

**CORPUS CHRISTI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, March 18, 2021**

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

Mr. Brian DeLatte called the meeting to order at 9:06 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  
Dan McGinn, AICP, City of Corpus Christi  
Emily Martinez, Coastal Bend Council of Government

Christina Perez, 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 FEBRUARY 25, 2021 TAC REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the February 25, 2021, TAC Meeting Minutes. Ms. Sales-Evans seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

**4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

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

This item was discussed in February's TAC meeting and the TAC recommended the TPC to release the following proposed amendments for transit projects in FY 2021-2024 TIP for the 30-day comment period:

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.

Mr. MacDonald briefly explained the additional attachments provided based on the guidance from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and TxDOT regarding the Harbor Bridge Voluntary Relocation Program, and the discussion between FHWA and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regarding the grouped projects:

- Updated Table 13a and 13b FY 2021-2024 TIP Fiscally Constrained Project list and Roll Forward with Prior Funding Project list as Attachment 3,
- TxDOT eSTIP project table for Harbor Bridge Voluntary Relocation Project (MPO-008) with notes to clarify the funding sources and status as Attachment 4,
- Letter and tables from FHWA and FTA regarding the Grouped Project Definitions as Attachment 5,
- 2021-2024 STIP TIMETABLE for information-purpose as Attachment 6

Ms. Perez, CCRTA, informed the TAC that there were no changes made on proposed amendments, and there were no public comments received as of March 18, 2021.

Mr. MacDonald also confirmed that the Corpus Christi MPO has not received any public comments as of March 18, 2021 at 9:10 a.m.

Mr. Robinson made a motion to recommend the TPC to approve the proposed Amendment 2 to the FY 2021-2024 TIP. Mr. Gillespie seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. MacDonald thanked the TAC for their recommendation. This item will be submitted to the April TPC for approval.

## **5. INFORMATION ONLY ITEM**

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

None offered.

### **B. Consultant Contract Information**

Mr. Casper informed the TAC that the Corpus Christi MPO would move forward with the three consultant firms as additional technical resources for Performance-Based Planning, and he provided the service contract form that would be sent to these consultants.

Mr. Pollack inquired the reason why the Corpus Christi MPO would engage with multiple consultants instead of one.

Mr. Casper answered that all selected consultants scored equally good, but each consultant has its strength in their specialized area. The Corpus Christi MPO would like to utilize their advantaged specialities in the most suitable tasks. Also, the Corpus Christi MPO would like to monitor these consultants' work for determining future contract considerations.

Mr. MacDonald mentioned that Cambridge Systematics is the most recognized in the transportation modeling and analytics field, and the Corpus Christi MPO is excited to work with a consultant who provides data in the modeling/forecasting planning area.

### **C. US Census Urban Area Definition**

Mr. Casper provided a brief on the six substantial changes to the urban area criteria by the Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census:

- a housing unit density threshold of 385 units, either occupied or vacant, per square mile
- a minimum threshold of 4,000 Housing Units or 10,000 population
- cease distinguishing different types of urban areas (urbanized areas and smaller urban areas)
- increase the maximum jump distance from 1.5 miles to 2.5 miles
- not include the low-density hop or jump "corridor" in the Urban Area
- not include low-density territory within indentations

These changes may affect the Corpus Christi MPO boundary and funding. The new urban areas are expected to be classified in October. Mr. Casper anticipated that Aransas Pass and Rockport area are more likely to join the Corpus Christi MPO boundary due to the housing units criteria, but Robstown is less likely included at this time.

## **6. REGIONAL FREIGHT TOPIC**

### **A. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Freight Analysis Framework (FAF 5) public release**

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

Mr. MacDonald informed the TAC that FHWA's FAF Version 5 has been released. This is freight movement data among states and major metropolitan areas by all modes of transportation produced by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) and FHWA. The information is available here: <https://faf.ornl.gov/faf5/>

### **B. Talking Freight Seminar: Trending Research in Freight Transportation Planning and Logistics, March 17, 2021, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. CST.:**

The Corpus Christi MPO continues to provide the TAC webinars, data, and other relevant information related to freight.

Mr. MacDonald requested TAC members to provide data and information for the freight chapter in the upcoming 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

**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>April 1, 2021</b>
<b>B. Technical Advisory Committee:</b>	<b>Regular Meeting:</b>	<b>April 15, 2021</b>

**9. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 A.M.