

**CORPUS CHRISTI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, February 25, 2021**

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

Mr. Brian DeLatte called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M.

TAC Members Present Virtually:

Brian DeLatte, P.E., City of Portland  
Gordon Robinson, AICP, Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (CCRTA)  
Paula Sales-Evans, P.E., TxDOT – Corpus Christi District (CRP)  
Howard Gillespie, San Patricio County  
Sara Munoz, P.E., City of Corpus Christi  
Emily Martinez, Coastal Bend Council of Government

Ms. Genevieve Bales, Federal Highway Administration, Texas Division  
Ms. Sara Garza, TxDOT, Transportation Planning and Programming (TPP) Division  
Mr. Victor Vourcos, TxDOT, CRP

Ms. Christina Perez, CCRTA  
Mr. Alejandro Agustin, CCRTA

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

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

None were offered.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 21, 2021 TAC REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. Munoz made a motion to approve the January 21, 2021, TAC Meeting Minutes. Mr. Gillespie seconded; motion passed unanimously.

**4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

**A. FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 1**

This item was discussed in January's TAC meeting and the TAC recommended the TPC to release for the 30-day comment while finalizing suggested or proposed changes by TAC members before TPC March approval. Mr. MacDonald went through all changes made in the proposed FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment 1:

1. MPO-001 and MPO-006: Fiscal year updates
2. MPO-065: Moved from Roll Forward with Prior Funding Project List (Table 13b) to Fiscally Constrained Project List (Table 13a)
3. MPO-008 and MPO-030: Moved from Table 13a to Table 13b
4. MPO-013: Removed from Table 13b (duplicate)
5. MPO-005, MPO-016, MPO-017, and MPO-018: Rescheduled and placed in the 10-year plan
6. TxDOT-002: Removed, this project location is the outside of the Corpus Christi MPO boundary
7. MPO-003 and MPO-004: TxDOT Corpus Christi District suggested to remove but the Corpus Christi MPO wanted to keep these projects included in FY 2021-2024 TIP
8. Insert the TxDOT eSTIP project list
9. Insert the TxDOT Grouping Chart
10. Revise the funding table 1 (page 16) with TxDOT 2021 UTP funding numbers
11. MPO-011, MPO-012, MPO-013, MPO-014, MPO-065: Group TASA/CAT 9 projects as MPO-066

Mr. MacDonald informed the TAC that the Corpus Christi MPO worked with the TxDOT TPP Division and updated the FY 2021-2024 TIP Financial Summary Table with the most current TxDOT Financial System information that was distributed to the TAC members for review.

**TAC APPROVED MINUTES**

He explained that the TASA/CAT 9 Grouped Project (\$2,407,959) was included in the table in the authorized funding column in FY 2021 for illustrative purposes. Grouped projects are included in the State-wide grouped project table, for avoiding double count in the State-wide grouped project programmed amount total; the \$2,407,959 is only shown in the authorized funding column.

Ms. Sales-Evans expressed her concern about the Harbor Bridge Voluntary Relocation Program being included in the eSTIP project list. The Harbor Bridge Voluntary Relocation Program is an on-going project since either 2016 or 2017 and the Port of Corpus Christi provided \$20 million as local contribution and the Corpus Christi MPO provided another \$20 million from Category 7 fund. The eSTIP table "Authorized Funding by Category/Share" shows \$17.3 million as CAT 7 and \$40 million as local contribution. Ms. Sales-Evans thought this number is misleading and may be confusing. She suggested to treat the project as a grouped project or create a new CSJ number if this project must be included in FY 2021-2024 TIP as an individual project. However, she is also concerned that creating a new CSJ number for an on-going project may be problematic.

Mr. MacDonald explained that the Corpus Christi MPO would like to keep this project individually in the FY 2021-2024 TIP because of the high interest in the community and by local leaders. The numbers in the table are in eSTIP format were given by the TxDOT-TPP staff, however; the Corpus Christi MPO's project list (table 13b) shows the \$40 million as (1) \$20 million from the Port of Corpus Christi as local contribution and (2) \$20 million from Cat 7 as prior funding for clarification.

Ms. Bales stated that she would ask the FHWA Finance Division if it is conceivable to create a new CSJ number for this project. She also mentioned that the grouped TASA/CAT 9 project's \$2,407,959 needs some explanatory notes in the FY 2021-2024 TIP Financial Summary Table for clarification.

Ms. Sales-Evans asked how these details that need further discussion would be presented to the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) for approval on March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. MacDonald said that the Corpus Christi MPO would work with TxDOT and FHWA and discuss how the Harbor Bridge Voluntary Relocation Program and TASA/CAT 9 Grouped Project should be treated, present it with notes and verbally explain to the TPC in March, then if necessary, bring it back to the TPC in April with FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment 2.

Ms. Sales-Evans made a motion to recommend the TPC to approve the proposed amendments to the FY 2021-2024 TIP with the recommended changes. Mr. Gillespie seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. MacDonald thanked the TAC for their recommendation.

