



Permian Basin MPO

Metropolitan
Planning
Organization

Policy Board Meeting

9601 Wright Dr., Suite 1

Midland, TX 79706

January 23, 2016

Minutes

Policy Board Members Present

John B. Love III	Chair, Councilman, City of Midland
David Turner	Vice-Chair, Mayor, City of Odessa
Robert Stephens	General Manager, MOUTD
Ron Eckert	County Judge, Ector County
Robin Donnelly	County Commissioner, Midland County
John Speed, P.E.	District Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Bryan Cox	County Judge, Martin County

Policy Board Members Absent:

None

Others in Attendance:

Cameron Walker	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Lorraine Quimiro	Senior Transportation Planner, Permian Basin MPO
Rina Bale	Mobility Manager, Permian Basin MPO
Rosie Spencer	Administrative Planning Assistant, Permian Basin MPO
Bill Frawley	Research Scientist, TTI
Gary Law	Director of TP&D, TxDOT Odessa District
Gene Powell	Public Information Officer, TxDOT Odessa District
Robert Ornelas	Transportation Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Chad Windham, P.E.	Director of Operations, TxDOT Odessa District
Muslim Hassan	Transportation Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Ciro Baeza	TxDOT Odessa District
Kelli Williams, P.E.	TxDOT Odessa District
Chuck Harrington	Development Services Director, City of Midland
Jose Ortiz	Engineering Services Director, City of Midland
Matt Carr	City Engineer, City of Midland
Hal Feldman	Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa
Thomas Kerr	City of Odessa

David Peck	Project Manager, Ector County
Brent Hilliard	Midland Development Corporation
Will Barresi	CH2M
Roger Beall	TxDOT – Austin
Trevor Hawes	Midland Reporter-Telegram
Caitlyn Nix	Newswest 9
Luke Williams	(Kelli's son)

AGENDA ITEM

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting of the Permian Basin MPO Policy Board was called to order at 5:04 p.m. by Policy Board Chair, John B. Love III. A quorum was present.

2. Introductions and Announcements

Everyone introduced themselves.

3. Public Comment Period

Brent Hilliard said that the Midland Development Corporation is willing to contribute construction dollars for the project RC-19, overpass at CR 1150 and CR 60 at Loop 250. John Love thanked him and mentioned that the overpass at Fairgrounds Rd. will be let soon, and that the Board appreciates MDC's support and encourages the support of other entities. Brent also mentioned that the MDC has a list of projects they are focused on in Midland, which include some projects on the MPO's list. The MDC is considering how it will participate from a design, Right-of-Way acquisition, and construction perspective. Negotiations with other agencies in Midland and the potential 4B tax from the City of Midland can help reduce costs in projects in both the city and county. John Love asked Brent to reach out to the Odessa Development Corporation since this is a regional organization, and they could also benefit from some of the work being done by him now. Brent finished by saying he looks forward to working with Odessa on projects that would benefit both communities, such as Yukon Rd. which will begin in Odessa and end in Midland County.

4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from December 19, 2016

A motion was made by Robin Donnelly and seconded by John Speed to approve the December 19, 2016 Policy Board meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approve the November 2017 billing statement

Before presenting the November billing, staff pointed out that there was a correction to October's billing. Some RCTP expenses totaling \$800.54 was not taken out of the total, so the balance of funds was \$41, 206.67 and not \$42,007.21 that was presented.

November is the second month in fiscal year 2017, the MPO spent \$13,026.89, expenditures is at 12.27%. The MPO received the carryover for both FY 2015 and 2016 for \$193,794.21, which

leaves the actual balance of funds at \$256,613.65. Robin asked if the balance is for the year or just the carryover, Rosie answered that it includes everything done since October, including expenditures. John Love asked if it included billings up to January since that is the date listed, but Rosie reminded him billings are 2 months behind, that date is when November's billing was completed.

