

D. Discussion and Action to recommend the approval of the RGVMPPO to participate in the FY2025 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Partnership

Action **Information**

Presenter: Luis M. Diaz, RGVMPPO Director

Summary: The STBG Partnership is a financial strategy in which your FY 2025 STP MM federal funds are exchanged for an equal amount of the state's STP Flex federal funds.

- TxDOT-FIN in coordination with your district, will obligate the entire FY 2025 STP-MM on state selected category 1, 4, 11, and 12 projects within your MPO boundaries.
- MPO will continue to select their Cat 7 allocation projects which will be funded STP-Flex (exchange via the STBG partnership).
- No change to the federal/state amount distributed to your Category 7 allocation per the UTP.

FY 2025 STP MM Partnership Request: Exchange \$24.35 million of STP MM to STP Flex

Background: Last year a resolution was passed resulting in a STBG Partnership.

E. Amendment to the contract with Alliance Transportation Group (ATG) to include Task 8

Action **Information**

Presenter: Fernando Cantu, RGVMPPO Transportation Planner III

Summary: The RGVMPPO seeks to amend its current contract with ATG to include Task 8, at an additional cost of \$127,802.01.

Initial Contract	\$338,838.21
Amendment 1	\$58,204.82
Amendment 2	\$127,802.01
Total	\$524,845.04

Background: This task is designed to supplement ongoing efforts related to the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) by addressing recommendations from the FHWA's review during the MPO certification. The focus is on resolving identified gaps in the current 2050 MTP and incorporating critical elements, such as the Public Participation Plan (PPP) and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) document, which are essential for effective implementation but not currently part of the plan. Additionally, this task emphasizes activities related to plan development, including enhanced community engagement efforts.

V. Presentations & Reports

A. February 2025 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Revision Cycle

Action **Information**

Presenter: Rudy Zamora Jr., RGVMPPO Transportation Planner II

Summary: The Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) will be under revision and RGVMPPO staff will be submitting amendments for FY's 2025-2028. The 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) will also be amended according to changes submitted by our region's planning partners. A reasonable opportunity for public comment on all modifications will be provided prior to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Transportation Policy Board (TPB) approvals during our scheduled February 2025 meetings.

Background: The Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) provides quarterly revision cycles for Districts and MPO's to update the current STIP. All amendments are presented for public comment and review by our TAC prior to TPB approval. TXDOT's STIP Division will review amendments, conduct a statewide public comment period, and submit revisions for Federal approval. All supporting documents will be uploaded to the STIP Portal by the provided deadline.

B. Announcement of Planning (PL) Project Call (Unified Planning Work Program) UPWP Task 5

Action Information

Presenter: Luis M. Diaz, RGVMPPO Director

Summary: The UPWP Task 5 Call for Projects is now open, inviting submissions for project proposals and applications. The deadline for submissions is February 6, 2025. The RGVMPPO has allocated \$77,000 in Task 5 and has an additional \$1.9 million in unobligated funds available for programming transportation planning projects.

Background: The UPWP Task 5 Call for Projects is now open, inviting submissions for project proposals and applications. The deadline for submissions is February 6, 2025. The RGVMPPO has allocated \$77,000 in Task 5 and has an additional \$1.9 million in unobligated funds available for programming transportation planning projects. [The Call for Planning Project Form on our Website](#) will be used for tracking all submittals.

C. Update on Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Rule Surface Transportation Program Metro Mobility (STP MM) Category 7 carryover.

Action Information

Presenter: Luis M. Diaz, RGVMPPO Director

Summary: The RGVMPPO will present the results of the Texas Administrative Code Sec. 16.154 (k) enacting if an MPO carries over more than 200% of its allocation in Category 7 -Metropolitan Mobility and Rehabilitation from the previous year, the department may reduce the District and MPO's Category 2 - Metropolitan and Urban Corridor Projects carryover and transfer the excess to the District's Category 11 - District Discretionary allocation for use on the district's safety program.

