

**CORPUS CHRISTI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (CORPUS CHRISTI MPO)
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 20, 2023**

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

Chairperson Brian DeLatte called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

TAC Members Present:

Chairperson Brian DeLatte, P.E., City of Portland

Vice Chairperson Gordon Robinson, AICP, Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority

Jeff Pollack, ACIP, Port of Corpus Christi Authority

Howard Gillespie, San Patricio County

Paula Sales-Evans, P.E., TxDOT – Corpus Christi District (CRP)

Emily Martinez, Coastal Bend Council of Government (non-voting member)

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

2. Public Comments for Items not on the Agenda

None were made or offered.

3. Approval of the March 16, 2023, TAC Regular Meeting Minutes

Ms. Sales-Evans made a motion to approve the March 16, 2023, TAC Regular Meeting Minutes. Mr. DeLatte seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

4. Workshop

A. TxDOT 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) Project Discussion

The Corpus Christi MPO staff provided opportunities for the TAC members to discuss the 2024 UTP project nomination. The UTP is TxDOT's 10-year transportation program for Category 2 and 4 projects, and it is annually adopted by the Texas Transportation Commission in August. As the 2024 UTP Development Process Timeline indicates, the candidate mobility projects list is developed and the final cost estimate by District should be presented in April. Based on the most current funding forecast available, the Corpus Christi MPO is expecting to have approximately \$145 million for Category 2 and \$77 million for Category 4, a total of \$222 million as shown in the item 4A memo. Attachment 3 shows the projects currently proposed by the TxDOT-CRP. The total cost of these proposed projects is total \$297 million, \$234 million with Category 2 and \$62.5 million with Category 4, and there is a \$75 million shortfall with the estimated funding level. This should be discussed and resolved. Also, there is a new funding category, Category 10 Carbon Reduction (CAT 10 CR), and the Corpus Christi MPO is expecting approximately \$16 million over the next 10 years. The Corpus Christi MPO just received guidance for CAT 10 CR funding from TxDOT. This funding covers a wide range of eligible projects except for projects that add capacity. Eligible projects and programs included: traffic signal coordination, non-motorized transportation modes, and freight system improvements to reduce carbon emissions, and the money is currently available for programming. The majority of Texas MPOs are planning to use this fund to expedite the projects in their FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Since the Advanced Funding Agreement (AFA) process takes considerable time to complete, project selection for CAT 10 CR fund needs to consider projects that can move forward without delay. For example, TxDOT sponsored projects do not require the AFA and can move forward quickly. The Corpus Christi MPO is soliciting the TAC members' ideas and thoughts for this funding.

B. 2025 – 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Development Process Discussion

Mr. Casper presented Corpus Christi MPO's 2025 – 2050 MTP Development Process. The MTP is a long-range performance-based transportation plan MPOs are required to develop every five years and contains the 16 elements listed in federal law. These elements encompass sub-plans, programs, and other federally required documents that aim to achieve the seven national goals. These goals are supported by performance measures that are used to evaluate and select projects for funding. Mr Casper relayed that it may be that the MPO will not continue supporting the state measures if the TPC desires to fund capacity projects that are not on the NHS, because the state measure specifies reducing congestion on the NHS. The

essential components in an MTP are (1) Regional Safety Action Plan, (2) Regional Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO), (3) Congestion Management Process, (4) Active Transportation/Micro-Mobility Plan, (4) Complete Streets, (5) Freight, (6) Regional Transit Coordination Plan, (7) Safe System Plan, and (8) Risk and Resiliency. The development of MTP needs to follow the federally required public involvement process affirmed in the Corpus Christi MPO's Public Participation Plan (PPP) and Program for Addressing Discrimination (PAD). Mr. Casper provided the October 2022 TAC memo that listed and highlighted these federal requirements and the subtasks relevant to the MTP development listed in the Corpus Christi MPO's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Mr. Casper explained that MTP development involves other extensive procedures and discussions. First, the Corpus Christi MPO needs to discuss and determine its boundary. Then the functional classification of roadways will be conducted. The Corpus Christi MPO's Travel Demand Models will be developed based on the regional control total discussed and recommended by the Small Area Forecast Task Force and TAC.

The Corpus Christi MPO staff is closely working with consultants and other agencies for developing the sub-plans and acquiring necessary planning data and tools, for example, the Coordinated Public Transit Plan will be developed by the Coastal Bend Council of Government and incorporated into the 2025-2050 MTP, the Risk and Resiliency Plan will be developed in cooperation with Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies and the regional Emergency Management personnel. Economic development and tourism will be discussed with the area economic development organizations, the Chambers of Commerce, and the Visitors Bureau. Project Scoring Tools based on the Performance Measures will be developed by a consultant, a transportation analysis tools to evaluate transportation investment (TREDIS), and the Highway Economic Requirement Systems (HERS) data will be obtained as a part of sub-plan development. Currently, the Corpus Christi MPO staff is working on several consultant scopes and work authorizations and expects to issue the Notice to Proceed for these works soon. The team is also beginning the biennial update to the Program Addressing Discrimination. There have been two additional Executive Orders since the original adoption and these will also be incorporated. This update is due this summer.

