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

September 3, 2026

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

Judge Scott called the meeting to order at 2:11 p.m.

TPC Members Present:

Judge Connie Scott, Nueces County –Chairperson
Mayor John Green, City of Portland
Mayor Estella Boyes, City of Gregory
Mr. Gabe Guerra, Port of Corpus Christi—Arrived at 2:18 p.m.
Mr. Mike Walsh, P.E., Texas Department of Transportation-Corpus Christi District
Mr. Art Granado, Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority
Ms. Emily Martinez, Coastal Bend Council of Governments (non-voting member)
Mr. Chad Magill, District 27 Liaison (non-voting member)
Mr. Todd Hunter, Texas House Representative District 32 (non-voting member)
Ms. Denise Villalobos, Texas House Representative District 24 (non-voting member)
Mr. Adam Hinojosa, Texas State Senator District 27 (non-voting member)
Mr. Alex Meade, Texas Transportation Commissioner (non-voting member)

MPO Staff Present:

Rob MacDonald, P.E., Keren Costanzo AICP, Jafet Flores, Harry Horak, Victor Mendieta, and Carissa Tamez

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None were made or offered for items not on the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF THE TPC July 9, 2026, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Granado made a motion to approve the TPC **July 9, 2026** Regular Meeting minutes.

Mr. Walsh seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Judge Scott moved **Agenda Item 6A. SH 361 Project Overview and MPO Process** up in the agenda to accommodate state delegation attendees' schedules.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. SH 361 Project Overview and MPO Process

Mr. MacDonald presented this item.

In the last few weeks, there have been a few media reports and meetings concerning State Highway (SH) 361 on North Padre Island and Mustang Island, specifically related to safety and the recent fatalities on the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) roadway. The Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization (Corpus Christi MPO) was asked to add an information item for the September 3, 2026, Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) agenda to discuss this roadway.

Discussion:

Public comments were made by Texas State Senator Hinojosa, Representative Hunter, Representative Villalobos, and Texas Transportation Commissioner Meade regarding SH 361 and the need for immediate safety improvements. Senator Hinojosa, Representative Hunter, and Representative Villalobos signed a letter of support requesting immediate safety improvements along SH 361.

- Mr. Walsh assured the committee that TxDOT staff is working to include this item as an MTP Amendment for the next TAC meeting and to present it as an action item at the next TPC meeting.

Mr. Granado requested clarification on whether the TPC has the authority to bypass the TAC Committee's recommendation process in order to move this item forward expeditiously.

- MPO Staff responded that the TPC can act without a recommendation from the TAC, however, the one-month public comment period is still required for action items related to the MTP.

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATION – MPO OVERVIEW BY TEXAS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

Mr. Robert Hazlett, from Texas A&M's Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) presented this item.

Discussion:

None. TPC members thanked Mr. Hazlett for the presentation.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

A. DRAFT FY 2027-2030 TIP with Amendment 1 and DRAFT 2045 MTP Update with Amendment 3

Mr. Flores introduced this item and Mr. Robert Saldaña from the CCRTA presented the requested CCRTA amendments.

The Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (CCRTA) requested amendments to the Corpus Christi MPO's FY 2027-2030 TIP and 2045 MTP Update planning documents for review by the TAC, TPC, and the public.

Discussion:

None

Motion:

Mr. Walsh made a motion to release the DRAFT FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program with Amendment 1 and DRAFT 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update with Amendment 3 for a one-month public comment period.

Mr. Granado seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

B. Small Area Forecast Task Force Population and Employment Allocation for the 2050 MTP

Ms. Costanzo presented this item.

The Corpus Christi MPO Small Area Forecast (SAF) Task Force developed population and employment allocations for the year 2050. These estimates are vital components of transportation planning and a critical initial step in developing the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Forecasts of the amounts and locations of population and employment changes for the time frame of the plan (years 2025-2050) are used to identify locations, types, and severity of transportation needs.

Discussion:

Committee members questioned whether tourism during peak seasons was taken into consideration, including the additional population associated with second homes, vacation homes, and short-term rentals where multiple families may stay at one location. Members also questioned whether the seasonal increase in population along SH 361 was accounted for.