A motion was made by Robin Donnelly and seconded by David Turner to approve the November 2016 billing. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Approve a Resolution adopting the prioritized segments and the conversion to one-way frontage roads on the I-20 corridor in the Metropolitan Area Boundary

This is a follow up item to the discussion the Board had in December about prioritizing the four segments along the I-20 corridor. Staff has prepared a Resolution for support of the segments and the conversion from two-way to one-way frontage roads. David Turner asked if there will be any meetings in each community so the business owners can come out and discuss any changes. Cameron answered there should be public meetings and discussion along the way when it comes to defining a project and money being spent no matter where the funds come from. John Love reminded everyone that this vote is not to convert them, it is just a Resolution stating that the Policy Board agrees to moving forward in that direction for the purposes of the study. John Speed mentioned that with this Resolution, the Board is directing those who have done the preliminary evaluation of the corridor to develop schematic line drawings that will show where various features of the corridor between Ector and Midland Counties would be. Working first on the four priority segments to see how these would work with one-way frontage roads. Roger Beall added that it sets the stage for what the design should be with the forecast year of 2040. Robin stated that the concern he has is that approving this Resolution means the Board is in favor of the conversion without knowing the planning and whether it can be done. Using the example of the reconstruction at FM 1788 and I-20 which did not improve anything. He does not want to fall short again on what they say will be a reconstruct to improve a situation. He wants to make sure money is spent on the interchanges and Texas U-Turns needed to facilitate the one-way frontage roads. John Speed added that the Texas turnarounds will be a critical part of all of this. David Turner asked how they decide the segments they will convert and what will be done with the traffic that is going the opposite way? Will they be creating a bigger problem doing it in sections? John Love mentioned that it has been done in other communities and asked Roger to share the process of how it is done. Roger discussed numerous cities which have been through this and what is involved to convert the frontage roads, the analysis of what needs to be done with safety being a big part of the need.

A motion was made by Robin Donnelly and seconded by Rob Stephens to approve a Resolution as written adopting the prioritized segments and the conversion to one-way frontage roads on

the I-20 corridor in the Metropolitan Area Boundary. Cameron told the Board that the Resolution was not intended to imply the one-way frontage roads would be applied to just the four segments, so if it needs to be corrected because of the motion, staff can do that. Robin asked Roger if the plan was to do it on the entire 40-mile corridor, he answered that they will begin with the segments chosen then look at the rest of the corridor.

An amended motion was made by Robin Donnelly and seconded by Rob Stephens to approve a Resolution adopting the prioritized segments and the conversion to one-way frontage roads on the I-20 corridor in the Metropolitan Area Boundary. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote with one abstention from John Speed.

7. Approve a submittal to TxDOT for continued funding of regional transit planning activities

TxDOT has decided to end the FTA Section 5304 program on February 28th and replaced it with a Coordinated Call program and funding stream. Section 5304 covers transit planning not only inside the MPO boundary, but to rural areas as well. Staff has been working with Rob Stephens to put together what would be a Comprehensive Transit Study that the MPO would submit in compliance with the Coordinated Call program. Staff has also learned that the MPO can apply for Out-of-Cycle funding, which is a request to TxDOT indicating what staff will do with the planning funds and including a budget. Rina added that if the MPO is successful in receiving either funds, they still will be available until September 1st, leaving a 6-month gap with no funds. Staff would need to use Section 5303 funds the MPO already receives for transit planning to continue this work within the MAB. This would not affect much work Rina does except she would not travel anywhere outside the boundary for this work. Cameron also pointed out that the MPO has a little over \$27,000 in SPR funds which the Policy Board could put towards the study, which he believes would help during the application process. There would have to be an amendment to the UPWP since the money will be programmed into another Task. Rob thanked Cameron for his interest and willingness to participate in a study; he believes this type of study has been a long time coming. There was an initial study done when the system started in 2003, but both cities have grown a lot since then. He had mentioned a few months back the need for a transit study, it is unfortunate some funds are expiring but there is an opportunity to help him since he has a limited staff. He would love to ensure better transit planning along the corridor between the cities. He will be proposing to expand transit in the study and is excited for this chance. Rina added that this study will also look at West Texas Opportunities which is the rural transit provider and All Aboard America to see what their needs are and what they can do to improve as well. John Love mentioned that in West Texas, the concept of transit is not understood because most everyone drives their own vehicles. The work being done through RCTP and with Rob helps the community as population increases and the cities continue to grow.

