

**CORPUS CHRISTI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, November 21, 2019**

**1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Quorum determination**

Mr. Brian DeLatte called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

TAC Members Present:

Brian DeLatte, City of Portland	Jeff Pollack, AICP, Port of Corpus Christi
Howard Gillespie, San Patricio County	Paula Sales-Evans, P.E., TxDOT-CRP
Juan Pimentel, P.E., Nueces County	Christina Perez, CC Regional Transportation Authority
Richard Bullock, Coastal Bend Council of Government	

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

**2. Public Comments for Items not on the agenda**

Mr. DeLatte asked for public comments for items not on the agenda. None offered.

**3. Approval of September 26, 2019 TAC Special Meeting Minutes.**

Mr. Pollack made a motion to approve the September 26, 2019 TAC Special Meeting Minutes. Ms. Perez seconded; motion passed unanimously.

**4. Discussion and Possible Action**

**A. FY 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #4**

The Texas Department of Transportation Corpus Christi District (TxDOT – CRP) requested an amendment to the FY 2019-2022 TIP to update the I-37 project funding amounts (CSJ# 0074-06-241 and CSJ#0074-05-098). This project covers two components of the same project, one within the MPO boundary and one portion outside of the MPO boundary: CSJ# 0074-06-241 is in the MPO boundary and CSJ# 0074-05-098 is outside the MPO. The Corpus Christi MPO and TxDOT-CRP jointly request to amend the TIP for project CSJ# 0074-06-241 that is programmed in the FY 2019-2022 TIP from a current funding amount of \$35 million to \$60 million and the funding amount of CSJ# 0074-05-098 from \$10 million to \$22 million in the State TIP. Ms. Sales-Evans explained that the amendment is due to the project scope changes that allowed TxDOT to not only to replace the Nueces River Bridge and to elevate the North-bound structure, but also the South-bound structure. This change was approved by the Texas Transportation Commission and was programmed in 2020 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). There is no change in either the project limits or the original purpose of project.

Mr. Gillespie made a motion to recommend the TPC approval the FY 2019-2022 TIP Amendment. Ms. Sales-Evans seconded; motion passed unanimously.

**B. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 2: Planning Requirements, Public Outreach and Agency Coordination**

Mr. MacDonald explained to the TAC members that the Corpus Christi MPO is providing as many as draft MTP chapters for public comments and TAC reviews and actions in compliance with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)'s 30-day public comment period for MTP development and the upcoming submission deadline. The draft Chapter 2: Planning Requirements, Public Outreach and Agency Coordination was distributed to the TAC members and public through the weblink for review. This chapter depicts the federal requirements, coordinated efforts with local governments and partner agencies for the development of MTP, and the Corpus Christi MPO's efforts to reach out the public.

Ms. Sales-Evans remarked that the MTP draft chapters were well-written and comprehensive, and she expected that data analytics, specifically the public outreach effort, is provided in the appendices.

Mr. MacDonald answered that the data and information used in the 2020-2045 MTP is collected from partner agencies' websites such as TxDOT's 2020 Unified Transportation Program (UTP), CCRTA's 5-year Capital and

Operation Plan. Public comments during public meetings and the Corpus Christi MPO's responses to these comments were captured and included in the Appendices.

Mr. Casper stated that the Corpus Christi MPO had to take an untraditional Public Outreach approach for this 2020-2045 MTP due to the time constraint. The development of MTP normally takes 4 to 5 years and public input should be collected as the plan is developed. The Corpus Christi MPO provides opportunities for the public comments and questions through multiple means such as public meetings and open-houses, website, and presentations to the stakeholders and community organizations.

Mr. Pollack inquired as to the difference between Policy 1.2 – Consultation with Agencies and Officials and Policy 1.3 – Coordination with Agencies and Officials. Mr. Casper clarified that the Policy 1.2 listed the agencies the Corpus Christi MPO is required to reach out to and consult during the development of MTP process, while Policy 1.3 is a statement of the Corpus Christi MPO's effort to coordinate the planning activities with partner agencies and stakeholders.

The following public comment was given to 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 2: Planning Requirements, Public Outreach and Agency Coordination by Ms. Judy Telgi: (1) It is important that the individuals with disabilities are engaged in the transportation planning process to address the accessibility, multi-transportation modes, and the overall transportation matters, (2) as a Director of Development at the Coastal Bend Center for Independent Living and Chair of City of Corpus Christi Transportation Advisory Committee, she would provide her input for the 2020-2045 MTP.

Mr. DeLatte thanked her for the public comment.

Mr. Gillespie made a motion to recommend the TPC approval the 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 2: Planning Requirements, Public Outreach and Agency Coordination. Ms. Sales-Evans seconded; motion passed unanimously.

