

FULL POLICY BOARD AGENDA

POLICY BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, May 25, 2022 – 1:30 PM

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RGVMPO)

Pursuant to Chapter 551, Title 5 of the Texas Government Code, the Texas Open Meeting Act, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the RGVMPO POLICY BOARD will be held In Person at the LRGVDC Main Campus, 301 W. Railroad Street, Building B, Ken Jones Executive Board Room in Weslaco, TX.

I. Call To Order

II. Roll Call

III. Public Comments – May be submitted online or may be submitted in paper form specifying the matter you wish to address.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minute(s) for:

March 30, 2022

April 27, 2022 (Meeting Canceled)

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Judge Eddie Trevino, Jr., Chairman

Item Summary: Approval of the March 30, 2022, Regular Meeting minutes will be requested.

Background: N/A

2. Discussion and Possible Action to approve the FY2022-2023 UPWP Amendment #2 and Resolution 2022-09

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Fernando Cantu, GIS Specialist II

Item Summary: Staff will be providing updated information on the FY2022-2023 UPWP Amendment #2.

Background: RGVMPO staff has made administrative changes to the FY2022-2023 UPWP and staff is asking to move over funds from our carry over, into Task 1,3,5 in the amount of \$998,948.33, to be utilized for 3 studies, TAC and Policy Retreat and Complete Streets Planning. (See Attachments)

3. Discussion and Possible Action on the Final 2020 Census Urban Area Criteria

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Fernando Cantu, GIS Specialist II

Item Summary: Staff will be providing updated information on the Urban Area Criteria for the 2020 Census-Final Criteria

Background: RGVMP staff has work on a map with the help from UTSA - IDSER/Texas Demographic Center. Showing the potential loss of population by 3.14% and loss of census blocks by 2.35%, under the new 2020 Census Criterion. (See Attachments)

4. Discussion and Possible Action on Request for Travel Demand Model from Municipalities

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Luis Diaz, Asst. Director

Summary: RGVMP Staff is in coordination of a refresh of the 2014 – 2045 TDM with a new base year of 2019 and a forecast year of 2050 alongside the Texas Department of Transportation, and the Transportation Planning and Programming Division to assure a true reflection of Demographics throughout the valley region is collected. Staff is requesting from all municipalities within the RGVMP MAB to please provide a listing or map of new or planned subdivisions, apartment complexes and commercial developments. (Preferably in GIS format)

Background: In 2016, Regional MPO Staff began work on the Regional Transportation Model (TDM) with a base year of 2014 model for the RGV. RGVMP Staff in coordination with TxDOT previously contracted a consultant to aide in the development of the overall Rio Grande Valley Regional Travel Demand Model (TDM) which produced a 2045 Forecasted TDM.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on the FY 2023-2026 TIP Tables & 2045 MTP Amendment # 6: Resolution # 2022 -10 and Prioritization of Additional Funding Requests

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: Rudy Zamora Jr., Transportation Planner II

Item Summary: The 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) & FY 2023-2026 Highway & Transit Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) tables are undergoing Public Involvement. Public Involvement dates, locations, and material were shared by announcement via email, social media, and the RGVMP website. The MTP & TIP tables have been included within this packet for members' review and possible action. A resolution will be provided for required signatures. Requests for additional CAT 7 funding have been included for members' review and discussion. Meetings will be scheduled to address these requests and prepare for future funding opportunities, such as the approval of the 2023 UTP (Unified Transportation Plan).

Background: The deadline to submit the new FY 2023-2026 Comprehensive TIP is June 10, 2022. Please note that approval and a signed resolution are required for uploading projects to the STIP (Statewide Transportation Improvement Program) Portal. A 30-day Public Involvement period is taking place from May 6 – June 6, 2022. A list of in-person

public outreach locations has been included within this packet. In preparation for future funding opportunities, RGVMPPO staff is seeking a prioritization of projects. Whether by utilizing federal grants or UTP allocation, the highest priority of projects should be considered for funding. RGVMPPO staff is available for guidance as necessary.

6. Discussion and Possible Action of Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Project Updates and Potential Advanced Funding Agreement (AFA) Amendment

Action **Possible Action** **Information**

Presenter: **Eva Garcia, Planner III**

Item Summary: Presentation of recent project updates, including project challenges and proposed changes for a potential Advanced Funding Agreement (AFA) Amendment regarding CSJ 0921-06-325.

