

**CORPUS CHRISTI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE (TPC) MINUTES**

**December 8, 2016**

**1. Call to Order and Quorum Determination:**

Judge Simpson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. at the City of Corpus Christi Council Chambers.

Present: Judge Simpson, San Patricio County; Mr. Zahn, Port of Corpus Christi Authority; Mayor Martinez, City of Corpus Christi; and Mayor Krebs, City of Portland & Mr. Buckner, Coastal Bend Council of Governments.

Staff present: Jeff Pollack, Brigida Gonzalez, Vilma Jasso, Daniel Carrizales, and Elena Buentello.

**2. Introduction of Visiting Agency Officials:**

The TPC welcomed all in attendance, including State Representative Todd Hunter's representative and Nueces County Commissioner Brent Chesney's representative, in addition to various staff from the TxDOT - Corpus Christi District.

**3. Approval of the November 9, 2016 TPC Meeting Minutes:**

Judge Simpson called for approval of the minutes of the regular TPC meeting of November 9, 2016. Mr. Zahn made a motion to approve the TPC meeting minutes; Mayor Martinez seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**4. Presentation:**

**A. US 181 Harbor Bridge Project Update**

Ms. Lorette Williams, Public Information Coordinator, and Mr. Darrell Chambers, Traffic Control Engineer/Designer Coordinator/Deputy Technical Director with Flatiron/Dragados LLC (FDLLC), the developer for the Harbor Bridge project, gave a brief update to the TAC on the latest project developments. Members and public were invited to the public hearing being hosted immediately following the TPC Meeting at 3:00 pm at City Council Chambers, Corpus Christi City Hall.

**5. Discussion and Possible Action:**

**A. Category 2 (Metropolitan and Urban Area Corridor) Project Planning Targets**

Mr. Pollack reminded the TPC that the Texas Transportation Commission distributes Category 2 to support metropolitan and urban corridor projects that impact regional mobility. The 2017 UTP includes approximately \$183M in Category 2 funds for our region between FY2018 and FY2026. However, the formula by which Category 2 funds are distributed among Texas MPOs is currently under collaborative review and revision through the Texas Association of MPOs, which may ultimately alter our allocation.

Mr. Pollack explained that MPO and TxDOT District staff worked together to identify projects on the MPO's long-range plan, the MTP, that are candidates for Category 2 support based on project size and scope. Over the course of two months, TAC member helped refine the list of candidates on the basis of regional need and their respective jurisdictions' priorities. TAC has recommended that TPC offer concurrence with the proposed suite of priority projects.

Mayor Martinez expressed that the Agnes/Laredo project may be a key element of the connectivity between the new bridge and the City of Corpus Christi's central business district and indicated that she would like to see it remain a priority for consideration as opportunity arises. She called Dr. Raymond Chong, Traffic Engineer, to speak to the issue.

Dr. Chong stated that the Agnes/Laredo project was also a candidate for funding through the City bond program or the downtown Tax Increment Refinance Zone (TIRZ), as well as Category 2 funding.

Mr. Pollack stated that there had been general recognition among TAC members of the potential significance of this project to regional mobility, as reflected by its inclusion at the top of the alternates table.

Motion to approve concurrence with the TAC's proposed suite of priority projects was made by Mayor Martinez and was seconded by Mayor Krebs. Motion passed unanimously.

## **6. Staff Briefing:**

### **A. Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) Grant Candidate Project Identification**

Mr. Pollack informed the TPC that the November TAC meeting included discussion of the feasibility of collaborative pursuit of a FASTLANE grant. He reported that while there was strong interest in a collaborative application for a future year of the program, TAC members determined that it was infeasible to meet the accelerated call for projects for this year's grant. TAC members requested that discussion of potential project candidates for future FASTLANE funding calls be included on the TAC agenda during the first half of 2017.

### **B. MPO FY 2016 Annual Performance and Expenditure Report (APER) Update**

Mr. Pollack informed the TAC that MPO staff had just submitted FY 2016 year-end financial reporting, known as the APER. He referred them to the budget summary table in their packets, which lists year-end expenditures for each task in the Unified Planning Work Program, which serves as the operating budget for the MPO. Mr. Pollack explained that the MPO finished FY 2016 under budget and anticipates a carryover of just under \$50k in Planning Funds for FY 2017. Mr. Pollack stated that staff would begin crafting the FY 2018 UPWP in spring of 2017, at which time staff will engage the TPC in a discussion of any proposed changes to the MPO's operating budget.

### **C. Annual local share member contribution**

Mr. Pollack informed the TPC that letters requesting member's annual local share contributions had been mailed out this week. Mr. Pollack stated that MPO staff remain grateful for member agencies' continued support in the form of these contributions.

### **D. Transportation Policy Committee meeting – January 5, 2017**

Mr. Pollack stated that the next scheduled TPC meeting is January 5<sup>th</sup> but indicated that this meeting would likely be cancelled as has been the case in recent years. Mr. Pollack reminded the TPC that, per MPO bylaws, which are available in their notebooks, officer elections would be held at the first meeting of the new year.

## **7. TPC Members' Comments and Concerns:**

All voting members commented in recognition of Mayor Martinez's service to the TPC and the community.

## **8. Future Agenda Items:**

No future agenda items were noted.

## **9. Public Comments on Agenda Items:**

There were no public comments

## **10. Adjourn:**

The meeting adjourned at 2:36 pm.