### **C. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 3: Planning Framework**

Mr. MacDonald briefed on the draft 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 3: Planning Framework. This chapter covers federal, state, and regional goals, objectives, performance measures and targets, evaluation methodology and criteria, data collection and analysis.

Ms. Sales-Evans (1) requested to verify the 2017 Number of Serious Injury Crashes, (2) suggested to use "good" and "better" condition instead of "good" and "poor" condition in a regional transportation assets management for better understanding of performance measures, (3) suggested to add the freight delays for the freight network performance measures, and (4) remove the word "companion" from Harbor Bridge project in page 3-4 to clarify the Harbor Bridge project is multi-faceted and not only accommodating ships clearances for the Port of Corpus Christi. Mr. Pollack agreed to remove the word "companion" and also suggested to remove "the port entrance to accommodate larger ships accessing the PCCA facilities" from the paragraph.

Mr. Pollack pointed out the table under 4. Efficiently operate, and invest in, the surface transportation system, "Corpus Christi MPO per Commuter Hours" is missing the word "delay." Mr. Pollack suggested to provide a simple explanation of these numbers for general public.

Mr. MacDonald agreed to (1) verify the numbers, (2) revise the sentence and (3) correct the specified corrections.

Mr. Pollack made a motion to recommend the TPC approval the 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 3: Planning Framework amended as suggested. Ms. Sales-Evans seconded; motion passed unanimously.

### **D. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 4: Demographics and Forecasting**

Mr. MacDonald briefed on the draft 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 4: Demographics and Forecasting addresses the demographics such as population, jobs, and its forecast to develop a comprehensive long-range transportation plan.

Mr. Pollack complimented the information presentation in this chapter; however, he said there is a gap between these datasets and the project prioritization results. Mr. MacDonald reminded the TAC that the MTP

development typically requires a multi-year process with the first 2 years spent for the data collection. Unfortunately, the Corpus Christi MPO had only 7 to 8 months to meet the FHWA MTP deadline. The next MTP will be more comprehensive with the in-depth data collection and through data analysis. Also, Mr. MacDonald reminded the TAC that the project prioritization reflects not only these numbers and TxDOT's Decision Lens criteria but the regional considerations and professional judgement.

Ms. Sales-Evans requested a reference or a general sentence be provided to explain the industrial development the region is currently experiencing and its impact on demographics and our transportation planning process. Especially its impact on the housing, travel patterns and destinations in the Corpus Christi MPO boundary. Mr. MacDonald said there are differences in the State demographic data and regional data based on the input from local governments for information contained in the Traffic Analysis Zones. The updated local information was provided to the MPO through TAC workshops conducted in the Corpus Christi Region in 2018. These additional development details will be captured in the next MTP with information gathered by upcoming master plan efforts. For the 2020-2045 MTP, the Corpus Christi MPO will add a general sentence as suggested by Ms. Sales-Evans.

The following public comment was given to 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 4: Demographics and Forecasting by Ms. Judy Telge: (1) Is there any section that addressed the impact of hurricanes, and hurricane evacuation routes in 2020-2045 MTP, and (2) the demographics forecast is very important for the emergency planning, especially since the region experienced many issues related to the hurricane but it is recurring problem.

Mr. MacDonald answered that the 2020-2045 MTP dedicated an entire chapter for security and resiliency and that hurricanes, tropical storms, and flooding are extensively addressed in this chapter.

Mr. Gillespie made a motion to recommend the TPC approval the 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 4: Demographics and Forecasting. Ms. Sales-Evans seconded; motion passed unanimously.

#### **E. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 5: Existing System and Forecast Transportation Needs**

Mr. MacDonald informed that the Chapter 5: Existing System and Forecast Transportation Needs is currently under the final development phase. The Corpus Christi MPO will distribute the draft chapter as soon as it is ready for review.

#### **F. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 6: Financial Plan**

Mr. MacDonald briefed on the draft 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 6: Financial Plan. This chapter presents the Corpus Christi MPO's compliance with the federal requirements for financial planning process, identifies the funding sources and other partner agencies' revenues, and examines the programming of a legitimate and reasonably funded transportation plan based on the financial forecast.

Ms. Sales-Evans pointed out that there is a possibility to update the functional classification system, thus, suggested to add the date of the classification. She also suggested to put more weight on the color of Exhibit 6-1. Map of Corpus Christi MPO Functional Classification System for printing-purposes. She requested to clarify the reference to the funding in Exhibit 6-13, specifically the Table of Category Funding. She wanted to ensure that the public knows that the TxDOT 2020 UTP funding amounts are a statewide total to avoid the misconception that the funds are for the Corpus Christi MPO. If the table were presented without context, this could cause confusion in the funding available for the MPO. Mr. MacDonald answered that a note would be added to the bottom of the Exhibit.

Mr. MacDonald requested to the TAC members to review their entity's tables in this chapter to ensure that the data is the most current information.