Background: On January 17, 2024, the Texas Transportation Commission passed Minute Order 116630 officially adopting amendments to § 16.105 Unified Transportation Program & § 16.154 Transportation Allocation Funding Formulas Relating to Planning & Development of Transportation Projects to be codified under Title 43, Texas Administrative Code, Part 1. New §16.154(k) prescribes an annual review of carryover in 5 Category 7 Metropolitan Mobility and Rehabilitation. This review allows the department to better manage federal funds, mitigate the risks of a funding lapse or rescission, and addresses potential underutilization of Category 7 funding. Pending the review, if an MPO carries over more than 200 percent of its allocation in Category 7 Metropolitan Mobility and Rehabilitation (TMA) from the previous year, the department may reduce the district and MPO's Category 2 Metropolitan and Urban Corridor Projects carryover and transfer the excess to the district's Category 11 District Discretionary allocation for use on the district's safety program. The department will report to the commission all proposed redistributions and notify any impacted MPO prior to the department making a redistribution.

D. Transportation Management Area (TMA) Federal Certification Review Update

Action Information

Presenter: Luis M. Diaz, RGVMPD Director

Summary: The RGVMPD will present the initial recommendations and commendations received from The TMA Federal Review conducted December 5-6.

Background: The TMA Federal Review of the RGVMPD metropolitan transportation planning process took place on December 5-6th, 2024 at the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council (Ken Jones Boardroom, Building B at 301 W. Railroad, Weslaco, TX 78596). The last federal TMA Certification Review was completed in December 8-10, 2020, and in May 2021 FHWA offices transmitted a letter certifying that the RGVMPD was substantially compliant with USC 134(k) and 49 USC 1607.

E. TJKM Transportation Consultants– Safe Street for All (SS4A) Comprehensive Plan Midway Project Status

Action Information

Presenter: Nayan Amin, TJKM

Summary: The RGVMPD is developing a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan as part of the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) initiative. This plan focuses on improving road safety, particularly in Starr County, Hidalgo County, City of Harlingen, and City of Brownsville, and aims to enhance safety for all users across the region. The update will cover progress on the plan's development and upcoming steps.

Background: The RGVMPD received SS4A grant funding to create the region's first Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. With over 50% of the population living in HDCs, the plan targets critical safety needs by identifying key countermeasures and potential pilot locations (Starr County, Hidalgo County, City of Harlingen, and City of Brownsville) for future implementation. This update will highlight current efforts, stakeholder engagement, and the next steps in the project.

F. Alliance Transportation Group (ATG) Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update

Action Information

Presenter: Alliance Transportation Group Staff

Summary: ATG will provide an update on the development of the 2050 MTP. They will present the progress made at the halfway point of the contract.

Background: The RGVMPD awarded ATG the 2050 MTP contract in December 2023. Initially, the contract was set to conclude in December 2024; however, a time extension was granted through the first contract amendment. This amendment included the addition of Task 7, which focused on assisting the MPO with reviewing the travel demand model

G. Announcement State Transportation Alternatives Project Call

Action Information

Presenter: TxDot Pharr District TP&D Staff

Summary: This informational item brings to the TAC's attention the upcoming workshops hosted by TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation) regarding their project call process. These workshops aim to inform local governments (LGs) about project call requirements and answer any questions they may have.

- Workshops: TxDOT is offering both in-person and virtual workshops to provide guidance on the project call process.
- In-Person Workshop:
 - January 23, 2025 (9:00 AM - 12:00 PM)
 - TxDOT Pharr District Office Conference Center, 600 W. US 83 Expressway, Pharr, TX 78577
- Virtual Workshop:
 - January 6, 2025 (1:00 PM - 4:00 PM)

H. TxDOT Project Status Report

Action Information

Presenter: TxDot Pharr District TP&D Staff

I. Hidalgo County Regional Mobility Authority (RMA) Project Status Report

Action Information

Presenter: Ramon Navarro, Hidalgo County RMA Chief Construction Engineer

J. Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority (RMA) Project Status Report

Action Information

Presenter: Eric Davila, Cameron County RMA Chief Development Engineer

VI. Other Business (Old or New): This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.

- A. The next RGVMPPO Transportation Policy Board meeting is IN-PERSON at 1:30pm on February 26, 2025.