

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

July 10, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND QUORUM DETERMINATION

Judge Krebs called the meeting to order at 2:14 p.m.

TPC Members Present:

Judge David Krebs, San Patricio County, Chairperson

Mayor Paulette Guajardo, City of Corpus Christi

Mr. Mike Walsh, P.E. Texas Department of Transportation-Corpus Christi District

Mr. Art Granado, Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority

Ms. Mary Esther Guerra, Nueces County Assistant County Attorney

MPO Staff Present:

Rob MacDonald, P.E., Craig Casper, AICP, Daniel Carrizales, and Victor Mendieta

2. NON-AGENDA ITEMS PUBLIC COMMENTS

None were made or offered.

3. APPROVAL OF THE TPC MAY 1, 2025, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Walsh made a motion to approve the May 1, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes.

Mayor Guajardo seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

A. DRAFT FY 2025 and FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) with Amendment 1

Mr. MacDonald presented this item.

During the last several months, the Texas MPOs and TxDOT-TPP have been working on new Unified Planning Work Programs (UPWPs). The Corpus Christi MPO has an approved 2-year UPWP, therefore does not need to develop a new UPWP for FY 2026. However, in discussions with FHWA/FTA staff in Texas, there is a clarification for all MPOs in Texas regarding the ***“2.5% Set-Aside for Increasing Safe and Accessible Transportation Options”***. The FY 2025 and FY 2026 UPWP with Amendment 1 was provided to the TAC for their review and discussion.

In prior amendments to older UPWPs, the Corpus Christi MPO added a specific Subtask 3.3 to our UPWP in response to a request by TxDOT as part of their April 8, 2024, Work Order Letter 2 for FY 2024. That letter highlighted the requirement for the Corpus Christi MPO to have specific language in the current Unified Planning Work Program related to the federal requirement to spend a minimum of 2.5% of the MPO's Federal Planning funds (PL) on planning activities *“...to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and abilities...”*. That change was accomplished and carried forward into the current FY 2025 and FY 2026 UPWP.

In the past fiscal years of FY 2022-2025, tracking of the 24 MPOs 2.5% set-aside by TxDOT was not completed to the satisfaction of FHWA/FTA. Therefore, all of the 2.5% set-aside Planning (PL) funds need to be accounted for in all UPWPs of all 24 MPOs in Texas. For the Corpus Christi MPO, this requires amending our FY 2025 and FY 2026 UPWP. The amount of the 2.5% set-aside for each MPO was provided in the Table in Attachment 3. The specific amount to be rolled forward into our FY 2026 UPWP is \$77,920.89. We rounded up to \$78,000. To maintain fiscal constraint of the FY 2026 UPWP, we reallocated funds from other Subtasks in FY 2026. These were shown in cover memo, which are also the tables contained in the DRAFT FY 2025 and FY 2026 UPWP with Amendment 1 document. Additional guidance from TxDOT was that all MPOs remove references to the federal Planning

Emphasis Areas (PEAs) as well as removal of terms referenced by the current Administration's Executive Orders (EOs). These changes are found primarily on pages 9-11 of the DRAFT FY 2025 and FY 2026 UPWP with Amendment 1 document. All remaining changes are shown through track-changes format in the document.

Discussion:

None.

Motion:

Mayor Guajardo made a motion to release the DRAFT FY 2025 and FY 2026 UPWP with Amendment 1 for a one-month public comment period.

Mr. Walsh seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. DRAFT FY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) with Amendment 2

Mr. Robert Saldana from the Corpus Christi RTA presented this item.

The Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (CCRTA) proposed an amendment the FY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include fourteen new projects. These projects, along with two existing projects, will use Federal Transit Administration (FTA) apportionment years 2022 through 2024 for formula funds 5307, 5339, and 5310. The total federal amount across all fourteen projects is \$23,460,816. This amendment fully accounts for all previously unallocated FTA awarded apportionments.

The CCRTA has also added the following project, which is currently funded using CCRTA local sales tax revenue:

- A/E for the Rehab/Renovation of the Maintenance Building

Additionally, CCRTA has made changes to the following two projects:

- MPO Project # CCRTA-116: The current federal FTA funds are decreasing from \$1,257,052 to \$896,326 because the project is estimated to come under budget
- MPO Project # CCRTA-118: The current federal FTA amount is increasing from \$142,400 to \$266,965 to ensure all projects within this project are fully funded.

Therefore, the amendment to the FY 2025-2028 TIP will include fourteen federally funded new projects and one locally funded project, for a total of fifteen projects.

Discussion:

None.