Mr. Pimentel made a motion to recommend the TPC approval the 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 6: Financial Plan as discussed. Ms. Perez seconded; motion passed unanimously.

#### **G. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 7: Implementation Plan**

Mr. MacDonald presented the draft 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 7: Implementation Plan. This Chapter is the culmination of the process of project selection, federally required transportation system maintenance, management, and operations strategies, as well as the region's list of unfunded or illustrative projects. As

required by FHWA, the Corpus Christi MPO included all regional transportation-related projects such as City of Corpus Christi's Bond Projects, Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority and projects in the Port of Corpus Christi's Capital Improvement Plan. Mr. MacDonald requested the TAC members to review their agencies project lists.

Ms. Sales-Evans suggested that the Project ID# 017 in Exhibit 7-1. Map of Corpus Christi MPO Project is actually ID# 016, an interchange Improvement Feasibility Study. Therefore, using a dot instead of a line to show the project seems more appropriate, and she also request to verify each project's ID and location are matched.

Mr. Mendieta explained that while he worked on the project table, the ID and location were accidentally coded. He will verify each project and its limit (from/to) and correct Exhibit 7-1.

Mr. Gillespie made a motion to recommend the TPC approval the 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 7: Implementation Plan as discussed and after all information is verified and corrected as necessary. Ms. Sales-Evans seconded; motion passed unanimously.

#### **H. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 8: Congestion Management and Operations**

Mr. MacDonald informed that the Chapter 8: Congestion Management and Operations is currently under the final development phase. The Corpus Christi MPO will distribute the draft chapter as soon as it is ready for review.

#### **I. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 9: Freight**

Mr. MacDonald distributed the draft 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 9: Freight. This chapter is distributed to TAC members for their review and comment and no action is required. This item also covers the Meeting Item 6: Freight topics as the TAC acts as the MPO Freight Advisory Committee.

Mr. MacDonald stated that the freight goals, objectives, and infographics are from TxDOT's State Freight Plan. This chapter includes truck stops map, list of freight projects (both funded and unfunded), the Port of Corpus Christi's commodity, projects, economic impacts as the important freight facilities, as well as the railroad information and airport information. Mr. MacDonald asked the TAC members' comments after the review.

Mr. Pollack inquired as to the purpose of including a map of the San Patricio County Pipeline. Mr. MacDonald answered that the pipeline is considered a transportation system component by moving commodities such as crude oil and gas, thus the map is presented as an information.

Ms. Sales-Evans asked if there is any explanatory information associated with the pipeline network such as the reduced number of trucks from the freight system due to the pipeline.

Mr. Pollack stated a cross-regional pipeline network to show the movement from other regions such as Midland/Odessa/Permian Basin to Corpus Christi would be interesting to include in this chapter.

Mr. DeLatta commented that the enlarged maps (Exhibit 9-10, 9-12, and 9-14) on page 9-7 are blurry and should be replaced, and the table YTD AIRPORT OPERATIONS on page 9-15 is missing the unit of measure.

Ms. Sales-Evans suggested to include the Marine Coastal Highway and I-69 since these are considered as important freight corridors, especially as there are many projects on I-69. She also suggested to include some general sentences that correlates Marine Coastal Highway and the percentage of reduced truck freight, decrease the deteriorated pavement condition, and so forth that linked to other goals and objectives stated in the 2020-2045 MTP.

#### **J. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 10: Safety**

Mr. MacDonald informed that Chapter 10: Safety is currently under the final development phase. The Corpus Christi MPO will distribute the draft chapter as soon as it is ready for review.

Ms. Sales-Evans inquired if the Chapter 10: Safety focuses on the typical crash-related components or covers other emergency elements such as hurricane evacuation, and she commented that this chapter should incorporate it and referenced to the Chapter that extensively discussed the emergency chapter for clarity to the readers.

Mr. Casper said it is required to separate Safety and Security/Resiliency, but a short reference or linkage could be inserted in this chapter.

#### **K. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 11: Security and Resiliency**

Mr. MacDonald informed that the Chapter 11: Security and Resiliency is currently under the final development phase. The Corpus Christi MPO will distribute the draft chapter as soon as it is ready for review. Mr. Casper requested the Local Emergency Planning Committee in our region to review and comment on Chapter 11.

#### **L. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 12: Strategic Plan for Active Mobility Phase 1: Bicycle Mobility Plan**

Mr. MacDonald briefed on the draft 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 12: Strategic Plan for Active Mobility Phase 1: Bicycle Mobility Plan as an introduction of the currently adopted Corpus Christi MPO's Bicycle Mobility Plan. The plan will be included in the Appendices.

Mr. Pollack commented that formally including the Bicycle Mobility Plan into the MTP is a great idea. The Plan is intended to be relevant until the bike network is fully implemented, and it could be the vision of bike mobility in this region over time. He hoped that the Corpus Christi MPO, TAC members and local government work cooperatively to realize the plan.

