



Policy Board Meeting August 17, 2015

Policy Board Members Present

John B. Love III, Chair, Councilman, City of Midland
David Turner, Vice-Chair, Mayor, City of Odessa
Bryan Cox, County Judge, Martin County
Robin Donnelly, County Commissioner, Midland County
Robert Stephens, General Manager, MOUTD
Susan Redford, County Judge, Ector County

Policy Board Members Absent:

Mike McAnally, District Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District

Others in Attendance:

Cameron Walker, Executive Director, MOTOR MPO
Lorraine Quimiro, Senior Transportation Planner, MOTOR MPO
Ria Mangus, Administrative Planning Assistant, MOTOR MPO
Brett Stephens, Dunaway & Associates, Midland County
Hal Feldman, Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa
Chad Windham, Director of Operations, TxDOT Odessa District
Matt Carr, City Engineer, City of Midland
Gene Powell, Public Information Officer, TxDOT Odessa District
Gary Law, Director of TP&D, TxDOT Odessa District
Joe Clark, MPO Coordinator, TxDOT
David Peck, Project Manager, Ector County
Jose Ortiz, Director of Engineering, City of Midland
Rina Bale, Mobility Manager, MOTOR MPO (via Conference Call)

AGENDA ITEM

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting of the MOTOR Policy Board was called to order at 5:10 P.M. by Policy Board Chair, John B. Love III. A quorum was present.

2. Introductions and Announcements

Brett Stephen, in place of TAC representative Melanie Freeman for Midland County, and Joe Clark, MPO Coordinator, was introduced to the Board. Rina Bale, Mobility Manager, MOTOR MPO joined the meeting via speaker phone.

3. Public Comment Period

None

4. Approve the Minutes from July 27, 2015

A motion was made by David Turner and seconded by Bryan Cox to accept and approve the July 27, 2015 Policy Board meeting minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approve June 2015 Billing Statement

Staff completed and submitted the June billing to TxDOT. This is the ninth billing for fiscal year 2015 and reflects the *Tasks* and *Subtasks* as approved in the 2015 UPWP. During the month of June, MOTOR MPO expended \$41,780.40 which brings the percentage of expenditures to 69.79% of the FY 2015 programmed funds. The actual balance of funds is \$252,577.22. Page 11 on the agenda summarizes total expenditures and revenues and percentages for all of FY 2014 as requested.

A motion was made by Robin Donnelly and seconded by David Turner to accept and approve the June billing statement as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Consider programming of FY 2016 and FY 2017 Proposition 1 funds

Earlier this year the Board indicated its desire to readdress and possibly reprioritize the approved project list contained in the MTP. As a result of discussions on that topic it was decided that a Visioning Workshop would be conducted and led by an outside agency – specifically Bill Frawley of TTI. That Workshop was well attended and it will be beneficial to the staff and the Board. Many topics pertaining to MOTOR planning efforts and the current MTP were discussed. We are now at a point where the Board needs to consider projects based on the estimate of Proposition 1 funding for FY 2016 and possibly FY 2017. The TxDOT estimate for FY 2016 is \$8.4M and \$8.275M for FY 2017. Staff has been advised that these funds may be combined unlike last year's Proposition 1 fund distribution.

Policy Board action to approve projects using these funds is extremely important. Staff would like to submit the Policy Board's desired projects to TxDOT by November. If an amendment to the MTP will be necessary because there is not a desired project on the current list, then a 30-day public comment period is needed. Staff will work with the TAC to prepare the draft amended if so directed.

Cameron presented the TxDOT UTP funding cycle, and indicated funding for FY 2016 is \$8.4 million for Category 2 money (urban funds) and FY 2017 \$8.25 million. Approximately \$35-40 million over a four year period, estimated on revenue coming from Prop 1. Stated funds could program projects currently in the MTP or the Board could amend the document. Need to program and get back with TxDOT regarding projects. The eleven projects currently in the MTP were presented to the Board and Gary Law explained that the four projects: RC-07, RC-05, RC-

35, and RC-31 were under contract and could be removed from the list. Cameron stated the remaining projects included the 4% / year estimate for inflation.

