

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

**June 3, 2021**

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

TPC Chair Judge Krebs called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in 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

Mr. Eddie Martinez, Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority

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

Mayor Paulette M. Guajardo, City of Corpus Christi

Ms. Mary Esther-Guerra, Nueces County Assistant Attorney

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

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

There were no public comments submitted for non-agenda items as of June 3, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

**3. Approval of the May 6, 2021, Transportation Policy Committee meeting minutes**

Mr. Zahn made a motion to approve the May 6, 2021, TPC Meeting Minutes. Mr. Olivarez, Jr., seconded; motion passed unanimously.

**4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

**A. Corpus Christi MPO FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 3**

Mr. MacDonald explained the proposed Corpus Christi MPO FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment 3 per the recent discussions with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and TxDOT. The primary reason for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Amendment to FY 2021-2024 TIP is for clarification of grouped projects and the prior acceptance of TxDOT Performance Measures (PM) 1, 2, and 3 targets. Specific changes included:

- Remove “although the Corpus Christi MPO is only using this option for Bicycle and Pedestrian category at this time.” on Table 18, TxDOT Definition of Group Project for clarification on pages 54-55. The Corpus Christi MPO prefers to list transportation projects individually for transparency, however; the hike and bike projects are more suitable for the grouped-project category due to the factors such as funding allocation and project selection process. The sentence was inserted there for explanatory purposes; however, to avoid the implication to exclude other eligible grouped-project categories, FHWA/FTA/TxDOT recommended removing it.
- Insert “For Illustration Purposes Only” in FY 2021-2024 TIP with Amendment 3 Fiscally Constrained Project Table (Table 13a. & 13b.). This table was designed for the general public as a more readable format of all transportation projects in the Corpus Christi MPO boundary in FY 2021-2024 S/TIP. FHWA/FTA/TxDOT suggested to add “For Illustration Purposes Only” to distinguish it from the main TxDOT STIP-formatted project table.
- Confirm that the Corpus Christi MPO’s PM 1 (Safety), PM 2 (Pavement/Bridge Conditions), and PM 3 (System Performance) targets are all intended to support the State targets. The Corpus Christi MPO adopted the PM 1 targets on March 4, 2021. These targets were proportionately estimated for the MPO area to achieve the State targets. The PM 2 and PM 3 targets were initially approved by TPC on November 1, 2018, readopted as part of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) on February 6, 2020, and then again reaffirmed on June 2020 as

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part of the FY 2021-2024 TIP adoption. The Corpus Christi MPO sent an explanatory e-mail with attachments to FHWA/FTA/TxDOT regarding the PM targets on May 11, 2021. The e-mail and attachments are provided in the June 3, 2021 TPC agenda packet as Agenda Item 4A - Attachment 1.

The other proposed changes are mostly administrative corrections, and they are listed in the cover memo for Item 4A:

- Add Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) approved dates for Amendments #1 and #3 on the coversheet
- Correct Appendix to Appendices in the Table of Contents
- Update Table 13a and 13b on pages 34-35 with TxDOT FY 2021-2024 State TIP (STIP) information and remove “DRAFT”
- Insert Table 16 TxDOT FY 2021-2024 STIP Corpus Christi MPO – Transit Projects on pages 42-52
- Insert Table 17 TxDOT TIP Transit Financial Summary – Year of Expenditure Cost on page 53
- Remove yellow highlights and change red font to black font from FY 2021-2024 Transit Project List on pages 57-58
- Insert Public Notices #21-1 and #21-2 as Appendix C on pages 69-74
- Insert the TPC March 4, 2021 and April 1, 2021 meeting minutes as Appendix D on pages 79-84
- Correct the Table 9. Operational Performance and Congestion Targets Travel Time Reliability Index column headers from “2020 Measured” and “2022 Measured” to “2020 Targets” and “2022 Targets” respectively.

Mr. MacDonald requested that the TPC release the proposed FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment #3 for a 30-day public comment period. The Corpus Christi MPO solicits public comments and expects the TPC approval on July 1, 2021.

Mr. Martinez made a motion to approve the release of FY 2021-2024 TIP with Amendment 3 for the 30-day public comment period. Mayor Skurow seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

#### **B. DRAFT Corpus Christi MPO Program for Addressing Discrimination**

Mr. Casper provided the DRAFT Corpus Christi MPO Program for Addressing Discrimination (PAD). In the May TPC meeting, the Corpus Christi MPO provided the DRAFT Public Participation Plan (PPP) 2021. These two documents are intrinsically linked. While the 2021 PPP is a document for a comprehensive plan for public involvement in transportation decision-making, the PAD is a document to address four specific areas: Title VI, Environmental Justice (EJ), Limited English Proficiency (LEP), and Racial Equity.

