

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
April 06, 2010

1) Roll Call

- Chairman Juan Lopez called the meeting to order at 1:40pm. 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, Donna, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Penitas, Pharr, San Juan, Weslaco, TxDOT, LRGVDC Transit and Hidalgo County RMA. Ex-Offio Members present: Hidalgo County Auditor's Office and McAllen Transit.

2) Adoption of Minutes from: March 02, 2010

- Chairman Juan Lopez asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. The City of Weslaco stated that they were present at the March 2nd TAC Meeting. Therefore, a minor change needed to be made to the attendance to show Weslaco as present. ***The City of Mercedes made a motion to approve the March 02, 2010 minutes with minor additions. 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) Review & Approve of Project Selection Criteria for Transit Funding

- Ms. Amanda Hernandez stated that an application for JARC/ New Freedom Application were provided for everyone to review. Mr. Canon stated that the application is the same one from the previous one. Only minor changes were made. He advised the committee that the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (LRGVDC) will be the recipient to receive the funds. Mr. Canon stated several of the Transit providers will be applying for funding. ***The City of McAllen made a motion to approve the Project Selection Criteria for Transit Funding as presented. The City of Donna seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

5) Approval of Kimley-Horn Time Extension

- Mr. Canon stated that Andrew Howard, Kimley-Horn & Associates, requested a 4 month time extension only. Mr. Canon advised the members that the time extension will not result in any budget modifications or amendments to the scope of services. He stated that Kimley-Horn will make a presentation to the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court on Tuesday, April 27th, May 4th Conduct a Preferred Scenario Workshop, May 20th Summary of Presentation to TPC, June 3rd Public Meeting, July 6th TAC workshop on Selection Criteria, August 3rd present full plan to TAC Committee and August 19th present full plan to TPC Committee for final approval. ***The City of Penitas made a motion to grant Kimley-Horn & Associates a 4 month Time Extension only for the Scenario Planning Contract. The City of McAllen seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

6) MTP Update Project Status Information

- Mr. Canon stated that at the last Policy meeting the Board members approved a resolution guiding us to use Category 7 funding allocation to be assigned to projects designed as off-system roadway projects and on-system projects will be approved on a case-by-case basis by the TPC for the first ten (10) years. Mr. Canon stated that staff has not received all of the updates from all of the members. He reminded everyone to turn in their updates for all of their projects listed. He noted that the Cities of: McAllen, Mercedes, San Juan and Hidalgo County Precinct #1 have been the only entities that have turned in their updates. He advised them that if no updates were turned in; there may be a possibility projects may be moved down in order to incorporate the ones that are ready. Mr. Canon stated that the project status reports that have been turned in have been incorporated, but we still need data from the members for about twenty (20) projects that we are still pending updates. He advised all of the members that the deadline to turn in project updates was: Thursday, April 22nd. Mr. Canon reminded the members that the TIP was due by June 30, 2010. He also noted that the members will need to take action at the May 4th TAC Meeting. Mr. Canon briefly gave a brief presentation and overview of what TRENDS was able to provide. He encouraged everyone to go through the program and that they could locate it on the HCMPO FTP Site. ***Reports only, no action taken at this time.***

7) On-System Alternative Finance

- This item was discussed with Item 6.

8) TIP Resolution

- Mr. Canon stated that the current TIP Resolution 2005-03 was provided for everyone to review. He noted that this is the current resolution we are working off. Mr. Canon reminded everyone that the resolution states that every project should have approximately 9000 or more ADT per day, have 100% of Right of Way (ROW) acquisition and have the environmental completed. After further discussion, some of the members were concerned on the status of some projects that are ready to go but currently do not have 9000 ADT per day. Some of the members requested that the committee should take another look at the current requirements in place and see if we can update any of them. **Reports only no action taken at this time.**

9) Status Reports

- Calendar: May & June 2010
Mr. Canon stated that some of the staff will be attending the Coordinated Mobility workshop in Corpus Christi, Texas on April 21st & 22nd. He advised the members that Judge Rene Ramirez has requested for him to attend the Joint Finance & Transportation Meeting in Austin, Texas on May 25th. He noted that the HCMPO office will be closed on May 31st for Memorial Holiday.
- Legislative Update
Ms. Amanda Hernandez gave a brief update on the Legislative issues.
- HCMPO Budget Report
Ms. Linda de la Fuente gave a brief update on the HCMPO Budget.
- Operational Improvements Criteria
Mr. Sooraz Patro gave a brief update on the Operational Improvements Sub-Committee Meeting. He reminded all of the members present that they need to turn in the scoring sheets that was presented to them at the April 13th Meeting.

10) HCRMA Update

- No updates were given at this time.

11) LRGVDC Transit

- Mr. Luis Guajardo gave a brief update on the updated Transit fares. He noted that all transit fares have been decreased from \$2.50 to \$1.50 and .75¢ for Veterans, Disabled and Students.

12) McAllen Express

- Mrs. Marabeth Schuster gave a brief update on McAllen Express fares.

13) Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District

- No updates were given at this time.

14) Old or New Business

- Mr. Canon stated that an email was sent out regarding the Regional Transit meeting scheduled for April 14th.

15) Adjournment

- *The City of Donna made a motion to adjourn. The City of Penitas seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*