Background: RGVMPPO Staff continues to review and monitor projects to ensure regional Category 9/Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) funds are obligated within the required three-years of authorization.

7. Discussion and Possible Action to approve the Procurement of Bike Helmets for the RGVMPPO BikePed Program

Action **Possible Action** **Information**

Presenter: **Eva Garcia, Planner III**

Item Summary: Presentation will include information regarding the RGV Transportation Alternatives Facility Inventory and the RGV Traffic Safety Initiative. To meet the objectives of the RGV Traffic Safety Initiative staff is recommending approval to procure 1,505 bike helmets for \$27,742.25. The cost of these helmets will be reimbursed through the TxDOT Traffic Safety grant.

Background: To ensure transparency with regional transportation professionals, RGVMPPO Staff continues to report on the status and upcoming activities of various BikePed projects and programs. The RGVMPPO received a TxDOT Traffic Safety grant to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety through the distribution of safety materials (helmets and lights), in addition to administering two traffic safety trainings for law enforcement, and two traffic safety trainings for planners and engineers.

V. RGVMPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT AND UPDATES

Action Possible Action Information

Presenter: **Andrew A. Canon, RGVMPO**

Item Summary: Financial Update

Item Summary: **2022 TxDOT Transportation Planning Forum
May 2-5, 2022 - Omni Hotel – Houston - Update**

The focus of the 2022 planning conference is to connect you with **Texas planning: sharing knowledge and experience** and provide other updated information about planning and programming processes, procedures, and tools used to coordinate the development of transportation projects. Transportation workshops and presentations will showcase various topics such as environmental affairs, federal and state legislation, sustainability, public involvement, freight, and multi-modal planning.

Item Summary: **2022 AMPO Planning Tools & Training Symposium
May 16-19 – Riverside Hotel – Fort Lauderdale, FL**

The symposium takes place over the course of two and a half days and consists of multiple roundtable workshops. The workshops are divided into two tracks: Core Functions and Hot Topics. The Core Functions track is developed with junior staff in mind and seeks to provide practical training by topic area (i.e., MPO process and products, public involvement/environmental justice/Title XI, performance management, etc.). The Hot Topics track is developed with senior-level staff in mind and provides peer-to-peer exchange and training opportunities to discuss the state of the practice, innovation, and identify efficiencies.

Item Summary **RGVMPO Policy Board Retreat – Friday, June 3, 2022 Cameron
County Amphitheater and Event Center - 53550 Dolphin Cove –
SPI -Update**

The RGVMPO Policy Board Retreat is scheduled for Friday, June 3rd at the Cameron County Amphitheater and Event Center. A big "Thank You" to Cameron County for providing this facility to us. Emails were sent out to TAC Members that are currently being appointed as Proxy to the TAC Committee. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Gloria before May 20, 2022. A second email will also be sent out for your lunch meal selection on May 23, 2022; with a deadline of May 27, 2022; please look out for that email as well. I look forward to this, we have wanted to do this since the merger and Covid got in our way. I know nothing but positive paths forward will come from this Board Retreat.

Item Summary: **Safety Taskforce**

The TxDOT Commission, led by Commissioner Laura Ryan, has established the TxDOT/MPO Safety Taskforce. Your Executive Director has been asked to serve as one of 7 MPO's in representing MPOs across Texas. The Taskforce is identifying opportunities to address safety concerns and collectively develop ideas that may work regions, or statewide. As these opportunities are identified, they will be brought back to the RGVMPO for discussion, consideration, and possible implementation. This is an exciting opportunity to identify items such as distracted driving and examine opportunities to address this growing problem.

STATUS REPORTS

A. TxDOT Project Status Report

Action Possible Action Information
Presenter: **TxDOT**

B. Cameron County RMA

Action Possible Action Information
Presenter: **Pete Sepulveda**

C. Hidalgo County RMA

Action Possible Action Information
Presenter: **Eric Davila**

D. Regional Transit Metro

Action Possible Action Information
Presenter: **Antonio Zubieta**

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

VII. Next Meeting: The next RGVMPPO Policy Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at 1:30 pm.