As a recipient of federal funds, the Corpus Christi MPO is required to prevent discrimination in any forms in its activities and programs by the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Executive Orders 12898, 13166, and 13175. Most recently, the Biden Administration issued another Executive Order in January 2021, EO 13985 “Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government” which addresses Racial Equity issues and systemic discrimination.

The DRAFT Corpus Christi MPO Program for Addressing Discrimination describes the Title VI, Racial Equity, Environmental Justice, and Limited English Proficiency requirements and lays out the Corpus Christi MPO’s strategies and procedures that assure the full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities in the transportation decision-making process in detail. The Corpus Christi MPO is required to do the following in order to be certified:

- Evaluate and improve the public involvement processes to eliminate participation barriers and engage disadvantaged populations in transportation decision-making,

- Identify the residential and employment locations and transportation needs of disadvantaged communities,
- Determine if the needs of the disadvantaged communities are addressed equitably and that the benefits and burdens of transportation investments are fairly distributed,
- Perform analyses that ensure that the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) comply with federal discrimination laws and regulations.

The Executive Order, Achieving Racial Equity (ARE) is still new and there is no final guidance available at this time. Once the guidance becomes available, the document will be reviewed and updated accordingly.

Mr. Casper emphasized the importance to reach out to the underserved population groups such as racial minorities, low-income, and limited English proficiency. Demographic data analysis and profiling are essential to identify these groups the Corpus Christi MPO needs to reach out to and brings equitable outcomes. The ARE aims at improving accessibility and mobility for underserved population groups and also reviews historical actions that need to be corrected.

The Corpus Christi MPO is expecting the TAC recommendation of the DRAFT Corpus Christi MPO 2021 Program for Addressing Discrimination in June and the TPC approval in July jointly with the Corpus Christi MPO 2021 PPP.

Mr. Zahn made a motion to approve the release of the DRAFT Update Corpus Christi MPO 2021 Program for Addressing Discrimination for the 30-day Public Comment Period. Mayor Guajardo seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

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

### **A. DRAFT Corpus Christi MPO 2021 Public Participation Plan (PPP)**

The DRAFT Corpus Christi MPO 2021 Public Participation Plan (PPP) has been released for the 45-day Public Comment Period on May 6, 2021 with the TPC's approval. This item is provided for soliciting the TPC members' and public's comments. The Corpus Christi MPO has provided 60-day, four in-person public comment opportunities (two TAC meetings and two TPC meetings) for the adoption of the Corpus Christi MPO PPP 2021.

Mr. MacDonald informed the TPC that the additional key elements of the Corpus Christi MPO 2021 PPP are as follows:

- Planning and Programming Roadmap that provides the chronological, detailed planning schedule for key decisions to follow the necessary steps (page 23),
- Socio-economic Control Totals Adoption by analyzing several sources to get an accurate forecast for future population, employment and so forth as much as possible (page 23),
- Approve Process for Updating the MTP describes the systematic documentation of the MTP development process and decisions (page 25),
- Scenario Development for various factors such as land-use patterns and funding levels that is essential for the 20 to 25 years MTP development (pages 25-26).
- Approve Regional Deficiencies is a formal effort to identify the current or future system issue locations that needed interventions (page 27),
- Preferred Portfolio Assembly is developing a list of prioritized projects with costs, sequence, and applicable revenue consideration for next 10-years based on the Performance Measures target (page 30).

Mr. MacDonald stated that the Corpus Christi 2021 PPP and the Corpus Christi MPO 2021 Program for Addressing Discrimination are the key documents to guide the federally required public involvement in the long-range and short-range transportation planning process.

The Corpus Christi MPO 2021 PPP is still in development and additional paragraphs and edits can be seen in the track changes. The public comment period is open until July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. The Corpus Christi MPO is expecting the adoption of the Corpus Christi MPO 2021 PPP and the Corpus Christi MPO 2021 Program for Addressing Discrimination by the TPC at the July TPC meeting.

There were no comments submitted.

**6. Proposed Executive Session: Annual Evaluation of the MPO’s Transportation Planning Director**

Judge Krebs announced that the Committee will go into Executive Session under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to discuss the annual evaluation of the Corpus Christi MPO Transportation Planning Director and will return to open session. The Committee went into Executive Session at 2:35 p.m. The Committee returned from Executive Session at 2:55 p.m. and reconvened 2:56 p.m.

**7. Possible Actions to Amend the Employment Contract of the Transportation Planning Director.**

Mr. Zahn made a motion to table this item Mr. Olivarez, Jr., seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

**8. Member Agency Statements for Items of Community Interest: Upcoming events or holidays and acknowledgement.**

None offered.

**9. Upcoming Meetings:**

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|--|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>A. Technical Advisory Committee:</b>    | <b>Regular Meeting:</b> | <b>June 17, 2021</b> |
| <b>B. Transportation Policy Committee:</b> | <b>Regular Meeting:</b> | <b>July 1, 2021</b>  |

**10. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.