

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

September 7, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM DETERMINATION

TPC Chair Judge Krebs called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

TPC Members Present:

Judge David Krebs, San Patricio County

Mayor Cathy Skurow, City of Portland

Mayor Paulette Guajardo, City of Corpus Christi

Judge Connie Scott, Nueces County

Mr. Valente Olivarez, Jr., P.E., Texas Department of Transportation Corpus Christi District

Ms. Mary Esther-Guerra, Nueces County Assistant Attorney

MPO Staff Present: Rob MacDonald, P.E.; Craig Casper, AICP; Daniel Carrizales, Victor Mendieta; and Karla Carvajal

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

None were made or offered.

3. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 6, 2023 TPC REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Judge Scott made a motion to approve the July 6, 2023, TPC Meeting Minutes. Mr. Olivarez seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

4. ACTION ITEMS FOR REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Corpus Christi MPO DRAFT 2023 Program for Addressing Discrimination (PAD)

A compilation of comments and proposed updates to the Corpus Christi MPO 2021 Program for Addressing Discrimination (PAD) were presented and MPO staff is requesting the TPC approval of the document by resolution. The new 2023 PAD, and the prior 2021 PAD, defined the processes that the Corpus Christi MPO uses to address Federal transportation planning requirements.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Corpus Christi MPO staff recommend that the TPC approve the 2023 Program for Addressing Discrimination (PAD) with Resolution 23-07.

Judge Krebs asked if there were any questions or comments. None were offered.

Mayor Skurow made a motion to approve the DRAFT 2023 Program for Addressing Discrimination (PAD) with Resolution 23-07. Mayor Guajardo seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

B. Small Area Forecast Task Force Recommended Population and Employment Control Totals for the 2050 MTP

The Corpus Christi MPO staff sought approval of the Control Totals for Population and Jobs that are inputs into the Small Area Forecast for Years 2020 through 2050. These estimates are vital components of transportation planning and a critical initial step in developing the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Forecasting the amount, type, and location of population and jobs for the time frame of the plan (Years 2025-2050) are used to identify locations, types, and severity of transportation needs.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Corpus Christi MPO staff recommended approval of the resolution and list.

Judge Krebs asked if there were any questions or comments. None were offered.

Judge Scott made a motion to approve the Recommended Population and Employment Control totals. Mayor Guajardo seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

TPC APPROVED MINUTES

C. FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 1

Amendment 1 to the FY 2023-2026 TIP was proposed by Mr. MacDonald to the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) for review, discussion, and possible action. Public Notice #23-3 related to the DRAFT FY 2023-2026 TIP Amendment 1 is provided as Attachment 1. This item is a companion agenda item to the FY 2023 and FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment 1.

In ongoing discussions about planning tools and processes necessary for a performance-based system, the Corpus Christi MPO was approved for an initial \$2,000,000 in federal funding from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA). These funds are intended to fund planning projects, data acquisition, and tools either required by regulation, suggested in guidance, or were asked for during the 2045 MTP After-Action Report. These specific CRRSAA funds do not require a local match because they are COVID-related relief funds designated to the Corpus Christi MPO. The specific deliverables are identified in the executed TxDOT NCAFA (Non-Construction Advanced Funding Agreement) for the initial \$2,000,000. The Corpus Christi MPO staff was notified that as part of federal budget discussions all of this type of funding that was not obligated would be rescinded. Given the 48 hour notice and requirements for obligation, only 2 projects were eligible to received the remaining \$1,179,828 in these funds and prevent their rescission. One was a paving project that would supplant existing funds, the other is the MPO planning tools and outreach project.

The NCAFA was provided as Attachment 4 through a weblink. The revised NCAFA is in review by TxDOT to add the additional \$1,179,828 for the enhanced scopes of services and data collection activities in the original NCAFA. The new total of CRRSAA funds is \$3,179,828. Most of the changes are to add public outreach activities to the Tasks in the NCAFA and increase some data collection activities. For this FY 2023-2026 TIP Amendment, the key action is to show the total funds for the TIP Project as well as document the expenditure in the DRAFT FY 2023 and FY 2024 UPWP. The Amended NCAFA will proceed on a parallel approval process. The total CRRSAA funds of \$3,179,828 have been obligated through TxDOT and FHWA.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Corpus Christi MPO staff recommend that the TPC approve the release of the DRAFT FY 2023-2026 TIP with Amendment 1 for a one-month public comment period.

Judge Krebs asked if there were any questions or comments. Mayor Guajardo expressed her gratitude to the TAC and MPO staff for working on this matter.

Mayor Guajardo made a motion to release the DRAFT FY 2023-2026 TIP with Amendment 1 for a one-month public comment period. Judge Scott seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

D. FY 2023 and FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Amendment 1

The Corpus Christi MPO staff requested that the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) review, discuss, and receive public comment on the DRAFT Amendment 1 to the FY 2023 and FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). This Amendment increases the 100% federal funds as part of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) to \$3,179,828 for the MPO Planning Tools and Studies project. There have been no public comments received to date. This item is a companion document to Item 4B, the FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 1.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Corpus Christi MPO staff recommend that the TPC approve the release of the document for a one-month public comment period.

Judge Krebs asked if there were any questions or comments. None were offered.

