

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

April 14, 2022

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Quorum Determination

TPC Chair Judge Krebs called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

TPC Members Present:

Judge David Krebs, San Patricio County
Mr. Charlie Zahn, Jr. Port of Corpus Christi Authority
Judge Barbara Canales, Nueces County
Mayor Paulette M. Guajardo, City of Corpus Christi
Mr. Dan Leyendecker, Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority
Mr. Valente Olivarez, Jr., P.E., TxDOT Corpus Christi District



The Honorable Judge David. R. Krebs,
Transportation Policy Committee Chair
Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization

May 12, 2022

Date

Ms. Mary Esther-Guerra, Nueces County Assistant Attorney

MPO Staff Present: Rob MacDonald, P.E.; Craig Casper, AICP; Daniel Carrizales; and Yoshiko Boulan

2. Public Comments for items not on the Agenda

None were received or offered.

3. Approval of the March 3, 2022 TPC Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Leyendecker made a motion to approve the March 3, 2022, TPC Meeting Minutes. Judge Canales seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. TxDOT 2023 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) Project Selection

As presented and discussed in the previous TPC meetings, the eight projects proposed by the TxDOT Corpus Christi District (TxDOT-CRP) for the 2023 UTP have been released for the one-month public comment period and discussed in the March 17 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting. The TAC recommended the TPC's approval for these eight projects for the 2023 UTP. Mr. MacDonald informed that there was no public comment received for this item as of April 14, 2022.

Mr. Leyendecker asked if the current drastic inflation rate is considered for the total project costs in the TxDOT-CRP District DRAFT 2023 UTP Project List and if not, he suggested to apply 35% inflation rate. Mr. MacDonald explained that the UTP is TxDOT's annual 10-year transportation planning document that identifies the regional priority projects in the 10-year window. All projects that are included in the UTP will go through the required steps to be included in the 4-year plan, Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and then the 2-year letting review. During these required steps, the final cost will be determined.

Mr. Zahn made a motion to approve the proposed eight projects for the 2023 UTP. Mr. Leyendecker seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

B. FY 2021 – 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 5

The Corpus Christi MPO is anticipating an additional \$3.2 million Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding that is 100% federal funding and does not require the usual 20% local match. The Corpus Christi MPO staff has requested \$2 million from the STBG funds to acquire the necessary tools

TPC APPROVED MINUTES

and data analysis for short and long-range transportation planning. The thirteen identified needs and deliverables are listed in the Item 4B memo with the preliminary budget as follows:

1. An enhanced regional Travel Demand Model that includes multiple times of day, multiple modes, delivery truck movements, etc.
2. Regional meso-level traffic model for the traffic analyses on the corridors, signalized/unsignalized intersections under multiple scenarios,
3. INRIX and Streetlight data for updating the Congestion Management Process (CMP), INRIX IQ data for intersection analysis and regional Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) plan,
4. Region-wide Crash Analysis at identified intersections and corridors for the Regional Safety Plan development,
5. Transportation Economic Development Impact System (TREDIS) for transportation project analysis, specifically the benefit-cost, economic impact, and financial impact analyses,
6. FHWA's Highway Economic Resource System (HERS) for pavement condition analysis, life cycle maintenance schedule/investment,
7. UrbanSim's Socio-economic Allocation Model with Woods and Poole data and Texas State Demographer's data for population and employment forecasts by the region and counties,
8. Regional resiliency and mitigation planning assistance including water quality, runoff impact investigation caused by climate change,
9. Regional Resiliency Plan development,
10. Regional Complete Streets Plan and Policy development,
11. Regional Active Transportation/Micromobility Plan development including walkability and bikeability evaluation scores,
12. Community Impact Assessment Model development,
13. Transportation Project Selection Tool development.

These deliverables are used for the regional transportation planning and the Corpus Christi MPO will share the acquired data and tools with partner agencies. The Corpus Christi MPO includes a project 'implement enhanced tools and data analysis for use in short-range programming and long-range planning' identified as MPO-067 in the Table 13a, DRAFT FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment 5 Fiscally Constrained Project List.

The TAC reviewed and discussed the identified needs and projects and recommended the TPC to release the DRAFT 2021-2024 TIP with Amendment 5 for a one-month public comment period in their March meeting.

Mayor Guajardo inquired the usage of the rest of additional funding, approximately \$1.2 million. Mr. Casper explained that the \$1.2 million will be used for other transportation needs as the TAC and TPC recommend and approve except for the transit operation projects that are not eligible for this fund.

Mr. MacDonald reminded the TPC that the Corpus Christi MPO is anticipated \$67 million Category 7 money for the next four years and the TAC will discuss and start identifying the projects included in the FY 2023 – 2026 TIP.

Mr. Leyendecker inquired if there is a timeline to spend the \$2 million. Mr. Casper answered that the Corpus Christi MPO is hoping these deliverables becomes available within 18 months.

Mr. Zahn made a motion to approve the release of DRAFT FY 2021-2024 TIP with Amendment 5 for a one-month public comment period. Judge Canales seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

C. FY 2021 – FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment 1

This item is accompanied by the previous discussion/action item. The Corpus Christi MPO needs to amend the current FY 2021 – FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) reflecting the additional \$2 million for obtaining identified needs discussed under Item 4B, the 2045 MTP After Action Report findings, and new requirements under IIJA/BIL. The primary changes are (1) realign staff time to

subtasks based on the new priorities, (2) the additional \$2 million Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) as discussed Item 4B.

