

**HIDALGO COUNTY MPO**  
**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
*Thursday, November 29, 2007*

**1 Roll Call**

Vice Chairman Angie Garza called the meeting to order at 5:50 P.M. The Policy Committee Meeting was held at the TxDOT Offices, 600 West Expressway 83, Pharr, TX. Present were representatives from The Cities of: Alamo, Alton, Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Hidalgo, La Joya, McAllen, Mission, Pharr, San Juan, Weslaco and TxDOT. ExOffio Members Present: Weslaco Chamber of Commerce, Hidalgo County RMA and LRGVDC Transit.

**2 Citizen Input**

Vice Chairman Angie Garza asked if there was any citizen input. There being none, the chairman proceeded on to the next item.

**3 Adoption of Minutes from October 25, 2007**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Vice Chairman Angie Garza asked if there were any additions or corrections that needed to be made. There being none the chairman asked for a motion of approval. **The City of Edinburg made a motion to approve the minutes, The City of Weslaco seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

**4 Recognition of Chairman Mayor Leopoldo Palacios**

Mr. Canon stated that Mayor Leopoldo Palacios has served as the Policy Committee Chairman for the past two years and has been an active TPC member for over a period of 10 years. Mayor Leopoldo Palacios is being honored for outstanding leadership and dedication for his outstanding service with the Transportation Policy Committee and Hidalgo County area.

**5 Election of New Policy Officials**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mr. Canon stated that Commissioner Angie Garza will be moving up to Chairman, Commissioner Noe Garza will be moving up to Vice Chairman and a new Secretary will need to be elected. All TPC officials will serve a 2-year term. ***The City of Edinburg made a motion to nominate Diana Martinez, City of Alamo, as the new Policy Committee Secretary, The City of McAllen seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

**6 Approval of Functional Reclassification of Mile 6 West, Nolana Loop  
Mile 2 West and McColl Rd. to Urban and Rural Major Collectors**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mr. Canon stated that TxDOT brought this item to the TAC committee and was approved. Due to increase in mobility and growth in population. It has become necessary to change these roads to Urban and Rural Major Collectors. ***Hidalgo County made a motion to Reclassify Mile 6 West, Nolana Loop, Mile 2 West and McColl Rd to Urban and Rural Major Collectors, The City of Weslaco seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

**7 Hidalgo County Road Builders Presentation**

**(Discussion Item)**

Mr. Canon stated that Gerry Pate, Hidalgo County Roadbuilders, will be giving a brief presentation regarding the Southern Loop. Mr. Gerry Pate introduced his partners: Mr. Jacinto Garza and Richard Zamora. Mr. Pate gave a brief video presentation. ***Reports only.***

Policy Committee Minutes,  
To Be Approved on:  
Thursday, January 24, 2008

8 **Update on TEMPO Meeting in Austin**

Mr. Canon stated that the TEMPO video meeting was held at TxDOT. Their was important information regarding year expenditure dollars for our TIP. MPO staff will be having an Emergency TAC meeting Monday Morning.

9 **Thoroughfare Map Update**

Mr. Canon stated that we have received updates from several cities. The City of Pharr, Edinburg, McAllen, Mercedes, Alton, San Juan have included this item on to their city commission agenda for adoption. The City of Alamo will be submitting a memo to the MPO that they do not have any updates. *Reports only.*

10 **Staff Update**

A. **Calendar: January & February 2008**

Mr. Canon stated that we would like to thank Mr. Ken Jones and Victor Morales for everything they have done with the new building. Mr. Canon stated that we will be working on the MPO BYLAWS. Due to the Holidays we will not be having a December Policy Meeting. Mayor Leopoldo Palacios congratulated Commissioner Diana Martinez, City of Alamo, with her win as the new re-elected Commissioner of the City of Alamo.

11 **Off System Report**

No reports at this time.

12 **Letting Report**

Reports only.

13 **Old Or New Business**

Mr. Behrooz Badiozzamani, TxDOT, gave a brief summary regarding the article that came out on the Monitor regarding funding issues at TxDOT. At this time TxDOT is currently having a funding crisis. He stated that TxDOT's funding source for TxDOT has been gasoline tax. The gasoline tax has not changed in years. The federal government has taken back about \$800 million and more will be taken back in the future. TxDOT has reached a point that the actual cash flow dollars are very low. The funding for FY08 has been reduced from \$30 million to \$18 million for this district alone. We still have not heard how much the construction budget will be reduced. Due to lack of funding; some of the projects that we thought were going to be build are not going to be build. The funding we currently have can only be used for rehabbing the roads. Mr. Canon stated that a TAC meeting will be held Monday Morning to discuss the TIP. **Reports only.**

14 **Adjournment**

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