

**CORPUS CHRISTI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE (TPC) MEETING MINUTES**

December 5, 2019

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

TPC Chair Judge Krebs called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. at the City of Corpus Christi Council Chambers.

TPC Members Present:

Judge David Krebs, Chair, San Patricio County

Mr. Charles Zahn, Vice Chair, Port of Corpus Christi Authority

Mayor Cathy Skurow, City of Portland

Mayor Joe McComb, City of Corpus Christi

Mr. Eddie Martinez, Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority

Mr. Valente Olivarez Jr., Texas Department of Transportation Corpus Christi

Ms. Melissa Vera, Assistant Chief of Administration, Nueces County

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

2. Introduction of Visiting Agency Officials

Judge Krebs thanked the public for attending.

3. Public Comments for items not on the Agenda

Judge Krebs called for public comments for items not on the agenda.

1st Public Comment: Dr. Guy Watts first thanked TPC members for their strong leadership. He requested TPC to address the rapid development of City's Southside, specifically the Veterans Memorial High School Campus, newly constructing Del Mar College Southside Campus, and new residential subdivisions, which requires transportation projects such as the Rodd Field Road extension and Regional Parkway to move forward.

2nd Public Comment: Mr. Gil Hernandez, City of Corpus Christi Council Member District 5, also requested the TPC to move forward the Rodd Field Road Extension and Regional Parkway that connects Padre Island and SH 286 (Crosstown Expressway) to address the projected traffic increase due to Del Mar College Southside Campus and other business and residential development in the Southside. He also mentioned these projects would improve the connection to the Flour Bluff area.

Judge Krebs thanked the individuals for the comments.

4. Approval of the November 7, 2019 TPC Regular Meeting Minutes

Mayor McComb made a motion to approve the November 7, 2019 TPC Meeting Minutes. Mr. Martinez seconded; motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion and Possible Action

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

Mr. MacDonald briefed the TPC that the two I-37 projects (CSJ#0074-06-241 is in the MPO boundary and CSJ#0074-05-098 is outside the MPO) received additional funding and the FY 2019-2022 TIP needs to be amended to reflect this change. The additional funding, \$25 million for CSJ#0074-06-241 and \$12 million for CSJ#0074-05-098, is already approved by the Texas Transportation Commission in the 2020 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) which was updated this past summer with new funding amounts. The Corpus Christi MPO published a Public Notice regarding these two projects and has been soliciting public comments in accordance with the MPO's Public Participation Plan.

Mayor McComb made a motion to approve to amend FY 2019-2022 TIP. Mayor Skurow seconded; motion passed unanimously.

B-L 2020-2045 MTP Chapters Actions

Mr. MacDonald reported that the Chapter 5: Existing System and Forecast Transportation Needs, Chapter 8: Congestion Management and Operations, Chapter 10: Safety, and Chapter 11: Security and Resiliency are currently in the final development phase, and not yet ready for the TAC or TPC to review. Chapter 9: Freight Planning was distributed to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and is currently being revised with the comments from the Port of Corpus Christi Authority (PCCA).

Judge Krebs proposed to Table the following Discussion and Possible Action Items due to these chapters are not yet available for distribution:

5-F: 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 5: Existing System and Forecast Transportation Needs

5-I: 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 8: Congestion Management and Operations

5-J: 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 9: Freight Planning

5-K; 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 10: Safety

5-L: 2020-2045 MTP Chapter 11: Security and Resiliency

Mr. Zahn made a motion to Table these Discussion and Possible Action Items. Mr. Olivarez Jr. seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. MacDonald told the TPC that these chapters would be ready for the next TPC meeting in January and the MPO is planning the adoption of the 2020-2045 MTP at the TPC meeting in February.

