

HIDALGO COUNTY MPO
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 16, 2009

1 **Roll Call**

Vice-Chairman Noe Garza called the meeting to order at 5:37 P.M. The Policy Committee Meeting was held at the HCMPO office, 510 South Pleasantview Drive, Weslaco, Texas. Present were representatives from The Cities of: Alton, Donna, Edinburg, Hidalgo, Hidalgo County, McAllen, Mercedes, TxDOT, Weslaco, Hidalgo County RMA and LRGVDC Transit.

2 **Citizen Input**

Vice-Chairman Noe Garza asked if there was any citizen input. Their being none, the chairman proceeded to the next item.

3 **Adoption of Minutes from March 16, 2009**

(ACTION ITEM)

The City of Mercedes made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The City of Weslaco seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

4 **Approval of Bylaw Amendment**

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Canon stated that the TAC reviewed and discussed the Bylaw Amendment. He stated that the TAC members approved the attached verbiage and requested for the Policy Board to approve the amendment. He stated that the MPO Staff will be made available to whomever does become chair of the TAC Committee. He noted that the TAC members will need to either nominate or volunteer to serve as Chairman, Vice-Chairman or Secretary. He advised the Board members that they would need to elect someone at the May TAC meeting. *The City of Donna made a motion to approve the Bylaw Amendment as presented. The City of Mercedes seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

5 **Approval of 2030 MTP Amendment**

(ACTION ITEM)

Ms. Champine stated that there are only two (2) changes that need to be made. Addition #1: We need to adjust the cost for the projects that were submitted for ARRA Projects funding. Addition #2: The addition of Trinity Avenue. *The City of Mercedes made a motion to approve the 2030 MTP Amendment. The City of Donna seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

6 **Approval of TIP Amendment for ARRA Projects**

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Canon stated that McAllen Express and Rio Metro will split \$4,475,658 which will be divided 50/50 equally. He advised the Board members that the TAC members have reviewed and approved the amendment for the TIP. *The Hidalgo County RMA made a motion to approve the TIP Amendment for ARRA Projects. The City of McAllen seconded the motion and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

7 **MTP Variation Schedule**

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Canon stated that at the last HCMPO Federal Certification it was discussed to change the cycle in which the HCMPO updates the Long Range Plan, the MTP. He noted that staff is NOT recommending any abbreviation of the MTP and assures you that all federal requirements would be met. Mr. Canon advised the Board members that we have not received the modal from TxDOT. He reminded the Board that we will need to adopt the MTP by December 2009. *The City of Mercedes made a motion to approve the MTP Variation Schedule. The City of Donna seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

8 **Update on Cost Proposal**

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Canon stated that this item is an Action Item. He stated that Kimley-Horn was the consultant selected to do the MTP update. Ms. Linda de la Fuente stated that the cost proposal came in within the allowable budget. She stated that all of the rates for travel, meals, hotel and all labor costs and rates were under the allowable range from the State. Mr. Canon stated that staff is asking approval to move forward with the MTP contract. *The City of Mercedes made a motion to approve the Cost Proposal and move forward with the MTP contract. The City of Weslaco seconded the motion, and upon a vote, the motion carried unanimously.*

9 **Pass Thru Finance Call Program**

Mr. Canon stated that TxDOT has notified the MPO of the 2009 Pass-Through Finance Program Call. He stated that the call will begin March 13, 2009. If anyone has a project(s) that feel would be eligible for pass-through funding, please submit proposals by 3pm on May 12, 2009. *Reports only, no action taken at this time.*

Policy Committee Minutes,
Approved on:
Thursday, May 21, 2009

10 **Staff Update**

A. **Calendar: March & April 2009**

Mr. Canon stated that he will be attending a TEMPO / TxDOT meeting in Austin next week. He also advised the Board members that he will be attending a Training Seminar in San Antonio for Manage Emotions Under Intense Pressure. He reminded the Board that the MPO will be closed on May 25th for Memorial Day. Mr. Canon stated that he would like to travel to Attend a TRB meeting in Denver, Colorado. Mr. Canon stated that the MPO will hosting a seminar in June 19-21st. If anyone would like to attend please contact Maria Champine for further information.

B. **Legislative Update**

Ms. Jamie Keshav gave a brief Legislative Update. She stated that if anyone would like further information; they can meet with her after the meeting.

C. **Update on Thoroughfare Plan**

Mr. Brent Cochran stated that the a memo was sent out to everyone. He advised everyone to turn in their updates as

D. **HCMPO Budget Update**

Reports only, no action taken at this time.

11 **Off System Report**

None at this time

12 **Letting Report**

Reports only.

13 **HCRMA Update**

Mr. Jacinto Garza, L & G Engineering, gave a brief update on the current status of the Hidalgo County Loop Project.

14 **Old Or New Business**

Mr. Dennis Burleson, HCRMA, stated that they will be given a presentation to the Commission in Austin on April 30th. He invited everyone attend the Commission meeting. He advised the members that several other RMA's and elected officials will also be present. He stated that they will be given 20 minutes to give their presentation.

15 **Adjournment**

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

Attest:

Diana Martinez, Secretary