

AGENDA
POLICY BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, January 25, 2023 – 1:30 PM
RIO GRANDE VALLEY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RGVMPO)

Pursuant to Chapter 551, Title 5 of the Texas Government Code, the Texas Open Meeting Act, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the RGVMPO POLICY BOARD will be held In Person at the LRGVDC Main Campus, 301 W. Railroad Street, Building B, Ken Jones Executive Board Room in Weslaco, TX.

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Roll Call**
- III. **Public Comments** – May be submitted online or may be submitted in paper form specifying the matter you wish to address.
- IV. **Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of Minute(s) for: December 14, 2022

Action **Possible Action** **Information**

Presenter: **Judge Eddie Treviño, Jr., Chairman**

Item Summary: Approval of the December 14, 2022, Regular Meeting minutes

2. RFP Contract Approval

Action **Possible Action** **Information**

Presenter: **Fernando Cantu, RGVMPO Planner III**

Item Summary: Staff is seeking action on the approval on a contracts Fm 509 Corridor Study

Background: The TAC subcommittee met on 11/17 and scored the 2 consulting firms accordingly:

Study	Firm	Score
FM 509 Corridor	Kimley-Horn	84.5
	TEDSI	86.67

Then on 12/8 the 2 consulting firms presented to TAC their proposals. TAC then selects TEDSI for the FM 509 Corridor study

3. GIS Data Request

Action **Possible Action** **Information**

Presenter: **Fernando Cantu, RGVMPO Planner III**

Item Summary: Staff is requesting GIS data from all municipalities to provide elected officials with the most updated information.

Background: We are looking to update our City Limit and ETJ boundary data. We want to take this opportunity to request all planning partners; please provide the most up-to-date data, preferably in GIS Format; if not available, please provide it in PDF format. These vital data sets will allow the MPO to plan for the RGV's future transportation needs. Please take a moment to visit our online interactive mapping tool, RGV MPO UMAP. Please remember that if discrepancies are identified, please notify our office to allow us to work on amending data to reflect most accurately.

4. City of McAllen – 2018 Traffic Improvement Bond

Action Possible Action Information

Presenters: **Marlen Garza, PE, Assistant Director of Engineering – Traffic Operations, City of McAllen**
James Robertson, PhD, PE, PTOE, Project Manager, Lee Engineering

Summary: Overview of the City of McAllen's Traffic Improvement bond that was passed in 2018 to improve traffic flow on major City streets.

Background: City of McAllen and Lee Engineering will be providing a summary of improvements that helped improve traffic flow along major North/South and East/West corridors within the City of McAllen limits. Improvements included upgrades to traffic signal infrastructure, communications to traffic signals with software that provides updates on intersection performance and a signal timing study.

5. CMP Workshop Tier 2 Follow Up

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Luis Diaz, RGV MPO Assistant director**

Summary: The RGV MPO alongside the CMP Committee and CoPlan conducted a workshop to identify the 100 Signalized intersections in the region that are to be analyzed for turning movements, traffic counts, and review of existing timing plans. The RGV MPO will be presenting the timeline for work ahead of Tier 2 of the CMP.

Background: The CMP is a regionally accepted approach for measuring congestion that provides accurate, up-to-date information multimodal transportation performance and assesses alternative strategies or mitigating congestion that meets state and local needs. While a CMP is required in urbanized areas of over 200,000. The CMP Analysis has been underway since March.

6. 2022 Thoroughfare Plan Amendment Process Update

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Luis Diaz, RGV MPO Assistant Director**

Summary: The 2022 Thoroughfare Plan Amendment process had a deadline of December 21, 2022. The RGV MPO is providing an update of the received submittals. The Amendments will be presented as an action item in February and to County Commissioner's Courts in March.

Background: 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 RGVMPPOs UMAP Interactive Map Thoroughfare Plan Data and provide any amendments to the data reflected. The 2021 RGV Amendments Thoroughfare Plan was presented and approved on March 22, 2021, by Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court. Thoroughfare Plan Amendments received were solely from within Hidalgo County.

