

HIDALGO COUNTY MPO
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 06, 2009
1:30 PM

1 Roll Call

Chairman Juan Lopez, called the meeting to order at 1:32 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, Edinburg, Granjeno, Hidalgo County RMA, La Villa, McAllen, Mercedes Mission, Penitas, San Juan, Weslaco and LRGVDC Transit. Ex-Offio Members Present were: Hidalgo County Auditor's Office and Hidalgo County Judge's Office. Maria Champine, Asst. Director informed members present that Mr. Canon was out of town in a Professional Development Workshop in Austin.

2 Adoption of Minutes from September 1, 2009

(ACTION ITEM)

Chairman Juan Lopez asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. No Corrections were noted to the minutes of September 1, 2009. ***The City of Weslaco made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The City of McAllen seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.***

3 ARRA Plan "B" Project(s)

(ACTION ITEM)

Chairman Juan Lopez noted that items 3-5 would be presented by Maria Champine, Assistant Director, but before Ms. Champine's presentation, Mr. Lopez asked the City of Pharr and Weslaco to provide a brief update on the status of their projects being considered under the ARRA Plan B Project. The City of Pharr indicated that Sugar Road Plans are completed as well as the Environmental Study and they are willing to commit 100%. The City of Weslaco is pending final approval, but are still fully committed to the project. Maria Champine, Asst. Director presented a spreadsheet with ten different options/combination of projects that were put together using the revised construction estimates based on TxDOT's bids. After much discussion on this item, the TAC Members present were in consensus to recommend Option #1 to the TPC as follows: a) If Westgate is not ready to let by March 1, 2010, FM 3461 from "I" Road East to FM 1426 will be let in its place, and b) If Business 83 is not ready to let by March 1, 2010, SH107 from FM 495 North to FM 1924 will be let in its place. ***No further discussion took place on this item, the City of McAllen made a motion to approve the ARRA Plan "B" Project(s) (Option #1) as presented. The City of Pharr seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

4 Acceptance of the Total Project Cost

(ACTION ITEM)

Maria Champine, Asst. Director noted that staff is recommending acceptance of the percentages from the adopted FY 2008-2011 TIP to be used to determine the Year of Expenditure of the projects in the 2010-2035 MTP. No discussion took place on this item, TAC Members present were in consensus with Staff's recommendation as presented. ***The City of Alton made a motion to accept the Total Project Cost as presented by staff. The City of Pharr seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

5 FY 2008-2011 TIP Revision

(ACTION ITEM)

Maria Champine, Asst. Director presented to Members present several spreadsheets for the TIP Project. Ms. Champine noted that in order to ensure that projects are available in the TIP, several projects already in the TIP may need to be removed if they are not going to be ready by March 1, 2010. After some discussion on this item TAC Members present were in consensus to add to the FY 2008-2011 TIP Projects from Option One and prioritized them as follows: 1) Sugar Road from Owassa to Sioux Rd; 2) SH 107 from FM 495 to FM 1924; 3) FM3461 from "I" Rd East to FM 1426; 4) US 83 at Bryan Road Rd; 5) SH364 from FM 1924 to FM 676; and 6) FM 396 from 1.6 miles South of US 81 to .10 miles of S of US 83. The Projects being removed from the TIP will be listed in the "For Informational Only Group Category Projects" section as follows: 1) FM 493 from Champion St to US 281; 2) US 281 Military from FM 907 to FM 493; 3) FM 494 from FM 676 to FM 1924; 4) FM 1925 from Kenyon to FM 907; 5) FM 2220 from Mile 5 Road S to FM 1924; 6) FM 2220 from SH 107 S To Mile 5 Road; 7) US 281 Military from SP 600 to FM 907; and 8) FM 907 from Nolana S to US 83. ***No further discussion took place on this item; the City of Alton made a motion to approve the FY 2008-2011 TIP Revision(s) as discussed by the Committee. The City of Alton seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

6 MTP Update

(DISCUSSION ITEM)

Maria Champine, Asst. Director presented and reviewed the 2010-2035 MTP Update as follows: 1) New Estimates Project Cost; 2) Total Project Cost; 3) MTP Project List New Look; 4) Needs not met in MTP Project list; and 5) Substitutue for 2035 LOS in Criteria. After some discussion on this item; TAC Members recommended to go with the following: On item 1) New Estimates Projects Cost; Members recommended using the current TIP Numbers verse using Corpus Christi's figures; On Item 4) Needs not met in MTP Projects List - Members recommended addressing the needs in the MTP LOS "E & F"; and on Item 5) Substitutue for 2035 LOS in Criteria go with Option #1 - Make sure all completed & let projects are included in 2030 network; - Add FY 2008-2011 TIP Projects and - Run the 2030 network. Ms. Champine also recommended that bi-weekly meetings be held to further discuss the 2010-2035 MTP Updates. Members were in consensus to meet bi-weekly on Tuesdays. Ms. Champine noted that members will be notified of dates by email. ***Report only, no action taken on this item.***

7 Rescission Update

(DISCUSSION ITEM)

Maria Champine, Asst. Director noted that the State of Texas is look into 740 million in rescission Ms. Champine informed members present that a conference call is scheduled for October 19, 2009 with Mr. John A. Barton with TxDOT from Austin. The purpose of the conference call is to discuss the status of implementing the transportation components of the ARRA in Texas. Any city wishing to participate in this conference call are more than welcome to do so. Conference call is set for 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 19, 2009. ***Report only, no action taken on this item.***

8 Staff Update

A. Safe Routes to School

Maria Champine, Asst. Director informed members present that Ms. Carrol Campa, State Coordinator and Mr. Stephen Walker, TxDOT District Landscape Architect (Presenter) would be holding a Safe Routes to School Workshop on Monday, October 5, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. at the Pharr District Conference Center. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

B. Calendar: November & December 2009

Maria Champine, Asst. Director reminded the members that several Public Outreach meetings had been held late September and some are scheduled for October. Ms. Champine noted that the public meetings will be held in Edinburg, McAllen, Mission and the MPO Offices. In October the 2010 – 2035 MTP - Public Hearing will take place starting October 12 - 16, 2009 at the HCMPO Conference Room. Everyone is invited to attend. **Reports only, no action taken at this time.**

C. HCMPO Budget Report

Maria Champine, Asst. Director noted that an updated spreadsheet was provided for everyone to review. **Reports only, no action was taken at this time.**

9 HCRMA Update

Mrs. Flor E. Koll stated that the RMA Board will be holding a Special Meeting to interview for the Executive Director position. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2009 at 5:30 p.m at the Pharr City Hall. **Reports only, no action was taken.**

10 Old Or New Business

No reports were given at this time.

11 Adjourn

The City of Mercedes made a motion to adjourn. The City of McAllen seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.