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MPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

www.laredompo.org

Meeting Date & Time: May 17th, 2021 1:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Virtual

Meeting Link: <http://laredotx.swagit.com/live>

Public Access Channel: Spectrum TV channel 1300

In order to adhere to the current public gathering guidelines, this meeting will be held in a virtual meeting format. Citizens wishing to provide public comment may phone in their comments during the meeting, or submit them electronically through means provided (see information below).

AGENDA:

- I. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL MEETING TO ORDER
- II. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL ROLL
- III. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizens interested in providing comments on a particular item are to submit their comments in writing via the "Online Response Form", available at the "CONTACT US" tab of the MPO website located at <http://www.laredompo.org/contact-us/>. Comments are to be submitted no later than 1:15 p.m. the day of the meeting. During the meeting, a telephone number shall be provided to allow citizens the opportunity to call in to speak on a particular item. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. No more than three (3) persons will be allowed to speak on any side of an issue. Should there be more than three (3) people who wish to speak on a specific issue, they should select not more than three (3) representatives to speak on their behalf. The presiding officer may further limit public on the interest of order or time. Speakers may not transfer their minutes to any other speaker. Comments should be relevant to MPO business and delivered in a professional manner. No derogatory remarks shall be permitted.

MPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

IV. ITEMS REQUIRING POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION:

- A. Approval of the minutes for the virtual meeting held on April 19th, 2021.
- B. Discussion with possible action on a letter of support requested by Webb County for a Grant Application to the Texas Department of Transportation – Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program 2021 for the improvements of sidewalks in the City of Rio Bravo, Texas.
- C. Discussion with possible action on the Hachar-Reuthinger road project.
- D. Discussion with possible action on the adoption of the proposed LWCAMPO Independent MPO Plan.
- E. Discussion with possible action on the appointment of an interim MPO Director separate from the interim City of Laredo Planning Director who was appointed by the Laredo City Council.
- F. Receive public testimony and initiate a 10-day public review and comment period, for the following proposed amendment(s) of the MPO Bylaws:
 - 1. Article II, Section 2.3 Membership, Terms and Administration, shall be amended to allow a permanent Director for the MPO separate from the City of Laredo Planning Director who is appointed by City Council.

V. REPORT(S) AND PRESENTATIONS (No action required).

- A. Status report by the Regional Mobility Authority (RMA).

VI. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

NOTICE INFORMATION:

Notice of this meeting was posted at the municipal government offices, 1110 Houston Street, Laredo, Texas, at a place convenient and readily accessible to the public at all times. Said notice was posted 72 hours before the meeting date and time. The agenda and meeting information was also posted online at <http://www.laredompo.org/agendas-minutes/>.

All meetings of the MPO Committee are open to the public. Persons who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aid or services such as: interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers of large print or Braille, or a translator for the Spanish language are requested to contact MPO Staff at 956-794-1613, or via email at planner@ci.laredo.tx.us prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Materials in Spanish may also be provided upon request.

Disability Access Statement: This meeting is wheelchair accessible. The accessible entrances are located at 1110 Victoria and 910 Flores. Accessible parking spaces are located at City Hall, 1110 Victoria.

Ayuda o Servicios Auxiliares: Todas las reuniones del Comité del MPO están abiertas al público. Personas que planean asistir a esta reunión y que pueden necesitar ayuda o servicios auxiliares como: interpretes para personas con discapacidad auditiva, lectores de letra grande o en Braille, o un traductor para el idioma español deben comunicarse con el personal del MPO al 956-794-1613 o por correo electrónico planner@ci.laredo.tx.us antes de la reunión para que los arreglos apropiados se pueden hacer. Materiales en español se proveerán a petición.

Declaración de Acceso a la Discapacidad: Esta reunión es accesible para sillas de ruedas. Las entradas accesibles están ubicadas en 1110 Victoria y 900 Flores. Los espacios de estacionamiento para discapacitados se encuentran por la calle Victoria.

Información en español: Si usted desea esta información en español o si desea explicación sobre el contenido, por favor llámenos al teléfono (956) 794-1613 o comunicarse con nosotros mediante correo electrónico a planner@ci.laredo.tx.us.

