

**CORPUS CHRISTI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING NOTES
Thursday, April 19, 2018**

1. Call to Order and Quorum determination

Mr. Sullivan called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Present: Glen Sullivan, P.E., Nueces County; Howard Gillespie, San Patricio County; Gordon Robinson, Corpus Christi RTA, Brian DeLatte, P.E., City of Portland, Dr. Raymond Chong, P.E., City of Corpus Christi, David Krams, P.E., Port Corpus Christi; Paula Sales-Evans, P.E., TxDOT- CRP; Richard Bullock, Coastal Bend Council of Government

Staff Present: Jeff Pollack, Brigida Gonzalez, Daniel Carrizales, Victor Mendieta, Elena Buentello, and Yoshiko Boulan

2. Introduction of visiting agency officials

Mr. Sullivan welcomed all in attendance.

3. Public Comments

Mr. Pollack noted subtle adjustments to the agenda format, including featuring the opportunity for public comment at the top of the agenda to fully realize the spirit of the MPO's Public Participation Plan. Mr. Sullivan requested public comments for agenda item 3A, 3B, and 3C. There was no public comment.

A. Proposed amendment to FY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

B. Proposed FY 2019-2020 UPWP

C. Any other agenda items

4. Discussion and Possible Action

A. Proposed Amendment to the FY 2018 UPWP

Mr. Pollack reminded the TAC that the UPWP describes how federal planning funds will be spent over the course of the year. It defines transportation planning priorities and related non-construction activities to be performed during the year by the MPO and partner entities. It also doubles as the operating budget for the MPO. He explained that the proposed amendment to the FY 2018 UPWP reflects the addition of the MPO's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) grant award for a Resilience and Durability to Extreme Weather pilot project.

Mr. Krams made a motion to recommend approval of the proposed amendment to the FY 2018 UPWP by the MPO Transportation Policy Committee (TPC). Mr. Gillespie seconded; motion passed unanimously.

B. Proposed FY 2019-2020 UPWP

Mr. Pollack referred TAC members to the proposed FY 2019-2020 UPWP that was distributed electronically and to the printed Budget Summary and Special Studies (Task 5) section in their agenda packet. He reminded the TAC of the consensus during the March meeting of reverting back to a two-year UPWP, which simplifies administration of multi-year projects and enhances the MPO's flexibility in undertaking special studies. The MPO has historically had a two-year UPWP and only transitioned to a one-year UPWP during a period of particular uncertainty about the availability of federal funds. The process for developing the UPWP includes addressing federally mandated planning factors as well as prioritizing planning emphasis areas identified by the FHWA and Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Mr. Gillespie made a motion to recommend approval of the proposed FY 2019-2020 UPWP by the MPO TPC. Mr. Krams seconded; motion passed unanimously.

5. Freight Topics

Mr. Pollack explained that, in an attempt to highlight the TAC's frequent and detailed treatment of freight related issues, staff propose adding a freight-specific agenda item and were interested in TAC members' input on this approach, in lieu of establishing a separate freight subcommittee.

Mr. Krams and Mr. Gillespie commented their concurrences with the addition of this agenda item rather than creating an independent freight committee.

A. Freight Planning Workshop meeting – April 11 – 12, 2018

Ms. Gonzalez reported that she attended FHWA's Freight Planning 101 Workshop meeting held on April 11 – 12, 2018, which was intended to ensure that small and mid-sized MPOs have a local voice on the topic of freight by actively engaging in such tasks as establishing a freight profile and having a mechanism in place showing how freight data is captured.

B. Port of Corpus Christi Truck Queuing Project Developments

Mr. Pollack reported that the MPO continues to represent the region in the Texas Innovation Alliance, which is a statewide consortium dedicated to developing innovative strategies to address mobility challenges. In that capacity, the MPO has continued to promote the two projects that our regional delegation identified last fall as case studies to feature at the 2nd Annual Mobility Summit.

To that end, the MPO worked with Port Corpus Christi staff to submit a Future Fund template indicating interest is pursuing funding through the Innovation Alliance to expand the scope of the Port's truck queuing project on the Joe Fulton International Trade Corridor to include Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) and Connected Vehicle to Infrastructure (CVI) components.