Mr. Zahn stated that the following chapters were reviewed and there are no public comments on these chapters, and he proposed a motion to approve these chapters:

2020-2045 MTP Chapter 2: Planning Requirements Agency Coordination and Public Outreach

2020-2045 MTP Chapter 3: Planning Framework

2020-2045 MTP Chapter 4: Demographics and Forecasting

2020-2045 MTP Chapter 6: Financial Plan

2020-2045 MTP Chapter 7: Implementation Plan

Mayor McComb seconded; motion passed unanimously.

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

Mr. MacDonald requested the TPC release Chapter 12: Strategic Plan for Active Mobility Phase 1: Bicycle Mobility Plan for the required 30-day public comment period. The Strategic Plan for Active Mobility Phase 1 was adopted 3 years ago and is still the most current Corpus Christi MPO's Bicycle Plan. This Plan was presented as an appendix item and approved by the TPC on October 3, 2019.

Mr. Martinez made a motion to approve to release Chapter 12: Strategic Plan for Active Mobility Phase 1: Bicycle Mobility Plan for 30-days public comment period. Mr. Zahn seconded; motion passed unanimously.

N. Public Comment Opportunity for 2020-2045 MTP

No public comments were offered.

O. Draft Congestion Management Process (CMP) Revision

Mr. Casper provided a brief overview for the TPC members on the CMP:

The CMP is a Federally required, strictly structured process that MPOs with 200,000+ populations are required to develop since 1992. The CMP is not a plan, but a process, that should be continuously updated with new data, technologies, Performance Measures, and other factors to manage the

congestion, and is required to be updated every 5 years. The CMP consists of 8 steps: 1. Develop CMP objectives, 2. Identify Area of Application, 3. Define System/Network of Interest, 4. Develop Performance Measures, 5. Institute System Performance Monitoring Plan, 6. Identify/Evaluate Strategies, 7. Implement Selected Strategies/Managing System, and 8. Monitor Strategy Effectiveness. The MPO has currently 41 corridors of concern within the CMP that are National Highway System, Freight routes, and Evacuation routes. These corridors vary in the level of traffic congestion and separated into 2 layers: (1) corridors currently congested and (2) corridors currently not congested but forecasted as future congested corridors in 2045. The MPO hired a consultant to collect data for the previous CMP, and now because of the advanced phone app technologies, the more precise data is available and provided by TxDOT and other sources with no cost to the MPO. The MPO identified congested points on these corridors and 6-tiers mitigation steps to address congestion fundamentally utilizing the existing transportation systems as much as possible without adding capacity. Traffic crashes are the major non-recurring cause of congestion; thus, the crash analysis is the important element in the CMP.

Mayor McComb inquired about the accuracy of the data collection by smart phones, such as if 4 people with 4 phones in one car, how does it collect accurate data that 4 phones in one car instead of 4 cars, and if this data is collected anonymously.

Mr. Casper told there are about 13 apps to track the person's travel direction, speed, and destination by downloading these apps and it provides millions of the data points we need for the development of the CMP. This data is collected anonymously. In addition to the data collected by the smart phone apps, there are methods where separate data collected by two traffic counters and these 2-dimensional datasets are analyzed as a whole to evaluate the level of congestion.

Mayor Skurow asked the definition of corridor. Mr. Casper answered that the corridors are generally (1) highway routes, (2) parallel non-motorized system (i.e. bicycle paths) that connect to the same destination, and (3) transit, light rail routes adjacent to roadway corridors

Judge Krebs asked if the 41 corridors of concern are in the MPO boundary or in the MPO study area. Mr. Mendieta answered these 41 corridors of concern are in the MPO boundary. Mr. Casper showed the corridor map in the draft CMP that would be available for the review in the next TAC and TPC meeting.

Mr. MacDonald reported that the draft Revised CMP was needed to be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) due to the 2017 Federal Certification Review result. It was submitted to FHWA on November 29, 2019 and is currently under review. The MPO will distribute the CMP to the TAC and TPC for review and approvals.