MPO POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

County of Webb Representatives:

Honorable Tano E. Tijerina, Webb County Judge
Honorable Jesse Gonzalez, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 1
Honorable John Galo, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 3

City of Laredo Representatives:

Honorable Pete Saenz, Mayor and LWCAMPO Chairperson
Honorable Ruben Gutierrez, Jr., City Councilmember, District V
Honorable Dr. Marte Martinez, City Councilmember, District VI

Laredo Mass Transit Board Representative:

Honorable Vanessa Perez, City Councilmember, District VII

State DOT Representative:

Mr. David M. Salazar, Jr. P.E., TxDOT District Engineer

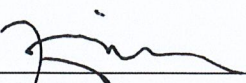
Private Sector Representative:

Mr. Humberto "Tito" Gonzalez, Jr., P.E.

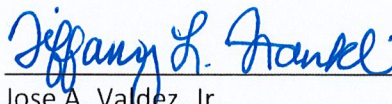
Ex-Officio Representatives:

Honorable Judith Zaffirini, State Senator, District 21
Honorable Richard Raymond, State Representative, District 42
Honorable Tracy O. King, State Representative, District 80

AGENDA REVIEWED:



J. Kirby Snideman, AICP
LW-CAMPO Director

for: 

Jose A. Valdez, Jr.
Laredo City Secretary

Laredo-Webb County Area (LWCA)

Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee Virtual Meeting

LIVE WEB LINK: <http://laredotx.swagit.com/live>

PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL: Spectrum TV channel 1300



MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL APRIL 19TH, 2021 VIRTUAL SPECIAL MEETING

Regular members present:

Honorable Pete Saenz, Mayor and LW-CAMPO Chairperson
Honorable Tano E. Tijerina, Webb County Judge
Honorable John Galo, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 3
Honorable Jesse Gonzalez, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 1
Humberto "Tito" Gonzalez, P.E., Private Sector
David M. Salazar, Jr., P.E., TxDOT District Engineer
Honorable Ruben Gutierrez, Jr., City Councilmember District V
Honorable Dr. Marte Martinez, City Councilmember, District VI
Honorable Vanessa Perez, City Councilmember District VII

Ex-Officio Members Not Present:

Honorable Richard Raymond, State Representative, District 42
Honorable Judith Zaffirini, State Senator, District 21
Honorable Tracy O. King, State Representative, District 80

Staff (Of Participating LWCA Agencies) Present:

City: J. Kirby Snideman, City Planning/LW-CAMPO Staff
Graciela Briones, City Planning/LW-CAMPO Staff
Juan Mendive, City Planning/LW-CAMPO Staff
Julio Niño, City Planning/LW-CAMPO Staff
Jason Hinojosa, City Planning/LW-CAMPO Staff
Angie Quijano, City Planning/LW-CAMPO Staff
Ramon Chavez, City Engineering Department
Danny Magee, City Traffic Safety Department

State: Roberto Rodriguez, TxDOT

Sara Garza, TxDOT

Others: Luis Perez Garcia, Webb County Engineering
Guillermo Cuellar, Webb County Engineering
Melisa Montemayor, HNTB, Inc.
Antonio Rodriguez, HNTB, Inc.
Douglas Howland, RMA

I. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Saenz called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

II. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL ROLL

Graciela Briones, LW-CAMPO Staff, called roll and verified a quorum existed.

III. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Speakers are required to fill out witness cards, which must be submitted to MPO Staff no later than 15 minutes after the start of the meeting. Speakers shall identify themselves at the microphone. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. No more than three (3) persons will be allowed to speak on any side of an issue. Should there be more than three (3) people who wish to speak on a specific issue, they should select not more than three (3) representatives to speak on their behalf. The presiding officer may further limit public on the interest of order or time. Speakers may not transfer their minutes to any other speaker. Comments should be relevant to City business and delivered in a professional manner. No derogatory remarks shall be permitted.

Mrs. Graciela Briones, MPO Staff, stated a comment was submitted by Jed Brown from the RMA and it read as followed:

The RMA was certainly excited to learn the results of the survey with the Vallecillo Road project coming out and ranked first in the list of unfunded projects. Trade and transportation are the life blood of our community and as the RMA has presented multiple times, Vallecillo road improved safety and mobility. It increases economy, economic development, regional tax base, and it provides job growth. The results of the unfunded survey item were discussed in the Lomas del Sur web-ex meeting held on April 8th with the members of the City, County, and the RMA attending. In that meeting, it was discussed that the Lomas del Sur overpass was ranked as one of the top three unfunded projects according to the survey responses. It is important to note that the ranking of the Lomas del Sur overpass of being ranked first, second, or third is not required for the City or the County to proceed with the Lomas del Sur project. In

the April 8th meeting, there was a discussion of possibly redoing the survey. The RMA cautioned against retaking the survey because we believe it would give the appearance that our community and those asked to take the survey would look disorganized or unprepared. We also believe our community may lose credibility if we take the survey on top of survey for the same projects or data. The RMA supports taking an annual survey for unfunded projects. We also strongly support the Lomas del Sur overpass project as it is needed for south Laredo and all motorists using the stretch of roadway now and in the years to come. The RMA welcomes the opportunity to work with the City, the County or whoever proposes this much needed overpass project.

