

CORPUS CHRISTI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NOTES – November 19, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM DETERMINATION

Meeting called to order by Mr. Sullivan at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Nueces County: Glen Sullivan, P.E., Chair; CCRTA: Gordon Robinson, PMP; City of Corpus Christi: Jeffrey Edmonds, P.E.; City of Portland: Jamie Pyle, P.E.; Port of Corpus Christi: Brett Flint, P.E., TxDOT- CC: Victor Vourcos, P.E.

2. INTRODUCTION OF VISITING AGENCY OFFICIALS

Chairman Sullivan welcomed all the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members, TxDOT and City Staff.

3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

A. US 181 Ramp Reversals south of Buddy Ganem Dr.

Mr. Pollack reminded the TAC that in September, the City of Portland brought forth the need to implement a ramp reversal on US 181 south of FM 3229 (Buddy Ganem Dr.) Per a request from the City of Portland and a decision by the TPC on October 1, 2015, this project will remain independent of the proposed Prop 1 project Kay Baily Hutchison (La Quinta)/US 181 overpass) with respect to funding. However, all involved recognize the merits of completing these two projects in concert, whether completed prior to or jointly with the Prop 1 project.

Mr. Pollack informed the TAC that TxDOT is actively pursuing additional information at the state level about FY2015 reconciliation allocations, which represents a potential source of partial funding for this project. Likewise, both TxDOT and the City of Portland are continuing to gather crash data as part of quantifying safety need for the project, and TxDOT is undertaking some new traffic counts on the ramps in the proposed project area. Mr. Pollack stated that this ramp reversal project remains a priority for the MPO.

Mr. Vourcos informed the TAC that TxDOT plans to complete engineering design for the ramp reversal south of Buddy Ganem Dr. In anticipation of available funding.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

A. Passage of Proposition 7, FY 2018:

Mr. Pollack informed the TAC that Prop 7, which passed on the November 3rd ballot, will translate into funding at the MPO level in FY2018. Staff included an attachment in the packet that included frequently asked questions and a graphic illustrating the funding mechanism of Prop7 and the State Highway Fund. Mr. Pollack stated that MPO staff will remain mindful of the need to identifying potential projects well in advance of the availability of funding.

B. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Administrative Amendments:

Mr. Pollack informed the TAC that on October 27th, MPO staff received comments from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regarding the 2016 UPWP; changes requested by FHWA were administrative in nature. Staff sought TAC members' input on maintaining the practice of addressing administrative amendments at the staff level without seeking TPC action; TAC members encouraged staff to maintain this practice.

5. PRESENTATION:

A. CCRTA Transit Plan 20/20 Overview and Update.

Mr. Gordon Robinson, Director of Planning for the Corpus Christi Regional Transit Authority (CCRTA), presented an overview of the Transit Plan 20/20. Transit Plan 20/20 is a short-term plan designed to evaluate CCRTA and its services to improve bus services over the next 5 years. This plan will identify current and future transit needs within a strategic plan that meets the needs of the community it serves. By the fall of 2016, prioritization of the phased service recommendations will be complete and in alignment with the CCRTA Long Range System Plan and other local and regional transportation plans.

6. TAC MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND CONCERNS:

There were none.

7. STAFF BRIEFING:

A. FY 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program Pre-Application Workshop, Nov. 4th

Mr. Pollack reminded the TAC that the call for projects for FY 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program opened in October. An optional Pre-Application Workshop for interested applicants was held on November 4th and was well attended. The call for projects will be open until the end of January, which will allow ample opportunity for project concept development and refinement. Mr. Pollack informed the TAC that potential applicants have received an application addendum with responses to questions raised during the workshop.

B. FHWA – MPO Freight Program Assessment

Mr. Pollack stated that the MPO staff is completing a freight program assessment at the request of FHWA. This assessment is a survey about what the MPO is doing in terms of freight data collection, freight project planning, and prioritization of freight and projects in our intermediate and long-term plans. MPO staff will be delivering the results of the assessment to FHWA in December.

Mr. Tagliabue asked about any connection between the freight assessment and I-69 planning.

Mr. Pollack stated that there is regional recognition and consensus that I-69 has the potential to address the need for additional freight capacity, and while FHWA's survey is primarily focused on the MPO's administrative process, regional advocates for I-69 might be well served to cite the federal focus on freight mobility as part of the dialogue about future I-69 designations.

C. Annual local share member contribution

Mr. Pollack informed the TAC that the FY 2016 local fund contribution letter requesting the annual contribution of \$10,000 payable to the MPO is forth coming.

D. Strategic Plan for Active Mobility

Mr. Pollack informed the TAC that the bike mobility plan is on track for completion by the end of the calendar year. MPO staff has final network and working facility selection recommendations. Analysis has now be completed to identify what type of infrastructure should be on each segment of the 293-mile network. The project Steering Committee met for the third time on Nov. 18th and the project updates were well received. Mr. Pollack reminded the TAC that the Steering Committee comprises representatives from various jurisdictions and entities that represent plan users.

Additionally, staff is working closely with the City of Corpus Christi regarding proposed bicycle infrastructure in Bond 12 and 14 projects. Staff will present a more detailed overview of the plan to the TAC upon its completion.

E. Transportation Policy Committee meeting – December 3, 2015

Mr. Pollack informed the TAC that the next TPC meeting is scheduled for December 3rd but is likely to be cancelled due to lack of discussion/action items.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

Mr. Vourcos informed the TAC that TxDOT would be prepared to give a presentation about reconciliation of category funds at the January meeting.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

There was none.

10. ADJOURN.

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.