IV. TASK 3.0 SHORT RANGE PLANNING

A. OBJECTIVE - The MPO is required to develop a SAFETEA-LU compliant Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to outline a four-year schedule of transportation improvements for the study area. In addition, the MPO carries out various planning studies to explore the need for other projects that have not been identified in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) or TIP.

B. EXPECTED PRODUCTS:

1. Transportation Improvement Program
2. Access Management Study - Everhart Road
3. MTP - Planning Process Project
4. Transit Coordination Study

C. PREVIOUS WORK:

1. Transportation Improvement Program
2. Access Management Study - Everhart Road
3. Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
4. Traffic Safety Study

D. SUBTASKS - The following subtasks will be performed to achieve the objectives of this task. The objectives of each subtask are listed in detail within each subtask description on the following page.

Subtask 3.1 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Subtask 3.2 Access Management Study
Subtask 3.3 Bicycle and Pedestrian Study
Subtask 3.4 Operation Safety and Security Study
Subtask 3.5 Transit Coordination Study

E. FUNDING SUMMARY - TASK 3.0 FY 2010 - 2011

Subtask	Responsible Agency	TPF*	FTA Sect. 5307	Local*	Total*
3.1	MPO	$ 47,954	$0	$0	**$ 47,954**
3.2	MPO	$ 32,502	$0	$0	**$ 32,502**
3.3	MPO	$ 63,681	$0	$0	**$ 63,681**
3.4	MPO	$ 50,522	$0	$0	**$ 50,522**
3.5	MPO	$ 11,777	$0	$0	**$ 11,777**
Total		**$206,436**	**$0**	**$0**	**$206,436**

*** (TFP) Transportation Planning Funds - This includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 funds.**

[page intentionally left blank]

SUBTASK 3.1 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

OBJECTIVE - This subtask will provide for staff to monitor and amend as needed the FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvement Program in cooperation with area entities and providers of transportation. Conduct and coordinate public meetings to provide the public opportunities to review and comment on Transportation Improvement projects. Keep the FY 2008 - 2011 Transportation Improvements Program current by doing necessary amendments reflecting scope or funding changes for streets and transit projects based on a cooperative interagency input process and extensive public participation.

Develop the new FY 2010 - 2013 Transportation Improvement Program as part of the planning process and solicit public input. Submit in a timely manner according to the anticipated timetable to be released early in FY 2010.

EXPECTED PRODUCTS - FY 2008 – 2011 and FY 2010 – 2013 compliant Transportation Improvement Program and the amendments as required. This subtask is a continuous process for the MPO.

PREVIOUS WORK - The Transportation Improvement Program for the FY 2008 - 2011 containing streets and transit projects improvements in those years.

SUBTASK FUNDING SUMMARY:

Subtask	Responsible Agency	TPF	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
3.1	MPO	$47,954	$0	$0	$47,954

SUBTASK 3.2 ACCESS MANAGEMENT STUDY

OBJECTIVE - The MPO's objective is to continuously look into access management as a tool to identify cost effective transportation improvements. Proper implementation of Access Management techniques should provide reduced congestion, reduced accident rates, conservation of energy, and reduced air pollution. The MPO has identified with the assistance of professional consulting services priority corridors and intersections that have demonstrated issues related to congestion and safety. The need to review and implement improvements with the respective sponsoring agency is currently underway.

EXPECTED PRODUCTS - The evaluation of physical and operating improvements that will reduce congestion or improve safety. The identification of near-term priority projects in corridors and intersections that can be implemented from an access management perspective and identification of potential funding strategies. It is anticipated that the new developments such as the TPCO steel plant, La Quinta Container facility, Las Brisas Power Plant, the Outlet mall and the Robstown Intermodal Center may require site evaluation for traffic flow improvements by contracted services requiring $20,000 over the two year period. Other major corridors and intersections will be identified through a public process and as part of the Congestion Management Process.

PREVIOUS WORK - Consulting services developed short and long-range strategies for reducing congestion and improving safety on the Everhart, Airline, Rodd Field, Staples and Saratoga corridors. The recommendations prompted the Traffic Signal Coordination Study in 2009.

SUBTASK FUNDING SUMMARY:

Subtask	Responsible Agency	TPF	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
3.2	MPO	$32,502	$0	$0	$32,502

SUBTASK 3.3 BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN STUDY

OBJECTIVE - The MPO recognizes that transportation planning includes addressing the access and mobility needs of bicyclists and pedestrians to travel to work and non-work destinations - including education centers, shopping, entertainment, and recreation - within and in close proximity to neighborhoods. The MPO member agencies have adopted the 2005 MPO Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and have started implementing a number of MPO recommendations. The work in this subtask will assist in providing technical and community outreach support to facilitate the implementation process.

EXPECTED PRODUCTS - Subsequent work with member agencies has resulted in a new perspective on supporting the needs of the bicycle and pedestrian community. Several of the recommendations in the Plan have been implemented however; further actions that need to be expanded upon include.