Motion:

Mr. Walsh made a motion to release the DRAFT FY 2025-2028 TIP with Amendment 2 for a one-month public comment period.

Mayor Guajardo seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Corpus Christi RTA Fare Review Process

Mr. Robert Saldana from the Corpus Christi RTA presented this item. Specifics of this Fare Review Process were provided in PowerPoint presentation that included a schedule of future actions.

Discussion:

Mayor Guajardo inquired about the previous fair equity analysis conducted in 2019 and the impact of COVID-19 on the process.

- Mr. Saldana explained that the previous analysis was conducted before COVID-19 and that the current analysis was necessary to reflect current economic and demographic conditions.

Mayor Guajardo asked for clarification on what the fare was prior to 2006 and what it is now.

- Mr. Saldana responded that prior to 2006, the fare was 50 cents and that it is currently 75 cents.

Mayor Guajardo asked about the frequency of fair recovery ratio reviews and requested more information about the surveys used in the analysis.

- Mr. Saldana explained that the review is an internal staff conversation and not a formal process.
- Mr. Saldana said there is one survey that the RTA does that all statistics are extracted from and overlaid with demographics, income, etc.
 - Mayor Guajardo inquired about who received the survey.
 - Mr. Saldana responded that RTA surveys are done with the general public; riders at transit stations, senior centers, and various different places to try and poll ridership.

Mr. Saldana noted that the current fare recovery ratio had been compared to other transit agencies and Corpus Christi was determined to have one of the lowest rates.

Mayor Guajardo relayed an anecdote from the community praising the transit system.

B. DRAFT 2025 Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) Boundary Briefing

Mr. MacDonald presented this item.

The Corpus Christi MPO Planning Area Boundary Change process has been on-going for about 2 years. The next step in the process was determined during the June 5, 2025 Joint TPC-TAC Workshop. This step is for the TAC to recommend to the TPC a DRAFT MPO Planning Area Boundary Change to be part of a future Boundary Change Package required by TxDOT.

There are still some adjustments for the TAC to consider in recommending to the TPC the DRAFT MPO Planning Area Boundary and items for the TxDOT Boundary Change Packet. These are described briefly in the cover memo and further in the policy options section of the same memo.

Additionally, the process will continue for a few months to complete the components of the TxDOT Boundary Change Checklist, specifically:

- Resolution of Acknowledgement/Support from the City of Robstown or a request by the City of Robstown to join the Corpus Christi MPO that would start a separate process involving MPO Bylaw Changes and MPA Boundary Adjustments. The MPO staff presented the Resolution of Acknowledgement/Support on May 21, 2025. The Robstown City Attorney proposed changes to the Resolution. The City Council Tabled the item pending additional information about TxDOT funding. The next meeting of the Robstown City Council is on July 21
- Final Minutes of the TPC Meeting approving the new MPA Planning Area Boundary
- Consideration of the federally supported CCRTA routes/stops in the Cities of Robstown and the Port Aransas that are not currently within the Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary.
- Possible TPC Minutes approving possibly amended MPO Bylaws if the City of Robstown, City of Gregory or the City of Port Aransas join the MPO as a voting members.

Discussion:

Mr. Walsh questioned if there was transit service to other cities such as Aransas Pass, Ingleside, etc.

- Mr. MacDonald responded that there are stops in Ingleside and Aransas Pass but federal partners have indicated that if it is not regularly scheduled transit service, the areas are not

likely to be included in the MPO Boundary. CCRTA bus stops in Ingleside and Aransas Pass are not daily, every day services and are not considered as regular service.

6. TPC MEMBER STATEMENTS ON LOCAL AGENCY ACTIVITIES OR ITEMS OF INTEREST

Mr. Walsh provided details on the repaving project on I-37 from Nueces Bay Boulevard to Up River Road.

Mr. Walsh gave some updates on the Harbor Bridge Project:

- The Harbor Bridge Project is nearing completion, with all lanes open except for the exit to North Beach, and the shared use path is expected to open soon.
- The demolition process for the old Harbor Bridge will begin once all traffic is redirected to the New Bridge.
- The shared used path is likely to open this week but only during daylight hours and it will only be opened up to the center of the bridge.

Mr. Walsh noted that the painting operation on SH 358 (SPID) from the Crosstown interchange to SH 44 continues and should be completed in about a month.

Mr. Granado stated his appreciation to Mr. Robert Saldana for his presentation on the RTA's Fare Review Process.

7. UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

A. Technical Advisory Committee:	Regular Meeting	July 17, 2025
B. Transportation Policy Committee:	Regular Meeting	August 7, 2025

8. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.