IV. ITEMS REQUIRING POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION:

A. Approval of the minutes for the virtual meeting held on March 15th, 2021.

Dr. Martinez made a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting held on March 15th, 2021.

Second: CM. Perez
For: 9
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

Mayor Saenz made a motion to move up item #V-C.

Second: Dr. Martinez
For: 9
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

REPORT(S) AND PRESENTATIONS (No action required).

C. Presentation by MPO staff of the ranking of unfunded projects based on the survey released at the joint City, County, RMA, MPO meeting held on February 11, 2021.

Kirby Snideman, MPO Director, a gave a brief presentation as followed:

MTP 25-year projects were identified from the following sources:

- TxDOT Unified Transportation Plan (UTP) 2020

- Existing Regional Plans and Projects
- Congestion Management Process
- Travel Demand Modeling
- Agency and Public Call for Projects

TXDOT UTP UNFUNDED PROJECTS LIST

The list includes 16 projects

Project Areas:

- IH 35
 - US 59
 - SL 20
 - Mangana-Hein
 - US 83
 - Vallecillo Rd.
 - Outer Loop
- In preparing the fiscally constrained project list, the UTP was used to identify programmed projects through the year 2030.
 - The MPO coordinated with TxDOT to identify projects to program with expected revenue for the years 2020-2045.
 - TxDOT added one local project (Vallecillo Rd) to the unfunded list for consideration of priority

Ranking Unfunded TxDOT Projects			
Rank	Roadway	CSJ #	Estimated Cost
1st	Vallecillo	Local Project	\$ 31.5 M
2nd	IH 35	0018-06-186	\$ 22 M
3rd	SL 20	0086-16-008	\$ 22 M
4th	SL 20	0086-16-010	\$ 22 M
5th	Outer Loop	0922-33-039	\$ 25 M
6th	SL 20	0086-16-009	\$ 22 M
7th	Mangana-Hein	0922-33-066	\$ 14.1 M
8th	IH 35	0018-04-058	\$ 68 M
9th	US 59	0542-01-094	\$ 205 M
10th	IH 35	0018-03-057	\$ 8 M
11th	IH 35	0018-04-061	\$ 19.7 M
12th	IH 35	0018-05-098	\$ 22 M
13th	US 59	0542-02-043	\$ 260 M
14th	US 83	0037-10-040	\$ 45 M
15th	Outer Loop	0922-33-182	\$ 70 M
16th	IH 35	0018-06-196	\$ 22 M

Q1. Stakeholder Information	
Answer Choices	Responses
Name:	13
Title:	13
Email Address:	13
Phone Number:	0
Answered	13
Skipped	0

B. Discussion with possible action related to the need for internal infrastructure at Unitec Industrial Park to accommodate the additional traffic that will be generated by the expansion related to the newly approved City TIRZ. (Mr. Humberto “Tito” Gonzalez)

David Salazar, TxDOT, stated that in discussions with Mr. Snideman and City Staff, TxDOT was aware of the amount of work that is coming into the Uniroyal area up north. TxDOT wanted to briefly discuss what is planned out in that area so possibly think of altered routes.

Humberto Gonzalez, TxDOT, stated that TxDOT had been holding weekly meetings with City Planning and directors from different departments. One of the projects was for the improvements at the Uniroyal interchange at mile marker 13. TxDOT has an estimated 65 million dollars which were funds that were already secured for that project with a proposed letting date of 2024. The project would also consist of removing and replacing the current overpass at the Uniroyal intersection and also reconstructing the at grade crossing at Uniroyal which would go under IH 35. It would also have railroad upgrade improvements to the railroad crossing on the east side. TxDOT was already coordinating with Union Pacific to get the clearance needed for the railroad.

The other project TxDOT was working on was building a new proposed interchange that would tie in the Hachar-Reuthinger project. It would be an elevated interchange that would be constructed. This segment of the project was 45 million dollars which TxDOT already has secured and also with a proposed letting date of 2024.