7. Presentation and Discussion on TxDOT's State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) Loan Program

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Dallas Teston, TxDOT SIB Program Lead
Christopher Nelson, RGVMPPO Planner 1

Summary: TxDOT SIB Program Lead, Dallas Teston, will present on the basics of this low-cost transportation financing tool and how project sponsors may utilize it to their advantage. RGVMPPO Staff intend to become more informed on the program as well, to better assist and guide regional partners through its eligible uses and processes.

Background: The Texas State Legislature authorized SIB loans have helped leverage more than \$7.9 billion in transportation projects in Texas. The RGVMPPO aims to help facilitate the advancement of projects, including securing funds for all phases, for the obligation of programmed funds.

8. Consideration and Action on the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Program

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Eva Garcia, RGVMPPO Planner III

Summary: To ensure regional FY2019-2020 funds are obligated by August 2023, Staff recommends the approval of A) Resolution 2023-02 to approve amendments to Brownsville to Los Fresnos Connect Phase I & II (CSJ 0921-06-322 & CSJ 0921-06-324); B) Resolution 2023-03 to approve amendments to Olmito Sidewalks (CSJ 0921-06-326); and C) Resolution 2023-03 to approve amendments to Las Palmas Sidewalks (CSJ 0921-06-327).

Background: RGVMPPO staff continues to work with TxDOT and local government agencies to monitor projects that have been awarded RGVMPPO TASA funds. Staff will report on the status of FY2019-2020 and FY2021-2022 TASA projects to ensure transparency with the RGVMPPO's policymakers and transportation professionals. A new schedule of activities for FY2021-2022 TASA projects will be presented, along with the draft schedule of the upcoming FY2023-2024 Call for Projects.

9. Template for CAT 7 reports

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Melany Rodriguez, GIS Specialist/Planner I

Summary: RGVMPPO Staff developed a template for reporting updates to Category 7 Projects programmed in the RGVMPPO MTP, the TIP and UTP. The regular reporting of critical path items (key milestones) will increase transparency and ensure programmed funds are obligated as planned.

Background: This item is a follow-up to months of discussion regarding stalled projects and State Representative Terry Canales' public comment at the December 14th RGVMPPO Transportation Policy Board meeting. The objective of Category 7 Project Updates/reporting is to obligate the MPOs apportioned funds and position the Rio Grande Valley in a manner that allows us to capture more federal transportation dollars in the future.

10. Local Transportation Plan Project

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Fernando Cantu, RGVMPPO Planner III

Summary: Staff is now calling for the Local Transportation Plan Project necessary for the RGVMPPO FY 24-25 Unified Planning Work Program.

Background: In our last call for planning projects, the city of Harlingen requested a study for its FM 509 corridor. The Unified Planning Work Program Planning funds can be used to carry out transportation planning activities within our jurisdiction. Local transportation planning activities include but are not limited to Corridor Studies, Access and Mobility Analysis, Traffic, Alignment Alternatives, Feasibility Studies, Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Initiatives, and the Economic Impact of Transportation Investments. Engineering, design, and construction projects are not eligible for Planning funds.

V. RGVMPPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT AND UPDATES

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Andrew A. Canon, RGVMPPO

Item Summary:

1. Finances
2. Project Readiness Workshop
3. Transportation Forum January 29th – January 31st
4. RGV Days, February 21st – February 23rd

VI. STATUS REPORTS

A. TxDOT Project Status Report

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Maria Champine, TxDOT

B. Cameron County RMA

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Pete Sepulveda

C. Hidalgo County RMA

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Ramon Navarro

VII. Other Business (Old or New): This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.

VIII. Next Meeting: The next RGVMPPO Policy Meeting is scheduled in Person February 15, 2023, at 1:30 PM at Ken Jones Boardroom.