- MPO Staff responded that the peak seasonal and typical populations and related traffic counts are used by project sponsors like TxDOT in the analysis of future roadway conditions to be used in the design of facilities like SH 361. MPO Staff also noted that in the Small Area Forecast, short-term rental permits had been obtained through the City of Corpus Christi the new residential construction figures obtained for all three counties to estimate the small area

allocations of population projections incorporate all residential units, regardless of occupancy, including short term rentals and second homes.

Motion:

Mr. Walsh made a motion to approve:

1. The high growth scenario control totals for population and employment based on the Texas State Demographic Center, and
2. The population and employment forecasts for 2050 in Nueces, San Patricio and Aransas Counties' TAZs as recommended by the Small Area Forecast Task Force.

Mr. Guerra seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

B. Corpus Christi MPO Regional Coordination Group for Federal Transportation Grants Update

Ms. Costanzo presented this item.

The Corpus Christi MPO staff presents grant-related information on an ongoing basis to serve as a focus area for the Regional Coordination Group, which is the monthly Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting. MPO Staff also provides monthly updates to the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC). In addition to the grants listed in Attachment 1, a handout on the PROTECT federal grant was provided to TPC members.

Discussion:

None.

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

Mr. Walsh announced that TxDOT is tentatively planning an open house meeting at the Island in the Sun Church regarding SH 361. The meeting will provide an opportunity for public engagement and input on concepts, ideas, and short-term safety improvement projects. The tentative meeting date is September 21, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. These efforts are intended to provide short-term safety improvements in the interim, while the project is being added to the MTP and funding is being secured for the project.

Mr. Granado announced that the CCRTA applied for a grant for funding for 7 buses to help replace the older buses. He also stated that the CCRTA will start construction on the maintenance facility on September 8th, and completion is estimated August 2028.

8. UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

A.	**2050 MTP Public Outreach Event**	**Hooks Baseball Final Home Game**	**September 6, 2026**
B.	**2050 MTP Public Meeting**	**CCRTA Board Room 2nd FL**	**September 9, 2026**
C.	**2050 MTP Public Outreach Event**	**Ice Rays Opening Weekend**	**September 11-12, 2026**
D.	**Technical Advisory Committee**	**Regular Meeting and Workshop**	**September 17, 2026**
E.	**2050 MTP Public Meeting**	**Neyland Public Library**	**September 23, 2026**
F.	**Transportation Policy Committee**	**Regular Meeting**	**October 1, 2026**

9. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

To: Texas Transportation Commission, Texas Department of Transportation

The Honorable W. Alvin New
Acting Chair, Texas Transportation Commission
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

Commissioner Alejandro "Alex" G. Meade III
Texas Transportation Commission
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Marc D. Williams, P.E.
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Mike Walsh, P.E.
Corpus Christi District Engineer
Texas Department of Transportation
1701 S. Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, Texas 78416

JOINT COASTAL BEND LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

RE: State-Led Acceleration of SH 361 Safety Improvements and Widening

Chairman New, Commissioner Meade, Director Williams and District Engineer Walsh:

The Joint Coastal Bend Legislative Delegation respectfully requests that TxDOT and the Texas Transportation Commission take the lead in accelerating immediate safety improvements and the long-term widening of State Highway 361 between Park Road 22 and Port Aransas.

We support TxDOT's current public safety outreach, including public comments through SH361_Safety@txdot.gov and the planned September town hall. We urge TxDOT to use this input to quickly finalize and implement near-term safety improvements while advancing the permanent corridor solution.

We request that TxDOT:

- Advance immediate safety improvements, including lighting, intersection treatments, barriers or median protection where appropriate, turn lanes, shoulders, pavement markings and other proven measures.

- Develop a state-led funding strategy for the full SH 361 widening using available TxDOT District and statewide safety, connectivity and strategic-priority funds.

- Provide a clear schedule for environmental clearance, design, right-of-way, funding, letting and construction.

- Coordinate with the Corpus Christi MPO to preserve eligibility for MPO funding and required MTP/TIP programming, while continuing to pursue federal funds that can supplement state resources and accelerate delivery.

Our objective is simple: Texas should lead the effort to make SH 361 safer now and advance the permanent solution, while preserving every opportunity to leverage MPO and federal dollars to accelerate the project and maximize state resources.

Respectfully,

Adam Hinojosa
State Senator, District 27

Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa
State Senator, District 20

Connie Scott
County Judge, Nueces County

Todd Hunter
State Representative, District 32

Denise Villalobos
State Representative, District 34