CM. Galo asked if one would be able to fly over tracks otherwise the same problem with the overflow of traffic at Uniroyal.

CM. Salazar stated the Hachar-Reuthinger project would be tightening on the west side which would be an elevated tie-in and would be a fly overpass. He stated eventually there would have to be a route east of IH 35. As of now, the interchange would only go over IH 35 where you can go north or southbound but eventually TxDOT is hoping that there will be a tie in east of the Union Pacific railroad. He stated it is designed elevated enough so you can clear the tracks if needed.

Dr. Martinez stated that it was important for the MPO Policy committee to understand the viability or having or investing a north, south parallel to IH 35 that would have multiple connections to IH 35.

Mr. Gonzalez recommended to have a meeting discuss specifically about what are the future plans in that area Dr. Martinez referred to.

Dr. Martinez made a motion to explore the feasibility of a north, south parallel to IH 35 as well as to start a study inside the area, even if its just within the MPO and to look for the viability of said roadway.

Second: CM. Perez (for discussion)
For: 9
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

C. Discussion with possible action on a motion to approve the second version of the Laredo Transit Management Inc. (LTMI) Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) and Safety Performance Targets for calendar year 2021 and to incorporate into the Metropolitan and Statewide Planning Process with the Laredo Metropolitan Organization (MPO).

Dr. Martinez made a motion to approve the item.

Second: CM. Gutierrez
For: 9
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

D. Discussion with possible action on Hachar-Reuthinger.

Guillermo Cuellar, Webb County Engineering, stated the consultant was going to submit schematics and all documents on Thursday. Once the County reviews them, they will forward them to TxDOT for further handling. He also stated the consultant has been paid all their services up to now. In addition to the amendment to the advance funding agreement in which TxDOT would take over the rest of environmental work, it would go through Commissioner's court for approval on April 26th.

CM. Salazar clarified and stated what TxDOT wanted to do is once the environmental was cleared, transfer over the right-of-way to TxDOT so they can begin the process of construction and design. By doing that, it would save the City and the County approximately about ninety million dollars.

E. REPORT(S) AND PRESENTATIONS (No action required).

A. Update by TxDOT staff on three projects in the design stage currently out for public comment; intersection improvements on FM 1472, an expansion project on US 59, and a signal project at Business 59 and San Francisco.

CM. Gonzalez gave a brief presentation on the item. He stated for the expansion project on US 59 the virtual public hearing went live on April 12th, at 8:00a.m. In person portion public hearing was held by appointment only on April 12th. The virtual public hearing would end on April 27th at 5:00 p.m.

For the intersection improvements on FM 1472, the virtual public meeting started on April 6th, at 11:00 a.m. and the comment period would end on April 21st, at 11:59 p.m.

He also stated a project presentation could be found at www.txdot.gov by searching "FM 1472 Webb County.

For the signal project at Business 59 and San Francisco, letters would be sent out on April 19th to property owners within project limits and comment would need to be received by May 7, 2021.

B. Update by MPO staff of an administrative modification to the FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to accept the recently revised group project definitions, and an administrative modification to the 2020-2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to include Appendix A – Short Range Projects Identified in the MTP and Listed in the TIP.

Mr. Snideman gave a brief presentation on the item. He stated nothing was removed or taken away, it was just a rearrangement of information into the format that the federal government wanted.

D. Status report by the Regional Mobility Authority (RMA).

Antonio Rodriguez, HNTB, Inc., representing the RMA provided a status report via email which read as followed:

1. Killam Industrial Blvd. Turn Lanes – Anticipated NTP for Anderson Columbia for construction will be in February. Construction start date is anticipated for the month of June/ July. The reason for the delay is due to a lag in time for the ordering of the signal poles in the project. This is lag in time from the ordering to the arrival of signal poles is an issue that is being seen on various street projects across the state.
2. Los Presidentes (Cuatro Vientos to Brownwood) – Construction has commenced. The team has issued cut sheets for the project for use by the contractor, and the team has also received multiple RFIs which have been quickly resolved. On the Cuatro Vientos Acceleration/ Deceleration Lane project, the 90% plans will be submitted to TxDOT on the week of the 26th of April. The project is scheduled for letting in October of this year.
3. Vallecillo Road – Received a Resolution of Support by the MPO on 2/16/21 from the MPO Policy Committee Meeting. We have also received a letter of support from State Representative Richard Raymond, State Representative Tracy King, State Senator Judith Zaffirini, US Congressman Henry Cuellar. We also had a follow-up meeting with TxDOT Deputy Executive Director Marc Williams to further discuss the project. At the conclusion of the discussion, he committed to work with Chairman Bruce Bugg's schedule to meet with Chairman Jed Brown.