- The identification of priority ADA projects, pedestrian access projects, sources of funding and agency sponsorship;
- The creation of a Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee of the City of Corpus Christi Transportation Advisory Committee (which both will include MPO representation);
- The development of a policy by the City of Corpus Christi to stripe bike lanes on roadways that are resurfaced whenever practical;
- The identification of additional projects that may be eligible for Safe Routes to Schools grant funding;
- The development of a pedestrian / bikeway project plan along City of Corpus Christi drainage canals for future enhancement funding.

The MPO will provide technical assistance and has planned for $40,000 of professional services to develop the concept of utilizing area drainage canals as a network of hike and bike trails and other recommendations that were in the adopted plan.

PREVIOUS WORK - The MPO, with the assistance of a consultant, prepared the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for Nueces and San Patricio counties. The study provided the region with a concept for creating an environment where people could choose to bicycle or walk to their destinations and provide recreational opportunities for walking and bicycling to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle.

SUBTASK FUNDING SUMMARY:

Subtask	Responsible Agency	TPF	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
3.3	MPO	$63,681	$0	$0	$63,681

SUBTASK 3.4 OPERATIONAL SAFETY AND SECURITY STUDY

OBJECTIVE - The objective of introducing safety into the planning process is to reduce highway fatalities by making our roads safer through a systematic approach. The MPO planning process incorporates security into the planning process by considering the factors associated with our local emergency management program and their impact on the transportation network.

EXPECTED PRODUCTS - The MPO will continue to improve community awareness of safety concerns and the impact of freight and cargo movement on the transportation network by continuing to host FHWA and CTE teleconference workshops related to freight issues, transportation technology, and safety for member agencies and interested public. Other outreach efforts will include working with groups such as the Local Emergency Preparedness Committee, Transportation Advisory Committee for the City of Corpus Christi, the local chapter of the Texas Motor Transportation Association, and the Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi sponsored Safe Communities Committee.

Strategic mobility and military readiness are relevant to local disaster situations however; the Port of Corpus Christi is one of two strategic military deployment ports in Texas and that consideration impacts our planning process. The ability to deploy equipment and personnel rapidly is a critical element in the military strategy. Issues such as port access, port security intermodal capacity and capabilities are issues related to military deployment. Securing our transportation assets that support our port is a critical planning element.

Transportation is a critical element in the security of all of our area particularly when there is an emergency response to a natural or manmade event no matter the size or the frequency of the event. The MPO is committed to planning a transportation network infrastructure that can serve the community well in times of an emergency. The MPO will seek professional services at a cost not to exceed $40,000 to assist in the review and development of strategic protocols associated with incidents such as hurricane evacuation, closing of the Harbor Bridge, closing of the Intracoastal Waterway Bridge and other manmade or natural disasters.

PREVIOUS WORK - Through the Unified Planning Work Programs (UPWP) process, the MPO identified and completed several studies which will improve the safety and security of the transportation system in the MPO area. The completed studies include: Traffic Safety Study; Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan; Everhart Corridor Access Management Study; Access Management; Freight and Hazardous Materials Movement Study and the Traffic Signal Coordination Planning and Development Study.

SUBTASK FUNDING SUMMARY:

Subtask	Responsible Agency	TPF	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
3.4	MPO	$50,522	$0	$0	$50,522

SUBTASK 3.5 TRANSIT COORDINATION STUDY

OBJECTIVE - The development of our local Regional Transit Coordination Study was a collaborative response to the State and federal requirements that all MPO's participate in the development of a collaborative regional transit coordination plan. The initial plan provided an updated information base and provided a regional plan that is responsive to the needs of our area. The MPO provided the technical support for that process and created a Regional Transit Coordinators position funded by grant funds from TxDOT and the FTA. This subtask will sustain that planning effort and assure that the plan and recommendations are consistent with current needs and resources.

EXPECTED PRODUCTS - The responsibility and direction of the coordinator position has been assumed by the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) however; the MPO will continue to participate in the collaboration effort to implement recommendations in the plan and to keep the planning process up to date. This effort will assure both TxDOT and FTA that the region has a current and comprehensive Regional Transportation Plan. The MPO will also participate in the update of the RTA Long-range Plan to assure coordination with the regional plan.

PREVIOUS WORK - The collaboration effort submitted the Regional Transportation Coordination Study in December 2006 and the input and recommendations from that plan formed the foundation for the creation of the "Transportation Coordination Network". This collaborative network of the MPO, Corpus Christi TxDOT District, Coastal Bend Council of Governments, the local Workforce Board rural and urban public and private transit providers and social service agencies will keep the regional transit planning process ongoing.

SUBTASK FUNDING SUMMARY:

Subtask	Responsible Agency	TPF	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
3.5	MPO	$11,777	$0	$0	$11,777