Mayor Skurow made a motion to release the DRAFT FY 2023 and FY 2024 UPWP with Amendment 1 for a one-month public comment period. Judge Scott seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS FOR REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS

A. Corpus Christi MPO Regional Household Travel Survey

TxDOT and the Corpus Christi MPO are conducting a Household Travel Survey in the two-county region. A consultant team is leading the effort under contract with TxDOT. The Household Travel Survey provides essential information on behavior characteristics that are used to develop travel demand models and in the overall transportation planning process. Those members of the public agreeing to participate are assigned a one-day travel period and asked to track all trips for each member of the household during that period. Participants use a smartphone app, website, or other methods to record where, when, how, and why they travel. The information is anonymized and used to calibrate the regional travel demand model. Results from the survey are expected to be available for development of the update of the travel demand model for the 2055 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Judge Krebs asked if there were any questions or comments.

Mayor Guajardo asked for further elaboration on what the Travel Demand Model is and how the Household Survey ties into it. Mr. Casper explained that the surveys gather information to provide an in-depth understanding of travel behavior in the region, including for individuals within households and regional establishments, their travel activities, demographics, and other factors that affect travel and that these feed into the travel demand model so that it can identify transportation needs within the region. He also explained that steps were being taken to harmonize the surveys that are being done for the 2050 MTP with this survey.

Judge Krebs asked if there were any other questions or comments. None were offered.

B. TxDOT 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) Category 2 and 4U Final Projects

Mr. MacDonald presented the TxDOT and the Corpus Christi MPO stated the TxDOT 10-year Unified Transportation Program (UTP) has been approved. Attachment 1 shows the projects that are going to be built within the next 10 years.

Judge Krebs asked if there were any other questions or comments.

Mayor Guajardo commented about the possibility of discussion for moving Park Road 22 up in priority in the future.

Mr. MacDonald reiterated that this list is completed. Mr. MacDonald further stated that during MTP development, there is a master project list that captures all projects from all member governments. There is opportunity for projects to move up the list during the funding allocation period during MTP development.

C. New Harbor Bridge Update

Mr. Olivarez gave an update on Harbor Bridge. A milestone that is upcoming is that the Leopard St overpass is expected to be opened in early October.

Judge Krebs asked if there were any questions or comments.

Mayor Skurow asked what the purpose of the temporary cable stays on the bridge.

Mr. Olivarez stated it was construction phasing.

Judge Krebs asked if there were any other questions or comments. None were offered.

D. 2020 Corpus Christi MPO Adjusted Urban Area Update

MPO Staff updated the TPC on the next steps for adjusting the Corpus Christi 2020 Census Urban Area. The Census Bureau released the map of Census Urban Areas on January 12, 2023. Attachment 1 depicts the new Census Designated Corpus Christi Census Urban Area, along with both the Robstown Census Urban Area and the Aransas Pass--Port Aransas--Ingleside Census Urban Area. Attachment 2 depicts the DRAFT Adjusted (smoothed) Urban Area that TxDOT has

proposed. MPO Staff stated that October 2023 is the deadline to propose changes to the DRAFT Adjusted Urban Area.

TPC had questions on the maps' symbology.

Mr. Casper addressed these questions and ensured that future maps will address their concerns
Judge Krebs asked if there were any other questions or comments.

Mr. Olivarez asked about the deadline to complete this process.

Mr. Casper stated that the deadline for the DRAFT Adjusted Corpus Christi Urban Area is late October.

Mayor Guajardo reverted to item 5C and asked Mr. Olivarez for a completion date.

Mr. Olivarez stated their opening date is in Spring April 2025. Completion is a year after opening day.

E. Regional Traffic Safety Task Force Recap from July 12, 2023

Mr. MacDonald updated TPC on the Safety Task Force.

Judge Krebs asked if there were any other questions or comments. None were offered.

F. Corpus Christi MPO Regional Coordination Group for Federal Transportation Grants Update

The Corpus Christi MPO staff presented information to serve as the focus for the Regional Coordination Group, which is the monthly TAC meeting. They also provided their monthly updates to the TPC. The TAC members and Corpus Christi MPO staff invited other local agency staff to provide information on transportation projects and program grant submittal proposals. They encouraged all those to attend the TAC meeting to provide their input to the specific federal transportation grants being proposed and identified for future submittals over the remaining four years of these transportation grants. The Corpus Christi MPO staff will inform the TPC and TAC of available grant opportunities whenever these become available and ask for their comments and directions as part of the regional coordination efforts.

Judge Krebs asked if there were any questions or comments. None were offered.

6. MEMBER AGENCY STATEMENTS FOR ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Mr. Olivarez gave the update that TxDOT has a consultant on board that is looking at an added capacity type project along State Highway 361 that will eventually connect to Park Road 22. Within their scope, they will also be looking at the intersection of State Highway 361 and Park Road 22.

Judge Krebs asked if there were any other comments. None were offered.

7. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

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| A. Regional Traffic Safety Task Force Meeting: | September 13, 2023 |
| B. Technical Advisory Committee Regular Meeting and Workshop: | September 21, 2023 |
| C. Small Area Forecast Task Force Meeting: | September 21, 2023 |
| D. Transportation Policy Committee Regular Meeting: | October 12, 2023 |

8. ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.