CM. Perez suggested to have a meeting to discuss funding and mainly to discuss the top 3 projects based on the survey that was discussed in the beginning of the meeting.

E. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Snideman stated he would update the MPO committee regarding any future in person meetings. He stated City Council would be discussing Phase IV strategy but he will keep the MPO committee updated if there were any changes.

F. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Martinez made a motion to **adjourn** the meeting at 2:42 p.m.

Second: CM. Perez
For: 6
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

J. Kirby Snideman, AICP
MPO Director

Pete Saenz, Mayor and LW-CAMPO
Chairperson



LAREDO & WEBB COUNTY

AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

May 17, 2021

Texas Department of Transportation, Laredo District
Attn. David Salazar, District Engineer
1817 Bob Bullock Loop
Laredo, Texas, 78043

Mr. Salazar,

This letter is in support of the Grant Application to the Texas Department of Transportation – Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program 2021 being submitted by Webb County for the improvements of sidewalks in the City of Rio Bravo, Texas.

We know sidewalks not only provide a safe walking area for pedestrians, they also enable the elderly and disabled to move about town. Also, the proposed sidewalks improvements project will enhance pedestrian access to transit alternatives and will improve connectivity from homes to schools, recreational facilities and jobs. Furthermore, this type of project is in line with the recommendations of our recently adopted Active Transportation Plan.

If funded, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will immediately initiate the required process to include this project in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Thank you for your attention to our correspondence and consideration for selection of the improvements of sidewalks in the City of Rio Bravo, Texas. The Laredo MPO whole heartedly endorses the attached application.

Should you need further information, we may be reached at (956) 794-1613.

Sincerely,

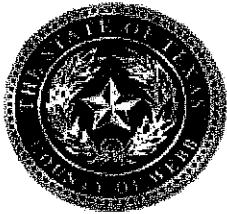
J. Kirby Snideman, AICP
Planning & LWCAMPO Director

Maria G. Silva

From: James Flores
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 10:17 AM
To: Maria G. Silva
Subject: FW: TxDOT 2021 TA Call for Projects Update

Good morning Ms. Silva:

As per your request.



James Flores
Director
Webb County
Community Action Agency
Economic Development Department
jflores@webbcountytexas.gov
(956)523-4605

From: Bonnie Sherman [mailto:Bonnie.Sherman@txdot.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 1:27 PM
To: Noah Heath <Noah.Heath@txdot.gov>; Carl Seifert-C <CSEIFE-C@txdot.gov>
Subject: TxDOT 2021 TA Call for Projects Update

Good afternoon, Project Sponsors! I hope this message finds you well.

If you are receiving this message, TxDOT has received one or more preliminary applications for Transportation Alternatives (TA) funding for bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure project(s) from your community. We received a total of 190 preliminary applications from 127 unique entities requesting over \$220 million by the deadline!

At this time, we are reviewing all complete preliminary applications to determine eligibility of the project sponsor, proposed activity, and project location. Based on the information provided in the preliminary application, if your project was determined to be eligible for TA funds, then your TxDOT District TA Coordinator will conduct a virtual meeting to review preliminary applications for projects in your jurisdiction. If you have not been contacted by your local TxDOT TA Coordinator, please reach out to them today.

Step 1 of the application process is targeted to conclude by April 12, 2021. Look for an update on project status on or around April 12th. At that time, the detailed application will be made available to all project sponsors to be completed and submitted by June 14, 2021. As always, refer to our [webpage](#) for TA program information and materials.

Other Bicycle and Pedestrian News

- On April 5, 2021, TxDOT updated its Bicycle Accommodations Guidance. All bicycle accommodations proposed for TxDOT's TA funding must comply with the new guidance. Check TxDOT's Planning & Designing for Bicycles and Pedestrians [webpage](#) for updated guidance to be posted *later this week*.
- We would like to pass along another pedestrian safety grant opportunity through WalkAmerica that may be of interest to some of our project sponsors. Please visit this [link](#) for more information. *TxDOT does not have any further information about this external grant opportunity.* [Note: Rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) must comply with guidelines in the [2018 TxDOT TRF Memo on RRFBs and PHBs](#) and the [Texas Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices](#).]

