

representatives of the Regional Coordination Group for Federal Transportation Grants, so regional coordination will be discussed.

C. Census Urban Area Update

Mr. Casper reported on the status of the Census Urban Area determination. This Urban Area determination is important because the Census population number affects the Corpus Christi MPO and the Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (CCRTA) federal funding levels.

The Census Bureau changed the criteria for how urban areas delineated from population density to housing units (regardless of the occupancy status) or population density (two and a half people per household.) The Census Bureau released the population numbers in December for each urban area but not the map showing the boundaries. The Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) Boundary should encompass the entire urban area plus the area that the 2050 Small Area Forecast states would become an urban area. The federal rules also allow the MPA to mirror the Metropolitan Statistical Area boundary and include all Nueces County and San Patricio County, but this change will not affect the Corpus Christi MPO's funding amount because that is determined by the population of the Census Designated Urban Area only.

Judge Krebs inquired what would be the next step. Mr. Casper answered that the next step is the Census Bureau's release of maps and then working with FHWA on the Adjusted Urban Area Boundary

Mr. Olivarez Jr., inquired about the expected duration of this process. Mr. Casper answered that within 180 days, the Corpus Christi MPO staff will adjust the Urban Area with the TAC, TxDOT, and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to make it a smooth boundary with functional classification changes. Mr. Casper mentioned that based on the State Demographer's growth forecast presented in the December TPC meeting, he would not expect a major change in the MPO boundary, however; the TPC could choose the Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) boundary or another boundary such as the consolidated metropolitan boundary like seven counties. MSA is the study area and larger than MPA.

Mr. MacDonald stated that the Small Area Forecast Task Force will be formed and start discussing the forecasting growth in the region that is important for the Corpus Christi MPO's long-range transportation plan. The Corpus Christi MPO staff will provide any updates on the Census release information and our Urban Area designation.

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

None was made or offered.

8. Upcoming Meetings:

- A. **Technical Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Workshop:** **January 19, 2023**
- B. **Transportation Policy Committee Regular Meeting:** **February 2, 2023**

9. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.