The following public comment was given to 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 12: Strategic Plan for Active Mobility Phase 1: Bicycle Mobility Plan by Ms. Judy Telgi: (1) The City of Corpus Christi Transportation Advisory Committee is making sure to continue the effort to implement the bike plan and they would like to work with other interested parties to do so, and (2) if other elements other than bike mobility will be addressed in the plan.

Mr. MacDonald stated that the Corpus Christi MPO would work with the local governments individually and discuss a revised plan that will incorporate all mobility elements such as bicycle, pedestrian, sidewalks, ADA, and so forth.

Mr. Pollack explained the reason why there was no Phase 2 adopted; the Corpus Christi MPO delivered the scope of phase 2 of this plan, but the feedback from the local municipalities at that time was the pedestrian aspects needed more tactical approach and better working for the specific needs rather than the comprehensive, wholesale plan. He pointed out when a cycle track is built, it also builds the sidewalks and the ADA compliance is implemented, thus even though Phase 1 is branded as Bike Mobility Plan, the non-vehicular elements are included and realized by implementing the Bicycle Mobility Plan.

Mr. Pimentel made a motion to recommend the TPC approval the 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 12: Strategic Plan for Active Mobility Phase 1: Bicycle Mobility Plan. Mr. Pollack seconded; motion passed unanimously.

#### **M. Public Comment Opportunity for 2020-2045 MTP**

Mr. DeLatta asked for public comments for the available 2020-2045 MTP Chapters. None offered.

#### **N. Draft Congestion Management Process (CMP) Revision**

Mr. Craig provided a brief summary of the CMP. The first Congestion Management System (CMS) was adopted by the Corpus Christi MPO in 1999 and then became a CMP, and it has been continuously updated based on the federal requirements. The CMP is becoming more important and significant in the transportation planning process and it is incorporated into our long-range and short-range plans. The goals of CMP are not only supporting TxDOT's Congestion Management goals, but also achieving other aspects on the planning spectrum such as safety improvement because crashes are one of the most non-recurring congestion causes. The Corpus Christi MPO is required to define what congestion is, what the causes of the congestion are, and what strategies are used to manage the congestion in the region. The Corpus Christi MPO is required to work with the local entities to discuss these strategies and solutions.

Mr. MacDonald informed the TAC members that the Corpus Christi MPO is required to submit the revised draft CMP by the end of November per the 2017 Federal Certification Review result. The Corpus Christi MPO also will provide the draft to the TAC members for review and comments.

Ms. Sales-Evans commented that the most congested corridor in the Corpus Christi region is not on the State Highway System (SHS) and requested to distinguish National Highway System (NHS), SHS, and non-system corridors.

## **5. Information Only**

### **A. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 1: Introduction**

Mr. MacDonald informed the TAC members that the 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 1: Introduction had minor corrections of typos, and the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) approved the corrections on November 7, 2019. This Chapter is also available on the Corpus Christi MPO website.

### **B. 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 14: Air Quality Analysis**

Mr. MacDonald informed the TAC members that the 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 14: Air Quality Analysis had minor corrections of typos, and the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) approved the corrections on November 7, 2019. This Chapter is also available on the Corpus Christi MPO website.

### **C. 2020-2045 MTP Development Working Schedule Monthly Update**

The updated 2020-2045 MTP Development Working Schedule was distributed. The Corpus Christi MPO is aiming to get the TPC approval of the 2020-2045 MTP in January 2020.

## **6. Freight Topics 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 9: Freight**

This item was discussed in conjunction with Item 4-I: 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 9: Freight.

## **7. Member Agency Statements for Items of Interest: Projects, Events, and Activities**

Mr. Pollack reported to the TAC members on the Texas Mobility Summit held by the Texas Innovation Alliance on November 17-19. The Summit was successful with a wide range of participants from the academic, environment, energy sector, transit providers, State DOTs. The FHWA administrator gave a 30-minute opening remarks. He hoped that the Corpus Christi MPO, CCRTA and other regional representatives will participate in the future summit.

Ms. Sales-Evans informed the TAC members that the TxDOT Transportation Planning and Programming (TPP) Division is already starting to work on the 2021 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) and we need to discuss what the potential projects are. Detailed information such as the planning forecast, targets, funding projection, and the timeframe are not yet available, she will inform the TAC members once this information becomes available.

## **8. Upcoming Meetings:**

<b>A. Transportation Policy Committee:</b>	<b>Regular Meeting:</b>	<b>December 5, 2019</b>
<b>B. MTP Public Meeting/Open House:</b>		<b>December 12, 2019</b>
<b>C. Technical Advisory Committee:</b>	<b>Regular Meeting:</b>	<b>December 19, 2019</b>

## **9. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.