Thank you for your interest in advancing pedestrian and bicycle transportation in your community!

Best regards,

Bonnie Sherman, AICP

Bicycle & Pedestrian Program Manager

TxDOT Public Transportation Division

bonnie.sherman@txdot.gov

(512) 486-5972 (o)

(512) 571-9825 (m)

<https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/modes-of-travel/bicycle.html>

A Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) message

#EndTheStreakTX



2021 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Call for Projects

Preliminary Application (PA)

Deadline to Submit PA: March 1, 2020

Project Sponsor

[Link to PA Instructions](#)

1. Contact information

Local Government/Project Sponsor Name: WEBB COUNTY

Contact Person: JAMES FLORES

Title: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Street Address: 1308 SAN AGUSTIN AVE.

City: LAREDO

Zip Code: 78040 Office Phone Number: 9565234605

Email: JFLORES@WEBBCOUNTYTX.GOV

2. Identify population area (based on project location)

An eligible project sponsor may represent a population sub-area within its jurisdictional boundaries. Example: a county project is located within the boundaries of a City, Census Designated Place, Village, or Unincorporated Area – select the smaller population area where the project is located. For population numbers, use Census data from the 2010 Decennial Census.

Location Name: RIO BRAVO

Population size: 4,710

3. Is the project within the boundaries of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)? Yes No

If the project is within a MPO boundary, is the project within a Census Urbanized Area greater than 200,000, designated as a Transportation Management Area? Yes No

Project Information

4. Project name: WEBB COUNTY RIO BRAVO SIDEWALKS IMPROVEMENT

Be concise and logical.

5. Eligible project type

Projects may include multiple project types; select all types that apply. (See instructions for details.)

Bikeway improvements

Improvements for non-motorized transportation safety

Shared use paths

Sidewalk improvements

6. Project location

On/along a TxDOT maintained roadway

On/along a non-TxDOT roadway

Not within the right-of-way of any roadway

Project location notes: Projects or components of projects located entirely within school or park property that are for internal circulation only are not eligible for TxDOT's TA funding.

7. Provide a Google map link: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1XJbeM0nRtn8HSSyFESrA3QyNZ8BjggFs&usp=sharing>

See PA instructions for recommended tutorial links and minimum requirements.

8. Preliminary Scope of Work

Briefly describe the project, including **project location, limits, facility type, and width**. Descriptions that exceed the space provided below are not acceptable. (See instructions for details.)

The proposed project will construct a 5-foot-wide sidewalks along various streets within Rio Bravo, TX. The proposed project will include sidewalks, ADA ramps and crosswalks. This project will provide connectivity from the local elementary school, through the community, to the Rio Bravo Park.

9. Funding opportunities

Select funding opportunity the Project Sponsor is interested in pursuing for this project.

Transportation Alternatives Program	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For small urban and nonurban areas: State and/or federal funding for construction activities (and development activities when applicable) with a minimum 20% local match required. Project sponsors may be eligible for a reduction in the local match. Refer to the Program Guide for details. TxDOT administers TA funds for projects located outside Transportation Management Areas (TMAs). TMAs are identified by the smoothed 2010 U.S. Census Urbanized Area boundaries for population areas greater than 200,000. 	
NONURBAN - Population area of 5,000 or less (outside a TMA) Current funding or Conditional Project List	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SMALL URBAN - Population area between 5,001 and 200,000 (outside a TMA) Conditional Project List only	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. Project costs

Provide a planning cost estimate for the total estimated cost for the following project activities:

Estimated cost to prepare construction plans, specifications, and estimates: 350,000
 Estimated cost to prepare environmental documentation: 0
 Estimated construction cost: 350,000

Attach a copy of the cost estimate. The breakdown of federal, state, and local percentages will be determined in Step 2 of the application process, if authorized to proceed.

11. Local match

Identify source(s) of local matching funds: Rio Bravo is eligible to receive TDC.

Examples include: municipal budget, Transportation Development Credits, or donated funds from a third-party.