A table that shows the original FY 2022 budget and proposed FY 2022 budget with additional funding and the same identified needs table are included in the Item 4C memo. The TAC reviewed and discussed these identified needs and recommended the TPC to release the DRAFT FY 2021 - FY2022 UPWP with Amendment 1 for a one-month public comment period in their March meeting.

Mr. Leyendecker made a motion to approve the release of DRAFT FY 2021 – FY 2022 UPWP with Amendment 1 for a one-month public comment period. Mayor Guajardo seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

D. FY 2023 and FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

The Corpus Christi MPO is required to develop the UPWP, a 2-year document laying out the Corpus Christi MPO's budget, scope, and regional transportation planning efforts and activities carried out by the Corpus Christi MPO staff for the fiscal years 2023 and 2024. The tool development and data acquisition necessary for the transportation planning is the major activities in FY 2023, and more regular, routine planning activities will be expected in FY 2024.

The DRAFT 2023 and FY 2024 UPWP also reflects the new requirements under Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act/Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (IIJA/BIL) and Executive Orders, and Planning Emphasis Areas provided by FHWA/FTA. These requirements are listed in the Item 4D memo. The available funding for FY 2023 and FY 2024 has not yet been officially available, therefore the DRAFT FY 2023 and FY 2024 UPWP is based on the FY 2021 funding amount. The funding allocation for UPWP Tasks is also provided in the Item 4D memo. If the finding amount is officially determined, the funding allocation for each UPWP tasks will be updated. The official guidance for IIJA/BIL requirements is not fully available. The US Department of Transportation Equity Action Plan has been released on April 14, 2022. The Corpus Christi MPO needs to incorporate and reflect these requirements in FY 2023 and FY 2024 UPWP as it becomes available.

Mr. Zahn made a motion to approve the release of DRAFT FY 2023 and FY 2024 UPWP for a one-month public comment period. Mr. Leyendecker seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

5. DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS

A. Surface Transportation Block Grant Set-Aside (STBG-SA) CAT 9 Call-for-Projects Selection Process Update

Mr. MacDonald informed the TPC that the Corpus Christi MPO received total seven projects for the STBG-SA/CAT 9 Call-for-Projects, five from the City of Corpus Christi and two from the City of Portland, totaling \$6.4 million. The project locations and costs are shown in the *Projects Submitted for 2021 STBG-SA Selection Process* in Item 5A memo. The initial scoring by the Corpus Christi MPO staff for these projects is shown in the 2nd page of the Item 5A memo. The detailed information of each project is also attached.

The STBG-SA/Category 9 Call-for-Projects was issued in January 2022. The Corpus Christi MPO will receive the rollover money for Category 9 and additional funding under IIJA/BIL, thus the available funding would be significantly more than the \$4.5 million as initially announced. The Corpus Christi MPO consulted TxDOT Transportation Planning and Programming Division (TxDOT-TPP) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and confirmed the project eligibility and the usage of additional funding. The extra funding can be used for these seven projects; however, the \$2 million upper limit remains since it was advertised so, and the Sunset Lake Hike and Bike Trail project that is more than \$2 million will be awarded the maximum \$2 million if approved by the TPC.

Based on the Category 9 Process Timeline for 2022 – 2025 Funds, the Corpus Christi MPO staff requests the TPC to review and discuss these projects and scores. The TAC will review and discuss and recommend scores, ranking and funded projects in their April meeting and the recommendation will be brought to the TPC in May meeting.

6. Proposed Executive Session

Judge Krebs announced that the Committee will go in to Executive Session under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to discuss the annual evaluation of the Corpus Christi MPO Transportation Planning Director and will return to open session upon the conclusion of the Executive Session. The TPC meeting recessed at 2:42 p.m. The TPC went into Executive Session at 2:43 p.m. The TPC returned from Executive Session at 3:00 p.m. and reconvened at 3:01 p.m.

7. Possible Actions to Amend the Employment Contract of the Transportation Planning Director

Judge Krebs stated that the Committee were extremely proud of Mr. MacDonald’s superb performance and they were truly happy to have him as the Corpus Christi MPO Transportation Planning Director. All member expressed that Mr. MacDonald has been doing his job outstandingly.

Mr. Zahn made a motion to provide Mr. MacDonald the salary increase and one-time bonus as the modified Contract Amendment #3 states. Mayor Guajardo seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Esther-Guerra, Nueces County Assistant Attorney, verified the one-time bonus would be given when the other Corpus Christi MPO staff receive their one-time bonus. The TPC members confirmed it.

8. Member Agency Statements for Items of Community Interest: Upcoming events or holidays and acknowledgement.

None was made or offered.

9. Upcoming Meetings:

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| A. Regional Traffic Safety Task Force Meeting #2 | April 14, 2022 |
| B. Technical Advisory Committee Regular Meeting: | April 21, 2022 |
| C. Transportation Policy Committee Regular Meeting: | May 5, 2022 |
| D. Regional Traffic Safety Task Force Meeting #2 | May 5, 2022 |

Mr. MacDonald proposed to change the May TPC date from May 5 to May 12 due to the Hurricane Conference that some of the TPC members attend on May 5, 2022 and the TPC approved the change.

10. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 3:04 p.m.