6. Information Only

A. 2020-2045 MTP Development Working Schedule Monthly Update

Mr. MacDonald reported that the MPO will hold a Public Meeting/Open House #4 in Flour Bluff Junior High School Cafeteria on December 12, 2019. The MPO is aiming at the release of the remaining 2020-2045 MTP Chapters at the January TPC meeting with a month-long public comment period, and the official adoption of 2020-2045 MTP at the February TPC meeting.

7. TPC Member Comments on Items of Community Interest: Information Only with No Discussion

Mayor McComb inquired about the status of the Rodd Field Road Extension and Regional Parkway. Mr. McGinn, Director of the City of Corpus Christi Planning Department answered that the Regional Parkway Feasibility Study had conducted in several years ago, and the City of Corpus Christi recently adopted the Rodd Field Road Extension Project that connects to the Regional Parkway/SH 286 in the Corpus Christi Transportation Plan.

Mayor McComb inquired about the status of the Park Road 22 (PR 22) and SH 361 intersection. Mr. MacDonald answered the feasibility study is programmed in the short-range plan (4 years), FY 2021-2024, as ranked project #16. Mayor McComb stated that the PR 22 interchange improvement is an urgent issue to be solved. Since the actual construction happens after the feasibility study means that would take years, the feasibility study needs to be accelerated.

Mr. Zahn mentioned that the rapid residential development in Port Aransas also add more traffic on PR 22.

Mr. MacDonald explained that the development of FY 2021-2024 TIP would start within a couple of months, and the TAC would discuss the projects and its programmed year, but PR 22 projects should be discussed between the City of Corpus Christi and TxDOT – CRP for its scope, cost and schedule.

Mr. Olivarez Jr. pointed out the PR 22 feasibility study has been allocated \$1.5 million and it is possible to move the project up in the TIP, however; the TAC needs to discuss and recommend the TIP projects list in the regional priority to the TPC.

Mr. Olivarez Jr. informed the TPC members that the Texas Transportation Commissioners visit to the TxDOT – CRP District will occur on January 9, 2020. Mr. Olivarez Jr. will invite the TPC members, the MPO, and local partner agencies to meet with the Commissioner in the morning of January 9. The Commissioner will visit the Ferry Operations at the Port Aransas in the afternoon of January 9. More detailed information will be provided as it becomes available.

Mr. Olivarez Jr. also provide the status of new Harbor Bridge project. The design work of the new Harbor Bridge by FIGG Bridge Engineers Inc., was suspended by TxDOT based on the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)'s investigation on the Florida International University's pedestrian bridge collapse found that was caused by design flaws by FIGG Bridge Engineers Inc. The design work of Harbor Bridge is 50% conventional bridge and interchange and 50% Cable-Stayed Main Span that is the most complex part of the bridge design. TxDOT immediately suspended the FIGG Bridge Engineers' design work upon the NTSB findings and is currently discussing how to move this engineering design portion of the project forward. The construction is still on-going, the design work went through multi-level review process, and TxDOT will ensure the safety of the Harbor Bridge Project.

Mayor McComb inquired if this delays the completion of Harbor Bridge construction. Mr. Olivarez Jr. answered it was a possibility, but TxDOT is not able to fully estimate the impact of this design work suspension. The construction work by Flatiron/Dragados continues, and once TxDOT makes the decision and knows the impact, the information will be provided.

Mr. Zahn thanked Mr. Olivarez, Jr., who represented the Corpus Christi area at the I-69 Alliance for his excellent representation during the meeting in Houston.

Judge Krebs Proposed to reschedule January TPC meeting from January 2, 2020 to January 9, 2020. Mr. Martinez made a motion to reschedule January TPC meeting from January 2, 2020 to January 9, 2020. Mr. Olivarez, Jr., seconded; motion passed unanimously.

8. Upcoming Meetings:

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| A. 2020-2045 MTP Public Meeting #4: | December 12, 2019 |
| B. Technical Advisory Committee: | Regular Meeting: December 19, 2019 |
| C. Transportation Policy Committee: | Rescheduled Meeting: January 9, 2020 |

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:46 p.m.