12. Transportation Development Credits

If a project sponsor's population is less than 50,000 and meets certain economic criteria, they may request the use of Transportation Development Credits that allow for 100% federal TA funds to be applied to the project in lieu of a local match. Does the project sponsor request the use of Transportation Development Credits for this project? Yes No

13. Project complexity

Is this project in a locally or regionally approved planning document?
(May include City/County/MPO, master/comprehensive, bicycle/pedestrian, capital improvement, or other transportation plans.) Yes No Unk

Will the project reduce automobile traffic capacity? Yes No Unk

Does the project cross a railroad (RR) or is the project within 50' of RR right-of-way? Yes No Unk

Will the project involve relocation of utilities? Yes No Unk

- Will this project involve acquisition of right-of-way or require an easement (including railroad), access change, or relocation? Yes No Unk
- Does the project use land purchased or improved with Land and Water Conservation Funds? Yes No Unk
- Does the project use land in: (Check all appropriate boxes)
 Publicly owned: Park(s), Recreation area(s), Wildlife/waterfowl refuge(s), OR Publicly/privately owned historical or archeological sites? Yes No Unk
- Does the project occur within or around properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places? Yes No Unk
- Is the project located within range and/or potential habitat of state or federally protected species? Yes No Unk
- Is there a likely possibility of encountering hazardous materials? Yes No Unk
- Does the project involve placement of fill in wetlands or waters of the U.S.? Yes No Unk
- Is the project located in the Edwards Aquifer Recharge/Contributing Zone or Coastal Management Zone? Yes No Unk

C. Discussion with possible action on the Hachar-Reuthinger road project.



INDEPENDENT MPO PLAN

TOWARDS A NEW REGIONAL FUTURE

MAY 12, 2021



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OVERVIEW OF MPOs

Urbanized areas with a population of more than 50,000 residents are required to designate a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) with a policy board in order to be eligible for federal highway and transit funding assistance. MPOs are created and designated to carry out the metropolitan planning process. Federal law requires MPOs to establish a cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive (3-C) transportation planning process to facilitate transportation investment decisions within metropolitan areas. Additionally, an urbanized area with a population of over 200,000 is called a Transportation Management Area (TMA). MPOs in a TMA have a stronger voice in setting priorities in the implementation of projects listed in the Transportation Improvement Program. MPOs in a TMA are responsible for additional planning activities and must undergo a federal certification review to ensure compliance with federal requirements.¹

MPO ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

In Webb County, the Laredo Urban Transportation Study was created to serve the Laredo urbanized area. Renamed the Laredo & Webb County Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (LW-CAMPO) in 2020, this organization continues to provide for a cooperative, continuing, and comprehensive transportation planning process for the region.

MPO's are required to carry out three major work activities in order to receive federal transportation funds:

- Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

A main responsibility of the MPO staff is to coordinate transportation planning activities with TxDOT, FHWA, and other stakeholders with an interest in the metropolitan transportation planning process. Other responsibilities include:

- Providing opportunities for public participation
- Transportation planning and programming of projects
- Congestion management
- Performance management of federally required performance targets

According to a 2017 Department of Transportation report, recent changes in federal legislation, regulations, and technological innovations have contributed to increasing complexities of activities that need to be carried out by MPOs. Considering this, it is important for MPOs to evaluate their organizational structure and allocation of resources to ensure that they have the capacity to efficiently carry out their responsibilities.²

Advantages and Disadvantages of Existing Structure with the City as the Fiscal Agent

Advantages	Disadvantages
Access to City services (i.e. trainings, procurement, HR, payroll, IT assistance)	Lack of MPO autonomy and independence, and required involvement in activities not central to the MPO’s mission
Collaboration opportunities with City departments	Blurring of responsibilities and employee time between MPO and the fiscal agent
Low operating costs	Tools and personnel paid for by the MPO have the potential to be utilized by the fiscal agent
	The Planning Director splits time and focus between City Council and MPO Policy Committee, ultimately being most responsive to the body that appoints her/him (City Council)
	No final authority over procurement, salaries, and hiring decisions despite Policy Committee approval of budget & expenditures.

THE NEED FOR AN INDEPENDENT MPO

Currently, the MPO is hosted by the City of Laredo. While this structure has its benefits, and has been cost-effective for the MPO, it is essential that the MPO be recognized as a regional organization. Being recognized as an independent, regional organization can ensure that the MPO meets its intended purpose to establish a cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive (3-C) transportation planning process to facilitate transportation investment decisions within the region.

The current structure can create confusion between the MPO and the City as to responsibilities, identities, resources, boundaries, and budget oversight. The relationship between the MPO and the City also creates politically sensitive challenges that make it difficult to operate independently and in the best interest of the region. Creating an independent MPO is an essential component of it becoming more efficient to meet the mobility needs of the region. Changing the MPO's current structure will position the organization to reach its full potential as a regional organization.