John B. Love III asked that the TAC meet and come together to rank the projects in a prioritized list. Cameron mentioned that it could be done and back before the board in October, but would like to present before Judge Redford leaves. John stated a special meeting might be in order and plans to attend the next TAC meeting. Hal mentioned the disparity in the rankings, and asked if the entities came together and revised the list. Gary affirmed and Cameron stated a sub-committee was assigned to do this. Jose Ortiz asked if there is a letting period to have a project shelf ready. Gary explained it was last year's Prop 1, but this next fiscal year will have more flexibility and there is \$35-40 million available to program now.

Robin asked that each entity provides two projects and the board review the safety and level of service of the projects. Giving the TAC committee to bring recommendations to the Board to discuss and decide what is the best decision. Safety is addressed first; the list will sort itself out. John specified to rank the projects accordingly, prioritize them, but it is helpful for the Board to know what the priorities of the entities are. Bryan Cox stated the cost of the project shouldn't be a factor, as it is unknown when funds may come available for projects. Cameron mentioned that an amendment to the MTP will be a necessary tool in order to bring new projects to the funded list.

John stated if the TAC meets September 3rd, then the Board needs to meet right after. Cameron responded that it might be best if the Board meets before the next TAC meeting in order to have choices for the Board to act on. Gary stated that once the Board has a consensus on a project list, TxDOT will get started on allocating programming authority and will not wait for the update to the MTP, as it will not take as long. But once the MTP is updated and has passed public comment, TxDOT will then program the study funds.

Susan Redford recommended the Board meet on the 31st and John declared the special meeting would be scheduled for the August 31, 2015.

7. Discuss the development of a revised Project Prioritization Process with the TAC

Part of the discussion held at the Visioning Workshop involved amending the project prioritization and ranking process. Staff began this work and plans to present suggested changes to the TAC at its next meeting. Staff believes that the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Goals and Objectives should align with the project prioritization process and the project scoring sheet.

As discussed in Agenda Item 6.

8. Approve an updated Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Goals based on TAC recommendations

Staff met with the TAC to discuss draft amendments of the Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Goals. The TAC has concurred with the versions shown below. A follow up step will be to prepare draft Objectives.

Current MTP Mission Statement: “The Midland Odessa Transportation Organization Planning Organization is committed to providing leadership to the region in the planning, funding, and development of a regional multi-modal transportation system; one that promotes personal and social economic prosperity while encouraging sustainable growth and development practices to protect and preserve valuable community and natural assets.”

Draft MTP Mission Statement: Provide leadership to the region in the planning, funding, and development of a safe, efficient multimodal transportation system.

Current MTP Vision Statement: “To have an affordable system of transportation infrastructure and services that safely connects the regional community and fosters economic prosperity and quality of life.”

Draft MTP Vision Statement: “To develop a sustainable multimodal transportation system that meets the future needs of all users.”

Issue/Goals:

Sustainability/Livability

Goal 1: Improve the overall quality of life for the traveling public.

Goal 2: Incorporate multiple modes of transportation in the planning process.

Goal 3: Address transportation needs in unincorporated communities.

Safety

Goal 1: Incorporate best practices related to safety during the planning process.

Goal 2: Assist with educational efforts to bring awareness to users of the transportation system.

Cohesive/Cooperative

Goal 1: Increase collaboration with member entities to provide continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning.

Goal 2: Increase outreach efforts to further educate the general public and Title VI-EJ communities of how the transportation planning process impacts them.

Connectivity/System Continuity

Goal 1: Connect infrastructure and services by reducing gaps and conflicts in the multimodal transportation system.

Goal 2: Ensure that freight is moved safely, efficiently, and seamlessly throughout the region.

Congestion/Mobility

Goal 1: Reduce congestion and decrease time delays on the transportation system.

Goal 2: Promote awareness of alternative transportation modes.

Efficiency/Lack of Funding

Goal 1: Identify critical system issues and areas as identified through the Congestion Management Process.

Goal 2: Identify non-traditional funding sources or apply for resources beyond what is allocated.

A motion was made by Robin Donnelly and seconded by David Turner to accept and approve the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Goals as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

9. MPO Staff Reports

a. 60-day Calendar:

Staff included a 60-day event calendar to inform the Policy Board of upcoming meetings, hearings and special events.

