

Hidalgo County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
June 01, 2010

1) Roll Call

- Chairman Juan Lopez called the meeting to order at 1:34pm. 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, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, McAllen, Mercedes, Mission, Penitas, Pharr, Weslaco, TxDOT, LRGVDC Transit and Hidalgo County RMA. Ex-Offio Members present: Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District and McAllen Transit.

2) Adoption of Minutes from: May 4, 2010

- Chairman Juan Lopez asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. No changes were needed at this time. ***The City of Penitas made a motion to approve the May 04, 2010 minutes as presented. The City of Mercedes 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 FY2010-2035 MTP Amendment #1

- Mr. Canon stated that a spreadsheet was provided for everyone to review. Mr. Canon stated that the following MTP is subject to Resolution 2010-02. Mr. Canon informed the committee that on late Thursday, June 27, 2010, at the TxDOT/MPO meeting, it was announced that there are no funds left to purchase right-of-way (ROW). If an on-system project needs ROW, it would need to be purchased with Category 7 funds. The City of Mission will get back with the HCMPO after verifying the ROW acquisition for FM 681 and FM 2221. If the amount for the ROW acquisition for the projects mentioned exceeds the Category 7 funding available, the projects will need to be moved down and move into the TIP projects that will be ready to let within the TIP years. Mr. Sooraz Patro gave a brief summary regarding Performance Measures. TAC recommended that if the City of Mission came up with a way to keep FM 681 and FM 2221 in the TIP years of the MTP to take that to TPC. If not, to move up projects listed in FY 2015, 2 Mile Line and/or Owassa, to replace FM 681 and FM 2221. ***The City of Mercedes made a motion to approve the FY2010-2035 MTP Amendment #1 with minor changes. The City of Penitas seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

5) Approval of FY2011-2014 TIP Update Development

- Mr. Canon stated that this item was discussed during item #4. Mr. Canon stated that initially the first four years of the MTP was the FY2011-14 TIP. The City of Mission will get back with HCMPO Staff after verifying the ROW for FM 681 and FM 2221. TAC recommended that if the City of Mission came up with a way to keep FM 681 and FM 2221 in the TIP years of the MTP to take that to TPC. If not, to move up projects listed in FY 2015, 2 Mile Line and/or Owassa, to replace FM 681 and FM 2221. ***The City of Alamo made a motion approve the FY2011-2014 TIP Update Development as presented. The City of Mission seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

6) Monthly Letting Report

- None at this time.

7) TIGER II Submittals

- Ms. Hernandez stated that a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) was released by the US Department of Transportation. Based on the information in that NOFA, the HCMPO created a call for projects flyer summarizing the selection criteria. The MPO received 15 project summaries and created a scoring sheet using the details of the selection criteria. Based on those details, none of the projects submitted seemed to meet the intent of the TIGER II Discretionary Grant. While they were all good local projects, the MPO chose not to assist in the grant application process – which is a nationally competitive process. The pre-application deadline is July 16th and is the first step in requesting this funding. If the cities or other eligible organizations are interested in submitting an application, they can do so. The details for submission are in the NOFA and the application is available through www.grants.gov. ***Reports only, no action was taken at this time.***

8) Status Reports

- Calendar: June & July 2010
Mr. Canon stated that some of the staff will be attending the TxDOT Planning Conference on June 30th – July 2nd in Bastrop, Texas. He noted that the HCMPO office will be closed on Monday, July 5th for 4th of July Holiday.
- Legislative / RTAP Update
Ms. Amanda Hernandez stated that the next RTAP meeting is scheduled for June 15th. No other reports were given at this time.
- 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 stated that next meeting will be scheduled sometime in June but that no definite date has been scheduled.
- Thoroughfare Plan Update
Mr. Fred Villarreal stated that a letter has been submitted to all of cities. Staff is requesting a Resolution of support. He noted that another meeting will be scheduled at a later date.
- Public Involvement Meetings (TIP, MTP & Scenario Planning)
Mr. Canon stated that the MPO has scheduled a Public meeting for June 8th at 5:30pm at the HCMPO office. He noted that a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 3rd at 1:30pm at Pharr Chamber of Commerce and a Public Meeting will also take place at the same time. Mr. Canon stated that TxDOT is also having a TIP Public Meeting on June 24th at TxDOT Pharr office at 5:30 pm.

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.

12) McAllen Express

- No updates were given at this time.

13) Hidalgo County Commuter Rail District

- No updates were given at this time.

14) Old or New Business

- Mr. Canon stated that the UPWP will need to be re-approved. He noted that the UPWP that was approved last month was not correct. He stated that a spreadsheet was provided for everyone to review. *The City of Alamo made a motion to approve the UPWP as presented. The City of McAllen seconded the motion and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*

15) Adjournment

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

Approved:
July 06, 2010 TAC Meeting