

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 05, 2010

1) Roll Call

- Chairman Juan Lopez called the meeting to order at 1:37pm. The Technical Advisory Committee Meeting was held at the Hidalgo County MPO Office at 510 South Pleasantview Drive, Weslaco, Texas. Present were representatives from the Cities of: Alamo, Alton, Edcouch, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, La Joya, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Penitas, San Juan, TxDOT, Weslaco, LRGVDC Transit and Hidalgo County RMA. Ex-Offio Members present: Hidalgo County Auditor's Office, McAllen Transit and Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District.

2) Adoption of Minutes from:

- November 12, 2009
- November 17, 2009
- December 01, 2009
- December 08, 2009
- Chairman Juan Lopez asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. No corrections were needed to the minutes of: November 12th, November 17th, December 1st and December 8, 2009. ***The City of Penitas made a motion to approve all of the four (4) sets of minutes listed as presented. The City of McAllen seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

3) Cost Over-Run Projects

- No action was needed at this time.

4) Approval of Bylaw Amendment #16

- Mr. Andrew A. Canon stated that the Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District (HCCRD) submitted a request to consider granting membership and voting rights as a member for both the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC). He noted that at the last Policy Meeting in December a consensus was to move forward with the request to the TAC. After further discussion, some of the members were concerned on how the voting structure was going to be if Mr. Godfrey Garza represents the Hidalgo County RMA and Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District. Mr. Ed Taylor, City of McAllen, commented that since Mr. Garza represents both entities, that it would be a conflict of interest if each entity would get a vote. Several of the members recommended that the HCCRD be granted Ex-Offio membership. ***The City of Edcouch made a motion to grant the Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District Ex-Offio Membership to the Technical Advisory Committee and the Transportation Policy Committee. The City of La Joya seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

5) Discussion of MTP Amendment #1

- Mr. Canon stated that an MTP spreadsheet was provided for everyone to review. Mr. Canon stated that staff attended a meeting at TxDOT in regards to the CAT 2 and CAT 7 funding. He stated that Hidalgo County MPO will not be receiving any CAT 2 funding and the CAT 7 funding was reduced well below what TxDOT had originally estimated. Mr. Canon stated that we needed to look at the funding limitations and revise the 2035 MTP so that it will be financially accordance to the TIP and STIP development. Mr. Canon briefly went through the Financial Forecast for Updating the STIP, UTP and MTP which was provided to Staff at the December meeting at TxDOT. Mrs. Robin Boone, TxDOT, briefly commented on the information that had been provided to TxDOT staff. The members briefly went through some of the projects that were in questioned. Chairman Juan Lopez requested assistance from the members to submit any final corrections that needed to be made and come back and meet at a later date. ***The City of Edcouch made a motion to approve the MTP Amendment #1 with the recommendation that staff proceed to make any final corrections or additions be brought back next month for review. The City of McAllen seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

*Approved:
February 02, 2010 TAC Meeting*

6) Thoroughfare Plan Update

- Mr. Canon stated that everyone will need an updated thoroughfare map. Staff is requesting that all of the members review the map provided and submit any changes, corrections and or additions that need to be made by the next TAC meeting. He noted that Mr. Fred Villarreal will be contacting everyone to attend a Thoroughfare Plan meeting next week. Mr. Canon noted that once all of the changes are made the map will be submitted to Hidalgo County Commissioners Court for final approval and adoption by the County. **Reports only, no action needed at this time.**

7) Operational Improvements Criteria

- This item was tabled but will be brought back next month. No action was needed at this time.

8) Status Reports

- Calendar: January & February 2010
- HCMPO Budget Report
- Mr. Canon stated that the HCMPO budget was provided for everyone to review. He noted that all of the pending invoices have been paid. Mr. Canon stated that staff will be attending the Texas Transportation Forum meeting in Austin; he noted that he will also be attending the TRB meeting in Washington, DC.

9) HCRMA Update

- No updates were given at this time. Mrs. Flor Koll stated that the next RMA meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2010. Mr. Ed Taylor recommended that staff include the last approved RMA meeting minutes every month.

10) LRGVDC Transit

- No updates were given at this time.

11) Rio Transit

- No updates were given at this time.

12) Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District

- No updates were given at this time.

13) Old or New Business

- Mr. Juan Ortiz, Penitas, commented that a couple of months back MPO Staff provided information regarding finding ideas on how to come up with funding. Mr. Ortiz requested that we go back and look at other ideas to come up with funding for Hidalgo County. Mr. Canon stated that staff was looking at other ideas as well. Mr. Ortiz recommended that we bring this item next month and brainstorm the ideas.

14) Adjournment

- ***The City of McAllen made a motion to adjourn at 3:36 pm. The City of Donna seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

***Approved:
February 02, 2010 TAC Meeting***