Bike Project Phase II as presented by staff. The motion was seconded by the City of McAllen; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

2.3 Discussion on the 2023-2026 STIP Revision Schedule

Staff provided for informational purposes the November 2022 STIP Revisions Deadline will be predicated on when FHWA / FTA approves the 2033-2026 STIP. September 2023 through May 2024 District, Divisions, and MPOs developing 2025-2028 STIP. (Table provided as follows):

2023-2026 STIP REVISION SCHEDULE

Quarterly Revision	Revisions Due into the STIP Portal By:
2022 November Revisions	Tuesday, October 25, 2022 *(tentatively)
2023 February Revisions	Tuesday, January 24, 2023
2023 May Revisions**	Tuesday, April 25, 2023
2023 August Revisions**	Tuesday, July 25, 2023
2023 November Revisions	Tuesday, October 24, 2023
2024 February Revision	Tuesday, January 23,2024
2024 ust Revision	TB

*The November 2022 STIP Revisions deadline will be predicated on when FHWA/FTA approves the 2023-2026 STIP.

** September 2023 through May 2024 District, and MPOs developing 2025-2028 STIP.

This item was provided for informational purposes only, no action taken.

2.4 Discussion on the RGV Thoroughfare Plan Amendment

Staff noted that as part of the Yearly RGV Thoroughfare Plan Amendment Process, Staff continues to accept amendments to the RGV Thoroughfare Plan until December 17, 2021. Please keep in mind that all Thoroughfare Plan Amendments must be accompanied by a Thoroughfare Plan Amendment Form and Approved Resolution or Ordinance from the Jurisdictions Governing Body. All submittals should be process using the form on this link: [Thoroughfare Plan Amendment Form](#)

The RGVMPPO performs a yearly Thoroughfare Plan Amendment Process. Where planning partners throughout the region are asked to compare their jurisdiction's Right of Way (ROW) data with the [RGVMPOs UMAP Interactive Map](#) Thoroughfare Plan Data and provide any amendments to the data reflected. The 2020 RGV Amendments Thoroughfare Plan was presented and approved on April 13, 2021, by Hidalgo County Commissioner’s Court. Thoroughfare Plan received were solely from Hidalgo County Commissioner Precincts 1 and 4.

Staff concluded by letting TAC members present know that Deadline to submit information closely approaching and encourages everyone to keep the December 17, 2021, as a placemat on their calendars as a reminder.

This item was provided for informational purposes only, no action taken.

2.5 Discussion and Presentation on Resiliency 101

Javier Dominquez, Planner I, noted that the first “Kick-Off Meeting” was held on September 29, 2021, VIA Teams. The goals were to gather Key Stakeholders and information for the formation of a Resiliency Sub-Committee and a Region Wide Plan that will be updated every two (2) years. The Tentative deadline for this Draft Plan is one (1) year from now.

The first Resiliency Meeting was held September 29, 2021, with 21 participants from across the Region, where discussion took place regarding the current plans, timeline, and projects. Invited guest shared their projects to ensure the Region is on the same page. Staff sent out a survey and gathered the results from the attendees to formulate our next steps.

Staff conclude by letting TAC members present know; that staff will be inviting both Hidalgo and Cameron RMA’s; as well as key Stakeholders from Starr County to the next Resiliency Meeting.

This item was provided for informational purposes only, no action taken.

IV. RGVMPPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT AND UPDATES

Recognition of Chairman – Staff presented Mr. Pete Sepulveda with a plaque in appreciation for his tenure as Chairman for the TAC Committee from FY2019 to FY2021.

New Meetings Date for TAC/Policy Committees – Staff noted that due to the forthcoming holidays and the timeline of having the next STIP revision completed by January 25th, staff is recommending the following TEMPORARY changes to the TAC and TPB meeting schedule.

TAC MEETINGS:

November 18, 2021 @ 10 a.m.

December 2, 2021 @ 10 a.m.

January 6, 2022 @ 10 a.m.

TPB

December 15, 2021, at 1:30 p.m. (Immediately following LRGVDC Board meeting).

January 19, 2022 @ 1:30 p.m.

TAC Members present also suggested that the TAC meetings continue “Virtual”, for FY2022; however; having at least one “In Person” meeting every (3rd) third month.

After some discussion on this item, City of Edinburg made a motion to recommend TAC /TPB Meeting dates for November/December and January (2022) for approval to the Policy Board and having one TAC “Virtual Meeting” every third month for FY2022. The motion was seconded by HCRMA; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Financial Update

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

V. Status Report

A. TxDOT Project Status Report

Melba Schaus, (TxDOT) provided an updated TxDOT Project Status Report within the RGVMPPO 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 October 14, 2021, RGV TAC 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. ***Fuego Toll Tags GO LIVE, October 21, 2021. Cameron County RMA report is filed with the October 14, 2021, RGV TAC 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 October 14, 2021, RGV TAC 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 **October 14, 2021, RGV TAC 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 October 14, 2021, RGV TAC Packet. (Report only, no action taken at this time).**

F. Valley Metro

Maribel Contreras 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 October 14, 2021, RGVTAC Packet. (Report on, no action taken at this time).**

IV. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Veterans Holiday – Staff informed TAC Members present that the next TAC Meeting falls on Veteran’s Day, November 11, 2021, and the RGVMPO Office will be closed in observance of that Holiday. Staff is recommending moving the TAC Meeting to November 18, 2021, and it be held “Virtual”.

No discussion took place on this item, Cameron County made a motion to hold the November TAC Meeting on November 18, 2021 – as “Virtual Meeting”, as recommended by staff. The motion was seconded by City of San Benito; and upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the RGVTAC Members, Chairman Terrazas called for a motion to adjourn. Cameron County made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 AM. The motion was seconded by City of San Benito; and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.