

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

December 3, 2020

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, Jr. Vice Chair, Port of Corpus Christi Authority
Mayor Cathy Skurow, City of Portland
Mayor Joe McComb, City of Corpus Christi
Judge Barbara Canales, Nueces County
Mr. Eddie Martinez, Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority
Mr. Valente Olivarez, Jr., Texas Department of Transportation Corpus Christi District
Ms. Mary Esther Guerra, Assistant County Attorney, Nueces County Attorney's Office

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

2. Public Comments for items not on the Agenda

Due to COVID-19, no in-person comment was allowed. Mr. MacDonald informed the TPC and the public there were no public comments submitted for items on the Agenda nor not on the Agenda as of December 3, 2020 at 2:05 p.m.

3. Approval of the September 3, 2020 TPC Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Zahn made a motion to approve the September 3, 2020 TPC Meeting Minutes. Mayor Skurow seconded; motion passed unanimously.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

A. Process Debrief for the 2045 MTP, FY 2021-2024 TIP, and CMP Survey

Mr. Casper followed up the 2045 MTP, FY 2021-2024 TIP, and CMP Survey distributed to TPC members last week. The MTP, TIP, and CMP are three major federally required documents the Corpus Christi MPO needs to develop. The Corpus Christi MPO developed these three documents in FY 2020 and has started the 4-year cycle to develop the next ones. It is critical to revisit the development process and identify areas that need improvement. The Corpus Christi MPO created a survey and asked planning partner agency representatives including the TAC, TxDOT, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and so forth, and another survey for the TPC. Mr. Casper informed that six responses have been submitted from TPC members and thanked them for the prompt response. He asked to submit the survey if they have not already done so. So far, the overall score seems acceptable. The lowest score is 6.3 and the highest score is 8.5. The responses are reviewed and discussed by the TAC and recommendations would be brought to the TPC.

Mr. Zahn commented that some questions were difficult to answer because of the lack of necessary information.

Mr. Casper acknowledged that the Corpus Christi MPO could not provide the necessary data and information due to the limited time and resources to develop these three documents in FY 2020. The Corpus Christi MPO is expecting to get the necessary numbers, data, and information for the next development process, however; it is difficult to collect the data that reflects regular traffic counts and patterns until the pandemic is controlled.

Mayor Skurow stated that she provided her comments electronically. Mr. Casper thanked her for her survey participation and stated all comments will be reviewed and discussed.

TPC APPROVED MINUTES

Mayor McComb made a motion to approve the 2045 MTP, FY 2021-2024 TIP, and CMP Survey process. Mr. Olivarez Jr. seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. MacDonald appreciated the TPC for reviewing, participating, and commenting on the 2045 MTP, FY 2021- 2024 TIP, and CMP Survey.

5. INFORMATION ONLY ITEM:

A. TxDOT Update on 2022 Unified Transportation Program (UTP)

Ms. Sales-Evans, Director of Transportation Planning & Development, TxDOT-CRP briefed on the TxDOT's 2022 UTP development status.

The UTP is TxDOT's 10-year transportation plan that is approved annually by the Texas Transportation Commission. The 2021 UTP was approved in August 2020. The 2022 UTP is currently under the development. There are two major takeaways in the 2022 UTP: (1) Due to the pandemic and its impact on economy, the expected planning cash forecast is expected to decrease, (2) TxDOT implemented a new process to include additional costs such as contingencies, allowances, and so forth other than the base construction cost, and to consider inflation rates in estimating project cost. For example, in the four year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), 4% is added in the second year, 8% is added in the third year, and 12% is added in the fourth year and beyond as an inflation rate.

These two factors require TxDOT district offices and MPOs to adjust the FY 2021-2024 TIP. The TxDOT Corpus Christi District will be approximately \$36 to \$38 million short in FY 2022. The TxDOT Transportation Planning and Programming (TPP) Division will provide a more accurate funding forecast in early January and the Corpus Christi MPO needs to update the FY 2021-2024 TIP with the new cost estimate by January 2021, and amend the FY 2021-2024 TIP based on the available funding allocation provided by TPP in February 2021.

Mayor McComb inquired the accuracy of the inflation rate. Ms. Sales-Evans answered that the percentage is determined as the standardized number state-wide, to get more realistic total projection cost to be fiscally constrained.

Mayor Skurow asked if the inflation rate will be 4% for the first and second year, 8% for the third year, and 12% for the fourth and beyond years. Ms. Sales-Evans clarified that the inflation rates are 0% for year one and 4% for year two. Inflation rates for years three and four are as noted above.

Mayor Skurow also inquired the recent 2020 UTP amendment. Mr. Olivarez Jr. explained that amending the UTP is very rare, but the Texas Transportation Commission amended 2020 UTP to secure funding for the previous commitment as an exceptional case.

Mr. MacDonald told the TPC that the Corpus Christi MPO staff will work closely with TxDOT Corpus Christi District, TAC members, and TxDOT TPP Division and facilitate the discussion and recommendation for the FY 2021-2024 TIP amendments. Which he will bring back to the TPC for approval.

6. Member Agency Statements for Items of Community Interest: Upcoming events or holidays and acknowledgements

Judge Krebs thanked the TPC members and the Corpus Christi MPO staff for their diligent work, especially in this difficult time under pandemic, but he hopes the situation will be better. He wished a very Merry Christmas to all.

7. Upcoming Meetings:

A. Technical Advisory Committee:	Regular Meeting:	December 17, 2020
B. Transportation Policy Committee:	Regular Meeting:	January 7, 2021

8. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.