

**CORPUS CHRISTI METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)**  
**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING NOTES**  
**Thursday, July 19, 2018**

**1. Call to Order and Quorum determination**

Mr. Brian DeLatte called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Brian DeLatte, P.E., City of Portland, Dr. Raymond Chong, P.E., City of Corpus Christi, David Krams, P.E., Port Corpus Christi; Gordon Robinson, Corpus Christi RTA; Paula Sales-Evans, P.E., TxDOT- Corpus Christi District; Commissioner Howard Gillespie, San Patricio County; Juan Pimentel, P.E., Nueces County

Staff Present: Brigida Gonzalez, Daniel Carrizales, Victor Mendieta, Elena Buentello and Yoshiko Boulan.

**2. Introduction of visiting agency officials**

**A. Introduction of new TAC Chair – Mr. Brian DeLatte, City of Portland Assistant City Manager**

In accordance with MPO bylaws, Mr. Brian DeLatte - Vice Chair of TAC, assumes the role of TAC Chair in the absence of the TAC Chair and he will serve until the next regular election of Chair in January 2019.

**B. Introduction of new TAC member representing Nueces County – Mr. Juan Pimentel, P.E., County Engineer**

Mr. Juan Pimentel, P.E., County Engineer was welcomed as the new Nueces County representative.

**3. Public Comments on Agenda Items**

Mr. DeLatte asked for public comments on agenda items; no public comments were offered.

**4. Presentation**

**A. Padre Island Mobility and Access Management Study**

Dr. Raymond Chong, City of Corpus Christi Traffic Engineer, presented the Padre Island Mobility and Access Management Study conducted by Maldonado-Burkett Intelligent Transportation Systems, LLP. The study areas include SH 361, Park Road 22 (PR 22) and adjacent arterials. The purpose of this study is to develop short- and long-term strategic interventions to enhance the operational efficiency on the existing infrastructure. The 29 intersections and 108 driveways in the study area contribute to safety issues and a Level of Service (LOS) predicted to worsen in the coming years. Numerous interventions ranging from sidewalks to superstreet concepts were proposed.

Development of a preliminary schematic, implementation plan, schedule and a feasibility study to identify the alternative engineering interventions are needed. The City of Corpus Christi is considering a Padre Island Access Management Initiative as a Bond 2018 Proposition B project. A corridor upgrade project for PR 22 is currently programmed in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) in FY 2025 using Category 2 funding.

Mr. Krams asked if the predicted LOS and 4% growth rate were used. Dr. Chong explained the LOS is the reasonable prediction based on the Travel Demand Model (TDM). Mr. Krams also asked if the short term improvements were phased and if they would be integrated into the long-term recommended improvements. Dr. Chong said the study has been presented to the Padre Island Action Committee.

Ms. Sales-Evans verified \$16M for the PR 22 corridor upgrade is programmed in the MTP; however, the superstreet concept needs further study. She also asked if the City will take the lead in developing the schematic. Dr. Chong replied that next steps will include jurisdictional coordination between TxDOT and City. Dr. Chong also added that Bond 2018 projects will be an interim improvement and may reduce the estimated \$18.94M budget for the superstreet project.

Mr. DeLatte asked whether future LOS would be impacted by the Regional Parkway. Dr. Chong replied that LOS could be impacted if there is another route to the island.

Mr. Robinson addressed transit service on the island. He stated the RTA has increased service and the current route, previously seasonal, is now year-around and the ridership has increased over 100%. The

beach bus service was discontinued due to the low ridership. The RTA is using a different approach to grow ridership through flexible service that uses a smaller vehicle and picks up riders at designated locations at a scheduled time based on the rider's advanced trip request.

## **5. Discussion and Possible Action**

### **A. Election of a Vice-Chair for TAC**

Per MPO bylaws and due to the vacancy of the Vice Chair (Mr. DeLatte, Vice Chair assumed the Chair role), a new Vice Chair must be elected to fill the position until January 2019.

Nominations were taken and Dr. Chong was selected as the new Vice Chair.

### **B. Planning Agreement for Metropolitan Transportation Planning**

Ms. Gonzalez explained that the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Contract is used to identify the responsibilities of the parties involved in carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning process between the MPO, TxDOT and the MPO's fiscal agent, Nueces County. The new contract is set to renew October 1, 2018 and expire September 30, 2024. Minor clarifications and refinements in the contract's language were identified, but otherwise the basic responsibilities of the parties remain the same.

Mr. Krams made a motion to recommend approval of the renewed Metropolitan Transportation Planning Agreement to the Transportation Policy Committee. Commissioner Gillespie seconded; motion passed unanimously.

## **6. Discussion Only**

### **A. Member Agency Projects Status online map on MPO website**

Ms. Gonzalez presented an updated list of projects currently being undertaken by member agencies. She introduced Ms. Elena Buentello and Mr. Victor Mendieta to present on the updated list and newly developed map showing member agencies' current projects in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Ms. Buentello stated the objectives of this task were to provide continued agency transparency by providing an informational tool for committee members, stakeholders, and the public to use. Future iterations of the project status map will eventually include long-range projects. The project's initiative was inspired by TxDOT's Project Tracker. Mr. Mendieta illustrated key map navigation options available. TAC members will have the opportunity to provide updated project information during monthly TAC meetings. Once the map is finalized and available on the MPO website, MPO staff will notify TAC members.

## **7. Freight Topics**

### **A. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Talking Freight Seminar**

Ms. Gonzalez reported on FHWA's recent seminar related to the logistical challenges communities and regions face when recovering from disaster and other large-scale events. Ms. Boulan stated the seminar highlighted the importance and the need for state and local government officials to engage with private sector partners in solutions related to emergency management.

## **8. Staff Briefing**

### **A. Interim MPO Director appointment**

Ms. Gonzalez stated she has been appointed Interim MPO Transportation Planning Director effective July 9, 2018. The director position has been posted and advertised.

### **B. Selection of Coastal Engineering Service Provider for Laguna Shore Road Project**

Ms. Gonzalez reminded members of the MPO's selection for FHWA's Resilience and Durability to Extreme Weather Grant project. A resolution, capturing the MPO's commitment and agreement to enter into a Non-construction Advanced Funding Agreement (AFA) with TxDOT, will be presented to TPC in August.

### **C. Nueces County Medical Society Health Fair – Bike Mobility Survey**

Ms. Gonzalez stated a bike mobility survey was initially conducted in 2015 as part of the Strategic Plan for Active Mobility development. MPO is now following up with an electronical survey as well as one-on-one interviews during the August 11, 2018 Nueces County Medical Society Health Fair. The MPO's success in previous feedback efforts at this event are noted. The event's population reflects the audience our survey is intent on reaching – a health-minded community member inclined to use bicycles as a mode of transportation.

**D. Transportation Policy Committee Meeting – August 2, 2018**

Mrs. Gonzalez reminded TAC members of the next TPC meeting and encouraged members to follow up with their TPC delegates regarding their actions during TAC's meeting.

**9. TAC Members' Comments and Concerns**

Dr. Chong informed the TAC that the widening project on Rodd Field Road from Saratoga Boulevard to Yorktown Boulevard will be proposed in August 2018 City Council meeting.

**10. Future Agenda Items**

Mr. Robinson stated RTA is making improvements to their Sunday Service Schedules and offered to provide TAC members with a presentation outlining the changes once improvements are finalized.

**11. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 pm.