A motion was made by David Turner and seconded by Rob Stephens to approve a submittal to TxDOT for continued funding of regional transit planning activities. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Presentation by Kelli Williams, P.E., TxDOT Odessa District, on the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program and the Highway Safety Improvement Program

Kelli Williams presented on the Set-Aside Program (TASA), previously called the TAP Program. The Commission approved and adopted the rules in December, the call for projects is set for January 27th.

9. Presentation on MPO activities July 2015 – December 2016

Staff has committed to present an update to the Board every January on the activities conducted by the MPO during the previous year. The work tasks have been separated as Approved Activities, Education Opportunities, and Administrative. July 2015 was chosen as the starting date because that was when the Board held its Visioning Workshop. The list was passed around and shown on the screen as Cameron described them. John Love thanked staff and mentioned the Board is getting prepared to take advantage of the opportunities coming this way and changes were made for the improvement of this organization.

10. Presentation by John Speed, P.E., TxDOT Odessa District Engineer, on corridor identification

The TAC had a discussion over corridor identification at this month's meeting and John wanted to bring the Board up to date since there has been some recent developments. The Transportation Commission wants the District to look for projects that address specific needs the commission has already identified, i.e. congestion problems, mobility problems, connectivity problems, etc. Then they would like each MPO to validate that the process for selecting projects follows a documented plan for project selection. Several projects have been added over the past few months to the list that are not on the corridors labeled in the existing Priority Corridor Map in the MTP. John Speed is recommending the proposed map be reviewed by the TAC again so they can bring in appropriate corridors that match the projects. He believes adding to the corridor map will show the Commission the importance of the projects and may increase the chances of funding. John Love summarized that while the TAC is proposing to reprioritizing the fiscally constrained project list, they will also need to consider the Priority Corridor Map.

11. Presentation by John Speed, P.E., TxDOT Odessa District Engineer, on short term project opportunities

The Transportation Commission wants the District offices to look for projects that leverage different types of funds from different types of sources, the Commission will then consider those projects favorably for possible consideration of Strategic Priority Funds, John Speed pointed out that these do include the projects being brought up by the MDC, this will enhance the chance of

receiving funds that we normally would not have access to without a coordinated, cooperative process. Strategic Priority Funding (Category 12) is there to help areas like this where more help is needed to get some of these projects going. Brent Hilliard asked if the MDC could fund the work on projects through the City, Gary answered yes although it may take longer because everything done by the City will need to be re-checked by TxDOT. Robin added that it may be easier to do a interlocal agreement with TxDOT to let them go through their process, and just pay for it. Cameron mentioned that the TAC and staff has been working with interested parties like the Transportation Committee of the Odessa Chamber, the Government Affairs Committee of the Midland Chamber, and both cities to compile a list of 10-year priority projects to be presented at next month's meeting. The TAC had originally planned a Special Meeting for February 23rd to score and rank the projects but now will need to meet sooner to be able to get approval from the Board and submit in time for the opportunity just presented by John Speed. Bill Frawley also mentioned that all MPOs are facing the same time constraint and task.

12. MPO Staff Reports:

a. 120-Day Calendar: In the interest of time, Cameron let the Board decide if there was anything in the packet they wanted to go over. He also pointed out that there were attendance reports for the TAC and Policy Board meetings in their packets.

b. Regionally Coordinated Transportation Planning (RCTP) Update:

c. 30 Day Activity Update and Social Media Update:

d. Travel Demand Model Development:

e. Policy Board and TAC Attendance Report

f. Status of Loop 250/SH 191 improvement scope: Cameron went over a presentation Muslim Hassan put together.

g. Policy Board Elections – February

13. Agency Project Reports

TxDOT-Odessa District – None

City of Midland – None

Midland County – None

City of Odessa – None

Ector County – None

Martin County – None

MOUSD – None

14. Future Meetings

Policy Board Meeting – February 21, 2017 at 3:00 pm (Odessa College)

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 8:00 am

Special Meeting of the TAC – Thursday, February 23, 2017

RCTP Meeting – Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 11:30 am

LEAP Rural Rail District Meeting – Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 8:15 am

15. 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.

16. Take Action Concerning Executive Session Matters

None

17. Adjourn

A motion was made by Ron Eckert and seconded by John Speed to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.