The adoption of 2025 – 2050 MTP is planned for November 2024. The Corpus Christi MPO staff will bring the discussion and action items to the TAC as the DRAFT 2050 MTP is developed. The PAD is required to be updated and re-adopted in July 2023, and it will be brought to the TAC in the May meeting.

5. Information Items

A. CCRTA Fleet Forward 2022 Long Range System Plan Presentation

Mr. Robinson, CCRTA Director of Planning presented their Fleet Forward 2022 Long Range System Plan. This plan was for evaluating the CCRTA's existing transit services, performance and productivity, as well as identifying service needs to increase ridership and to prioritize their capital investment. This project started in January 2022 and was finalized in December 2022. As a result of demographic, socioeconomic, and cell phone data analyses, as well as public engagement, the recommended improvements are:

- Transfer connection improvement
- More frequent service on highest ridership locations (Ayers, Staples, Leopard)
- Increase the frequency and extend the service span on weekends and evenings

There was an inquiry about the Ferry Service. Mr. Robinson answered that the Ferry Feasibility Study was included in the Fleet Forward 2022 Long Range System Plan, but the study suggested the service is not considered as a daily commuter generator. CCRTA's Fleet Forward 2022 Final Report is available here: https://www.ccrta.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/CCRTA_FinalReport-010623-Final.pdf

B. Regional Safety Task Force Meeting of April 6, 2023 Recap

Mr. Casper informed the TAC of the Regional Safety Task Force meeting held on April 6, 2023. The agenda was provided as a reference. As mentioned in Item 4B, the Corpus Christi MPO staff is working on the development of the Regional Safety Action Plan scope of services with a consultant, and the draft scope of services was provided in the meeting. The demonstration of Vision Zero Suite analysis on six (6) locations was presented by the Corpus Christi MPO staff and it generated an active dialogue among the task force members.

The Regional Safety Task Force and TxDOT’s Wrong-way Driver Task Force will be merged and jointly discuss the safety issues in the region. The next meeting is scheduled on May 10, 2023, at the CCRTA 2nd floor Boardroom. The time will be determined after coordinating both task force members’ availability.

Ms. Sales-Evans suggested doing a poll to determine the preferred day and time for the Regional Safety Task Force meeting for better participation.

C. Small Area Forecast Task Force Meeting Preview

Mr. MacDonald provided the TAC of the Small Area Forecast Task Force meeting agenda that would be held after the TAC meeting. The Corpus Christi MPO staff would explain the purpose and roles of the Task Force, specifically recommending the Regional Control Total that is the foundation of the Corpus Christi MPO’s long-range transportation planning for travel demand models and future development scenarios. The kick-off meeting went successfully and three different population projections for Nueces and San Patricio Counties by Texas State Demographic Center, Woods and Poole, and Texas Water Board would be introduced and explained in the 2nd meeting. The Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) would also be introduced and explained. The scopes of Travel Demand Model development by PTV America and Socio-Economic Allocation Model Data Acquisition and Calibration by Freese and Nichols that would be based on the Task Force’s recommended Regional Control Total would be provided. The projected population of Aransas County will be added for the discussion in the May meeting, and employment projections in all three counties will be discussed once the data becomes available.

The meeting would be facilitated by the consultant once the Notice to Proceed is issued and signed.

6. Regional Grant Coordination Topic

A. Corpus Christi MPO Regional Coordination Group for Federal Transportation Grants

Mr. MacDonald provided the TAC with an updated Federal Discretionary Grant Summary Table. The FY 2022 Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants awarded projects were announced and Harris County and TxDOT were the awardees in Texas. The Notice of Funding Opportunities for Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) and Safe Streets and Road for All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant Programs were released, the deadline for CFI is May 30, 2023, and SS4A is July 10, 2023.

There was an announcement of additional awardees for the Bridge Investment Program. Goliad County US 59 San Antonio River Bridge Replacement Project by TxDOT-CRP was one of the awardees. The project description was distributed.

The Port of Corpus Christi’s agenda memorandum and PowerPoint presentation for the US Department of Transportation Port Infrastructure Development Program application were provided.

7. TAC Member Statements on Local Agency Activities or Items of Interest

Mr. DeLatta informed the TAC that the Broadway Boulevard Improvement project starts on May 1, 2023. This project includes new paved lanes, storm inlet adjustment, new ADA ramps, sidewalks, pavement striping, signage, and installation of traffic signals.

8. Upcoming Meetings/Events:

A. Transportation Policy Committee:	Regular Meeting	May 11, 2023
B. Regional Traffic Safety Task Force:	Meeting	May 10, 2023
C. Technical Advisory Committee:	Regular Meeting	May 18, 2023
D. Small Area Forecast Task Force	Meeting	May 18, 2023

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.