

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

JULY 14, 2016

1. Call to Order and Quorum Determination:

Judge Simpson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers.

Judge Simpson, San Patricio County; Mr. Caron, Texas Department of Transportation – Corpus Christi District (TxDOT); Mr. Zahn, Port of Corpus Christi Authority; Mr. Rock, Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (RTA); Mayor Martinez, City of Corpus Christi; Mayor Krebs, City of Portland; Judge Neal, Nueces County; & Mr. Buckner, Coastal Bend Council of Governments were present.

Staff present: Jeff Pollack, Brigida Gonzalez, Vilma Jasso, Daniel Carrizales, Victor Mendieta, and Elena Buentello.

2. Introduction of Visiting Agency Officials:

The TPC welcomed members of the community, the Technical Advisory Committee Members, TxDOT representatives and City Staff.

3. Approval of the May 5, 2016 TPC Meeting Minutes:

Judge Simpson called for approval of the minutes of the regular TPC meeting of May 5, 2016.

Mayor Martinez made a motion to approve the TPC meeting minutes; Mayor Krebs seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Presentation:

Regional Parkway Planning Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study.

Mr. Pollack introduced a presentation by Bob Leahy, project manager from HDR, by reminding the TPC that the Regional Parkway PEL study, which has been underway in earnest since last fall, builds upon the corridor feasibility study, completed in 2013. The feasibility study, which found that a regional parkway mobility corridor was merited and feasible if constructed as seven segments of independent utility, identified a preferred alignment at the corridor level (roughly a half-mile wide); this PEL is about narrowing that corridor down to a preferred alignment for the first two segments of the project with the end goal of informing Right-of-Way identification. The PEL is an intermediary step in the environmental assessment process. A full-scale Environmental Assessment will not be undertaken until such time as funding is identified for project design and construction.

Mr. Leahy presented on the progress in the Regional Parkway PEL Study, including a review of the alternatives that have been evaluated to date.

5. Executive Session:

The TPC went into Executive Session at 2:26 p.m. to discuss the annual performance review of the MPO Transportation Planning Director and returned from Executive Session at 3:05 p.m. Mayor Martinez made a motion to increase Mr. Pollack's salary by 4%; Mayor Krebs seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

6. TPC Members' Comments and Concerns:

Mr. Buckner informed the Committee that Mr. Pollack had been appointed to the inaugural Coastal Resiliency Council Advisory Group to the Texas General Land Office.

7. Staff Briefing:

A. FHWA Applied Research Pilot for Protection of Transportation Infrastructure.

Mr. Pollack informed the TPC that the MPO staff had partnered with two faculty members at TAMUCC as well as with the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program and the City of Corpus Christi to submit an application for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds to evaluate the feasibility of using living shoreline techniques to protect a portion Laguna Shores Rd. Even though our project was “very highly recommended” at the regional level and beyond, it was not among the two or three chosen for funding. Mr. Pollack indicated that staff have requested a debrief from FHWA about the scoring process and any opportunities for improvement in the MPO’s application.

B. FTA/APTA Performance-Based Planning and Programming Roundtable.

Mr. Pollack reported that the MPO had been invited to share its experience in early adoption of performance based planning at a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) / American Public Transit Association (APTA) roundtable in June. Ms. Gonzales commented on the value of the opportunity to present to a diverse body of participants at the forum. Mr. Pollack stated that the MPO has also been invited to participate in peer exchange on implementing Ladders of Opportunity, which will be hosted by FTA and the National Center for Mobility Management later this month.

C. Strategic Plan for Active Mobility, Phase 1 & Phase 2 update.

Mr. Pollack reported that implementation of Phase 1 of the Strategic Plan for Active Mobility is progressing very well, including recent unanimous action by City of Corpus Christi City Council to adopt the plan as part of the City’s Urban Transportation Plan. Mr. Pollack stated that staff had begun conducting additional analyses related to pedestrian mobility to inform subsequent phases of the Plan.

D. Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grant.

Mr. Pollack informed the TPC that Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) staff had been collecting data in the area over the last several weeks and were on schedule to wrap up the Non-radioactive Hazardous Material (NRHM) Commodity Flows Study by the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Pollack reminded the TPC that the findings from this work would help determine whether a formal routing process for NRHM is merited for our region. Dr. David Bierling from TTI will present findings to the TPC in the early fall.

E. MPO Open House.

Mr. Pollack advised the Committee that immediately following the TPC meeting, the MPO will host an Open House from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the new office location at Staples Street Center. Mr. Pollack invited all present to attend.

F. Transportation Policy Committee meeting – August 4, 2016.

Mr. Pollack informed the TPC that the August 4th meeting may be cancelled due to a lack of action items, in which case the next TPC meeting would be scheduled for September 1st.

8. Future Agenda Items:

There were no future agenda items presented.

9. Public Comments on Agenda Items:

There were no public comments.

10. Adjourn:

Judge Simpson adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.