## **B. FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 2**

Mr. Agustin, CCRTA, provided the information of requested FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendments on transit projects. These amendments are based on the Federal Transit Administration (FTA)'s funding requirements:

1. Bus Support/Equipment and Facilities/Miscellaneous Shop & Garage Equipment (CCRTA-042) in FY 2021: Total project cost change from \$45,000 to \$90,000 (FTA 5339 funding).
2. Bus Stop Amenities (CCRTA-051) in FY 2022: Total project cost change from \$462,645 to \$940,000 (FTA 5339 funding).
3. Mobile Bus Lift (CCRTA-046) in FY 2021: Change the funding source from FTA 5307 to FTA 5339.
4. Bus Support/Equipment & Facilities/Hardware/Software: New project added in FY 2021, total project cost \$1,034,923, FTA 5307 funding.
5. Park and Ride Land: New project added in FY 2021, total project cost \$1,100,000, FTA 5307 funding.
6. Park and Ride Land: New project added in FY 2023, total project cost \$900,000, FTA 5307 funding.

CCRTA requested the TAC to recommend the TPC for release the proposed Amendment 2 to the FY 2021-2024 TIP for the 30-day public comment period.

Mr. Gordon made a motion to recommend the TPC to release the proposed Amendment 2 to the FY 2021-2024 TIP for the 30-day public comment period. Mr. Gillespie seconded; motion passed unanimously.

### **C. 2021 Safety Performance Measures (PM) 1 Targets**

Mr. Casper explained that the Safety Performance Measures (PM) 1 Targets are a federal requirement that all MPOs need to establish annually. The Corpus Christi MPO's Safety Performance Measures Targets are based on the five-year rolling averages on five areas from 2015 to 2019 and it supports TxDOT's Safety Targets.

The new targets in 2045 are:

1. Number of Fatal Crashes: 3
2. Rate of Fatal Crashes: 0.13
3. Number of Serious Injury Crashes: 10
4. Rate of Serious Injury Crashes: 0.28
5. Number of Non-motorized Fatal and Seriously Injury Crashes: 3

The Corpus Christi MPO admits the difficulties and challenges in reducing the number of crashes from the current number, 39 in 2019, to 3 in 2045. The targets are aligned with TxDOT's Vision Zero goal that is also the City of Corpus Christi's and the Corpus Christi MPO will actively work with the local entities to tackle the safety issues.

Mr. Casper shared an interesting finding regarding crash fatality presented in the Transportation Research Board (TRB) annual meeting. The population of Australia and the State of Texas are almost same; however, the fatality rate in Australia was 1/3 of Texas'. The primary cause of this drastic difference is the speed limit. Also, traffic enforcement and high fines in Australia lead to behavioral changes in drivers and as a result, reduce the fatality rate.

Ms. Sales-Evans inquired if the Number of Serious Injury Crashes in 2017 is correct. Mr. Casper checked the data and informed the TAC the number is 111 instead of 11 and would be corrected.

Ms. Sales-Evans made a motion to recommend 2021 Safety Performance Measure (PM) 1 targets and resolution with the correction to TPC. Mr. Gillespie seconded; motion passed unanimously.

### **5. INFORMATION ONLY ITEM**

#### **A. TAC Member Updates to their FY 2021-2024 TIP Projects in Tables 13a and 13b**

Mr. Brian informed that there would be a US 181 projects pre-construction meeting next week.

Mr. MacDonald stated that the project updates are necessary to keep the Corpus Christi MPO on top of it as well as keep the public informed, and he asked the TAC members to inform the Corpus Christi MPO if there is any change on the project status the TAC meeting.

#### **B. Draft After Action Report (AAR) for the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), FY 2021-2024 TIP and Congestion Management Process (CMP)**

Mr. Casper provided a brief on the Draft AAR for the 2045 MTP, FY 2021-2024 TIP, and CMP. The AAR survey was conducted last year, and the Draft AAR survey results shows how well the Corpus Christi MPO performed on developing federally required documents. The result is utilized for the 2050 MTP, FY 2023-2026 TIP, and CMP development.

Areas receiving high scores are:

- Link the MTP, TIP, and CMP elements in the transportation planning and these document development
- Efficient electronic dissemination of information by using website/e-mail
- National, State, and regional PM connections

Areas receiving lower scores are:

- Public involvement efforts
- Data collection and analysis
- Collaboration with other agencies

Mr. Casper requested the TAC members to read and review the AAR and provide their feedback or comments. Based on the survey results, the Corpus Christi MPO will work on areas identified as need improvements.

**TAC APPROVED MINUTES**

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) will be updated for more vigorous public participation and submitted to the TAC in April or May. A Request for Qualification (RFQ) or Request for Proposal (RFP) to hire a consultant to do the technical data collection/analysis will be issued. Also, the Corpus Christi MPO will have discussions, meetings, workshops, and so forth to facilitate the collaboration in the transportation planning.

**6. REGIONAL FREIGHT TOPIC**

**A. Texas Freight Advisory Committee Planning Studies Update**

The TAC serves as a Freight Advisory Committee and various freight topics are discussed every month.

Mr. MacDonald provided the Texas Freight Advisory Committee presentation held in November 2020. There are a couple important TxDOT Freight Studies completed in late 2020 or will be completed in early 2021 (slide#4). The Corpus Christi MPO will keep attention to these state-wide freight studies/plans and share the information.

**7. Member Agency Statements for Items of Community Interest: Upcoming events, holidays, or acknowledgements**

None offered.

**8. Upcoming Meetings:**

<b>A. Transportation Policy Committee:</b>	<b>Regular Meeting:</b>	<b>March 4, 2021</b>
<b>B. Technical Advisory Committee:</b>	<b>Regular Meeting:</b>	<b>March 18, 2021</b>

**9. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 A.M.