Mr. Jim Kruse from the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) has reached out to the MPO about the possibility of implementing an ITS pilot project in our region; Jim and colleagues will be visiting on April 26th to begin exploring possibilities. Mr. Pollack commented about the serendipity of the timing and about the unique opportunity to leverage the Port's Rider 45 funding for the project with technical assistance and potentially funding through the Innovation Alliance and the TTI pilot to implement a project that becomes a national benchmark in freight mobility innovation.

Mr. Krams explained that there are two grants, one for intersection improvements on Joe Fulton Corridor and the second for a truck queuing lane. He explained that project plans have morphed to include intersection improvements and a truck queuing lane (rather than a waiting area).

Mr. Pollack commented that the ITS/CVI applications should be just as relevant in this linear format as they would be for a waiting lot.

6. Member Agency Project Update

Mr. Pollack explained that staff intends to develop an online map portal that depicts in real time the location and status of capital projects funded by the MPO. As such, staff proposes to add a permanent agenda item to present the opportunity for TAC members to report changes in project status. Mr. Pollack requested that TAC members populate the table (handout) to capture current project status.

Ms. Sales-Evans suggested modifying the form to accommodate notation of multiple concurrent phases of project development.

Mr. Pollack thanked her for the suggestion and responded that staff may also add a column for annotation.

7. Staff Briefing

A. TxDOT Bike Advisory Committee meeting – April 13, 2018

Mr. Pollack reported that he continues to serve on the TxDOT Bike Advisory Committee and participated in the last quarterly meeting on April 13, 2018.

B. Transportation Alternative Set Aside (TASA) Workshop – April 25, 2018

Mr. Pollack informed TAC members of the upcoming TASA Workshop (April 25, 2018 at the TxDOT-CRP District office). He explained that MPO and District staff were working in earnest to elevate and streamline the administrative process for TASA projects. Ms. Buentello added that the overall intent of the workshop is to establish communication between the local sponsor and District staff to formalize the time frame over which key project milestones are to be met.

C. Request for Qualifications to Select Coastal Engineering Service Provider

Mr. Pollack informed the TAC that on Tuesday April 17, 2018 the MPO released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to select a Coastal Engineer to design a nature-based shoreline protection feature as part of the MPO's Resilience and Durability to Extreme Weather pilot project. He stated that the RFQ is available through the MPO website and would close on May 11, 2018; he encouraged TAC members to share it with any service providers who might be interested.

Ms. Sales-Evans inquired as to whom would be making the selection.

Mr. Pollack responded that MPO and City of Corpus Christi (City) staff would review submittals and make the selection. He stated that City staff had reviewed the RFQ before it was released.

D. Transportation Policy Committee Meeting – May 3, 2018

Mr. Pollack reminded TAC members to encourage their respective TPC members of a quorum at the next TPC meeting to address time-sensitive action items.

8. TAC Members' Comments and Concerns

Dr. Chong reported that the highest ranking alternative alignment for Segments A and B of the Regional Parkway Mobility Corridor, as identified through the Planning and Environmental Linkages study, would be presented to the City's Transportation Advisory Commission on Monday, April 23, 2018 for potential incorporation into the City's Urban Transportation Plan (UTP). He stated that the proposed amendment of the UTP would then go before the Planning Commission and then City Council. He stated that the highest ranking alternative alignment for the extension of Rodd Field Road would not be brought forth at this time.

Dr. Chong stated that other UTP amendments are pending, including reclassification of some streets on North Beach.

Dr. Chong informed the TAC that of the 26 street projects under development for Bond 2018 Bond issue, three will be taken to 100% design by the time of the election and six others will be taken to 60% design.

He also reported that the consulting contract for the second phase of the MPO funded Strategic Integration project to expand the MPO's Travel Demand Model to include transit and land use was forthcoming before City Council.

9. Future Agenda Items

Mr. Robinson commented that Corpus Christi RTA is making changes in the Sunday service schedule to better align with schedules for other days of the week. He indicated that he would be interested in presenting these changes to the TAC once they were implemented.

10. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.