

**CORPUS CHRISTI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NOTES**

January 19, 2012

1. CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM DETERMINATION.

- Meeting called to order by Mr. Sullivan at 9:01 a.m.
- Mr. Sullivan, Commissioner Nardini, Mr. Brubeck, Mr. Cardenas, Mr. DeLatte, Mr. Weckenmann, Mr. Vourcos, and Mr. Bullock were present.

2. INTRODUCTION OF VISITING AGENCY OFFICIALS.

- Mr. Raymond Sanchez from TxDOT South Regional Support Center.
- Mr. Samuel Saldivar from HDR, Inc.
- Ms. Laura Paul from Goldston Engineering.
- Mr. Dan Koesema from Goldston Engineering.

3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION:

A. Election of Officers.

TAC members elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson as required by MPO Bylaws.

- Corpus Christi MPO Bylaws requires electing a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson in January every year. Mr. Brubeck made a motion to reelect Mr. Sullivan as a Chairperson and Commissioner Nardini as a Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Weckenmann seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

B. Discussion of possible recommendation for projects to be included in the FY2013 – 2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

This will be the initial discussion of projects to be added into the FY2015 and FY2016 years of the new TIP.

- Mr. Niskala provided the information regarding FY2015 and 2016 funding projection. According to the 2012 Unified Transportation Program (UTP), the available funding for FY2015 is \$4,750,000 and FY2016 is \$4,810,000 respectively. Based on these projections, the types of projects will be relatively small, manageable ones that can move forward in a short time with the limited funding.
- The possible projects listed are as follows:
 1. Holly Rd. from SH 286 (Crosstown Expressway) – City of Corpus Christi is currently working on the preliminary engineering and design. This project would be for the actual construction phase.
 2. Yorktown Blvd. from Cimarron Blvd. to Rodd Field Rd. – the road improvement project was mentioned in the City Council meeting on January 17, 2012 as a possible City Bond project.
 3. FM 2444 (Staples) from CR 41 to SH 286 – this project will cover the section from CR 41 to SH 286 of Proposition 12 funded project.

4. SH 286 intersection with FM 2444 – the warrant study for signalized intersection is completed. This project will be important to the SH 286 (Crosstown Expressway) extension to FM 43 (Weber Rd.) and FM 2444 (Staples St.).
 5. Ayers St. from SH 358 (S.P.I.D) to Holly Rd. – TxDOT is working on the section between Holly Rd. and Saratoga Blvd, and the section between Holly Rd. and SH 358 needs curb, gutter, and other improvements.
 6. FM 43 relief route around London School Complex – the London School District continues to develop their facility and it needs a relief route to improve the traffic congestion on FM 43.
 7. Bicycle access improvements – pavement markings and other types of improvement to accommodate bicyclists’ needs on existing roadways. The City and MPO are cooperatively working on bike issues; survey results will be considered in bike projects.
 8. Corner Clips and “Backage” Roads – making right turn lanes for traffic management and the Backage Roads, specifically an exit from Best Buy complex to Corona St.
- Mr. Cardenas informed the members that the design work of Holly Rd. is 60% complete and the preliminary cost estimates will be presented in the next TAC meeting. The Yorktown project between Cimarron Blvd. and Rodd Filed Rd. was discussed in the previous City Council meeting and these two projects are the City’s priority.
 - Mr. Vourcos indicated TxDOT is working on the environmental study on S. Staples St. The extension of SH 286 (Crosstown Expressway) to south of FM 43 (Weber Rd.) and FM 2444 are the major projects.
 - Mr. Weckenmann stated the CCRTA is planning to update bus routes as well as consider a possible new bus terminal
 - The CCMPO will keep discussing these potential projects with the City and TxDOT and bring more detailed information in the next TAC meeting for further discussion.

C. Discussion of “Community Analyst” tool.

The MPO has a tool called “Community Analyst” which can provide data tables produced by MPO staff that will be available to member agencies upon request. Staff will discuss and demonstrate this data mining tool.

- The “Community Analyst” is an analytical tool that provides access to an interactive map and data about the community’s demographic information. There are thousands of available search criteria variables and the information can be easily presented in spreadsheets, charts, or PDF files.
- Mr. Mendieta presented various scenarios on how to use the tool. The CCMPO is available to share the information and encourages respective partner agencies to request data support. Please contact Mr. Victor Mendieta (vmendieta@cctxmpo.us) for the available data or for more information about this tool.

D. Discussion of the Bike Survey and possible TIP Bike projects.

Staff will provide an overview of the data obtained from the Bike Survey.

- The CCMPO has been conducting a bike survey that aims at prioritizing routes and updating the current bike map. Ms. Gonzalez briefly presented an overview of the survey's current status.
- The survey was launched in October 2011 and will run through January 31, 2012. There were more than 500 responses thanks to the cooperation and support of the City, public libraries, BoldFuture, Del Mar College, Texas A & M University Corpus Christi, TxDOT, RTA and Bay Area Bicycles, to name a few.
- A cursory review of the survey, categorized into Rider and Non-Rider, shows that a major reason to ride a bike is recreation for both riders and non-riders. While riders mentioned the shortage of bike lanes, non-riders listed safety as a concern and a discouraging factor to ride a bike. Both riders and non-riders expressed their concern over poor roadway conditions. Accordingly, riders expect additional bike lanes in the existing roadways and maintenance of these bike lanes. On the other hand, non-riders want bike trails and paths and safer intersections. Surprisingly, the city ordinance that makes riding a bike on sidewalks unlawful is not known to many non-riders (57%).
- A final survey report is anticipated by the end of April 2012. The CCMPO will share the results and data with our partner agencies for consideration on possible Bike projects.

E. Discussion of changing the date of the next TAC meeting.

The TxDOT Transportation Forum is scheduled for February 15 – 17th. A Change in the TAC meeting date to February 23rd is proposed.

- The Committee members agreed to change the next TAC meeting to February 23rd. The time (9:00 a.m.) and location (RTA meeting room) are the same. MPO staff will remind all concerned of the changes.

F. Discussion on the status of current projects and funding issues.

- Harbor Bridge Replacement project held a Technical Advisory Committee meeting and a Citizens Advisory Committee meeting and has been moving forward.
- Construction of overpass at SH 35 and FM 136 intersection is on track.
- Staples St. between Williams Dr. and Saratoga Blvd. has been awarded and will start construction in February 2012. There are numerous phases programmed in this project, however all four intersections (Williams, Holly, Wooldridge, Saratoga) will not be completely shut down. The finalized schedule will be available by early February.
- The Buddy Ganem project will be let in Summer 2012.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

- None.

10. STAFF REPORT:

- A. The Transportation Policy Committee meeting on February 2, 2012.

- There will be a presentation of the Port's railroad master plan. CCMPO will start the public involvement process for the FY2013-2016 TIP with a public notice.

11. TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND CONCERNS:

- Mr. Anaya, City of Corpus Christi, has been promoted to the Director of Planning. Mr. Biles becomes the interim Director of Engineering. It is anticipated Mr. Martinez, Assistant City Manager, will be the representative for the City of Corpus Christi in the TAC meeting with possible alternates being Mr. Anaya and Mr. Cardenas.
- There will be a public meeting regarding the Corpus Christi Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Plan at Sunrise Mall on January 24, 2012. Please contact Bay Area Bicycles at (361) 993-7000 for further information.
- Mr. Brubeck indicated the Port is forwarding their local fund payment. A courtesy reminder to participating agencies will be issued.

12. ADJOURN – The meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.