Staff informed the Policy Board of the usual meetings and the upcoming Labor Day in September. The Policy Board, Special Meeting was added to the calendar for August 31, 2015, at 5:00 P.M. John Love clarified that the Special meeting does not take the place of the regular meeting on September 21, 2015.

b. Regionally Coordinated Transportation Planning (RCTP) Update:

Staff informed the Board that the RCTP Committee met on Wednesday, Aug. 12. The Committee approved the first two deliverables submitted to TxDOT for reimbursement: \$7,956.49 and \$4,795.98. The third deliverable will be submitted at the end of August; this will be the final billing. There were continued discussions on potential FTA Section 5310 projects, partnerships, and needs.

c. 30 Day Activity Update:

Staff attended a training workshop in Abilene which covered the requirements for local government project procedures. This training is required when federal funding in part or in whole is involved. Staff also attended the West Texas Legislative Summit update in San Angelo.

Cameron informed the Board of the workshop attended by Staff in Abilene was geared more toward construction.

d. NE Midland Planning & Environmental Linkage Study update:

Staff worked with the City of Midland to prepare a draft RFQ which is currently under review by TxDOT prior to release. This effort will result in the hiring of consultants to complete the work.

Cameron stated the draft has been passed to TxDOT for review and are awaiting a response. Ria informed the Board of media outreach numbers for Facebook, now at 32 likes and Twitter with 4 followers. John interjected and informed that the RFQ would have impact in the Martin County area.

e. Staff spoke with Roger Beall, TxDOT. He is waiting for work authorization release to begin the Travel Demand Model. A kickoff meeting should occur soon. He is also interested in creating an IH 20 study work group which would consist of the TAC, staff and possibly members of the Policy Board. He intends to be in Midland in August to meet with staff and Chairman Love.

Cameron informed the contract should be signed soon and should know more before the August 31, 2015 Policy Board meeting. Also, Mr. Beall requested a meeting with the Board chair and possibly others on August 25th.

10. Agency Project Reports:

TxDOT-Odessa District – Gary Law – Will be holding third public meeting regarding ramp reversals on Sept 15th. The first public meeting for Loop 338, monies UP railroads are providing to improve frontage roads -Trunk up to Cargo, will be held on September 22nd.

City of Midland – Jose Ortiz – Have council approval for fairgrounds road and working with the state for additional funds, looking to get the project to move forward. Bids were high, as anticipated. The project on Holly Hill Road and Avalon, hopefully all will be in construction later this year.

County of Midland – Robin Donnelly – County appraisal project, design phase 3 and closed 1150 to 307 to install culverts. John mentioned the stop signs at Midkiff are working well.

City of Odessa – David Turner – Build creditability with TxDOT. Move things forward.

County of Ector – David Peck – Working on TIP projects and seal coating.

County of Martin – Bryan Cox – Working on TIP projects and budget.

MOUTD – Robert Stephens – Testing “Where’s My Bus” app. Finalizing the routes and hoping to launch in 30-60 days. Additionally, working on a RFQ for A&E Services for a transfer center and multimodal facility.

Gary provided recent lettings, city highway 349 – came in under estimate – from Midland County line to Rankin, also Loop 250 – bided out at 50% over. TxDOT continued paving effort to Garfield to Big Spring Street and also 1788 to SH 158 and bid close to the estimate. Then will recommend for construction. No service roads at this time.

11. Future Meetings (MOTOR-MPO Conference Room)

Policy Board Meeting – Monday, September 21, 2015, at 5:00 P.M.

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, September 3, 2015, at 8:30 A.M.

RCTP Meeting – Wednesday, September 9, 2015, at 11:30 A.M.

LEAP Board Meeting – Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at 8:15 A.M.

Policy Board Meeting – Monday, August 31, 2015, at 5:00 P.M.

TAC will adjust meetings to coincide with the Special Policy Board meeting scheduled for Monday, August 31, 2015.

12. Conduct Executive Session concerning any and all subjects and for any and all purposes permitted by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, including, but not limited to:

Texas Government Code Section 551.071 for the purposes of consulting with the Board’s attorney; Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to deliberate the purchase, lease or value of real property; Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to discuss personnel matters.

Policy Board Chair, John B. Love III announced executive session at 6:20 P.M. and returned at 6:32 P.M.

13. Take action concerning Executive Session Matters

A motion was made by Susan Redford and seconded by David Turner to change the name of MOTOR MPO to Permian Basin MPO. The motion passed unanimously.

14. Adjourn

A motion was made by David Turner and seconded by Robin Donnelly to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 P.M. The motion passed unanimously.