

**HIDALGO COUNTY MPO**  
**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, April 07, 2009**  
**1:30 PM**

1 Roll Call

Mr. Andrew Canon called the meeting to order at 1:35 P.M. The Technical Advisory Committee Meeting was held at the HCMPO Conference Room, Weslaco, TX. Present were representatives from The Cities of Alamo, Alton, Donna, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Hidalgo County RMA, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, LRGVDC Transit, Penitas, Weslaco and TxDOT. Ex-Offio Members Present: Hidalgo County Auditor's Office.

2 Adoption of Minutes from March 3, 2009

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mr. Canon asked if there were any changes and or corrections that needed to be made to the minutes. The City of Weslaco stated that someone from his staff was present at the last meeting. **The City of Mercedes made a motion to approve the March 3rd and March 10th minutes with minor corrections. The City of Edinburg seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

3 Adoption of Minutes from March 10, 2009

Mr. Canon asked if there were any changes and or corrections that needed to be made to the minutes. The City of Weslaco stated that someone from his staff was present at the last meeting. **The City of Mercedes made a motion to approve the March 3rd and March 10th minutes with minor corrections. The City of Edinburg seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

4 Cost Over-Run

None at this time.

5 Approval of Bylaw Amendment

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mr. Canon stated that at the last Policy Meeting the board members recommended that the MPO Staff not sit as Chairman of the TAC Committee or any other committee. The Policy Board Members stated that the MPO staff should be in attendance to offer support to any committee. Mr. Canon stated that the members would need to elect a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary. He noted that this will need to be approved at the May TAC and Policy Meetings because we will need to have 30-day Public Involvement. After further discussion, the committee decided that the City/Entity be the one to be appointed not the person. Mr. Canon stated that the Chairman would need designate a couple of hours to discuss the items that would need to go in the agenda. **The City of Penitas made a motion to approve the Bylaw Amendment. The City of Edinburg seconded the motion. TxDOT opposed to approve the Bylaw Amendment. The City of McAllen seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carried to Approve the Bylaw Amendment as presented.**

6 Approval of 2030 MTP Amendment

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Ms. Maria Champine stated that a list of projects was provided for everyone to review. We are amending the list that were submitted for the ARRA Funding. She stated that these projects are ready to move forward. She also stated that the MPO staff has started the 30-day Public Involvement. Ms. Champine stated they are also meeting with TxDOT to review if there is any administrative projects that maybe duplicated. **The City of Weslaco made a motion to Approve the 2030 MTP Amendment. The City of Alamo seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

7 Approval of TIP Amendment for ARRA Projects.

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Ms. Jamie Keshav gave a brief summary of the Transit section of the TIP Amendment for ARRA Projects. Mr. Canon stated that another section of the TIP was handed out for everyone to review. He stated that since our adoption the State was able to identify the allocation of \$16.9 million in ARRA funds available for our planning area. He reminded the members that since the MPO is obligated to maintain a fiscally constrained TIP we must remove all of the projects that were not funded with ARRA funds. He stated that an amount of: \$4,475,658 funds are going to be split equally 50/50 between McAllen Express and Rio Metro. **The City of Alamo made a motion to approve the TIP Amendment for ARRA Projects. The City of Penitas seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

8 MTP Variation Schedule

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mr. Canon stated that the at the last TAC Meeting it was discussed that during the HCMPO Federal Certification process. There were discussions about changing the cycle in which the HCMPO updates our Long Range Plan, the MTP. He stated that the MTP needs to be adopted by December 2009. He advised the board members that staff is still pending delivery of the Modal from TxDOT. He stated that the MTP update will done out of cycle if the committee agrees. It will also include the scenario base. Mr. Raymond Sanchez, TxDOT, stated that he will contact TxDOT Austin and see what the status of the modal is. **The City of Mercedes made a motion to approve the MTP Variation Schedule. The City of Alamo seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

9 Update of Cost Proposal of MTP

Ms. Linda de la Fuente stated that the original cost proposal that Kimley-Horn submitted to the MPO was about \$334,000. This amount was way over the amount \$250,000 that was allocated to the MTP. MPO staff went into further negotiations to bring the amount down to the allocated amount. She briefly went through the amounts for specific breakdowns on certain State/ Government rates that the HCMPO is allowed to go by. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

TAC Minutes  
Approved On:  
May 05, 2009

10 Pass Through Finance Call Program

Mr. Canon stated that currently there is \$300 million in funds that are available. He stated that the deadline for submittal is May 5, 2009. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

11 Staff Update

A. Calendar: May & June 2009

Mr. Canon stated that he will be in Austin for a TEMPO meeting on April 21st & 22nd. He reminded the members that the MPO office will be closed for Memorial Day, May 25, 2009. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

B. HCMPO Budget Report

Mr. Canon stated that an updated spreadsheet was provided for everyone to review. **Reports only, no action was taken at this time.**

C. Update on the Thoroughfare Plan - Deadline May 31st.

Mr. Brent Cochran stated that a memo was sent out to the cities requesting submittals for the Thoroughfare Plan. Once all of the submittals of reviewed. We will be requesting a resolution from the cities. The final plan will be presented to the Hidalgo County Commissioners court to adopt. **Reports only, no action was taken at this time.**

12 HCRMA Update

Mr. Jacinto Garza, L & G Engineering, gave a brief status report on the Hidalgo County Loop Project. He stated that the RMA will be giving a presentation to the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court on April 30th.

13 Old Or New Business

Ms. Jamie Keshav gave a brief update on the Legislative. She stated that a list of bills was passed out for everyone to review. She stated that if anyone wanted further information on a certain bill, she would be able to provide a more detail report.

14 Adjourn

**The City of Alamo made a motion to adjourn. The City of Edinburg seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**