The MPO's obligations and federally required activities necessitate a full-time director to focus on the activities and operations of the organization. Currently, the City of Laredo Planning Director also serves as the MPO director and splits the time between both organizations. This does not allow the Director to fully focus their attention on the needs and activities of the MPO. Similarly, some employees split their time between duties of the City of Laredo Planning Department and the MPO. This practice is unsustainable over the long-term if the MPO wishes to become an effective independent organization.

A NEW STRUCTURE FOR LWCAMPO

Transitioning to an independent MPO with a new fiscal agent can be accomplished through several steps over a 6- month period.

ESTIMATED SIX MONTH TRANSITION PERIOD

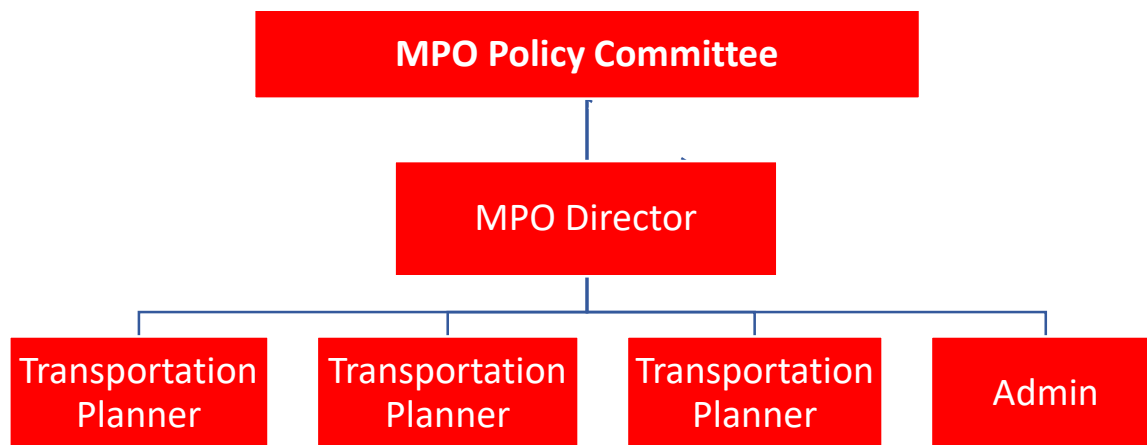
May to October 2021:

- Policy Committee to appoint an Interim MPO Director independent from the Interim Planning Director. **(May)**
- Policy Committee to begin the amendment process for the MPO Bylaws to reflect a full-time director appointed by the Policy Committee rather than the Planning Director appointed by the Laredo City Council. **(May)**
- Finalize structure, staffing, and funding details with updated Annual Work Plan. **(June)**
- Adopt amended bylaws. **(June)**
- Appoint a permanent MPO Director. **(June)**

- Enter into MOU with Webb County as new fiscal agent. **(August)**
 - MOU will stipulate that MPO hiring, firing, employment, and office policies are established by the MPO director and confirmed by the Policy Committee, and not dictated by the County Administration or HR.
- Determine office and meeting space needs and secure location for both **(August)**
 - Continue using current space during transition.
 - Seek an in-kind office space contribution from the existing or new fiscal agent, the details of the arrangement to be stipulated in an MOU.
- Establish new operating policies and procedures. **(September)**
- Authorize MOUs at the MPO Policy Committee, County Commission, and City Council meetings where necessary. **(September)**
- Authorize necessary contracts related to the arrangements of the new fiscal agent and/or in kind contributions at the MPO Policy Committee, County Commission, and City Council meetings where necessary. **(September)**
- Transition current MPO staff from City of Laredo employees to Webb County employees on a voluntary basis. Begin hiring for any positions left unfilled. **(October)**

PROPOSED MPO STAFF ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

As part of the transition to an independent MPO, a staff of 5 is recommended. The following image shows the proposed organizational chart for the newly structured MPO. To be competitive with other similarly sized MPOs in the State, the recommended annual salary range for the MPO Director is \$80K-\$90K, for Transportation Planners \$55K-\$70K, and for Admin \$30K-\$40K.



NEW OPPORTUNITIES

The MPO as an independent organization can play an improved role in the following areas:

- Long-range planning activities for the region; and
- Identifying and securing new funding opportunities; and
- Functioning as a regional convener to bring together different entities to plan, prioritize transportation projects, and facilitate decision-making.

Additionally, as an independent MPO, the organization will have new opportunities to provide technical planning assistance, increase stakeholder engagement, encourage more public participation, more effectively measure performance on established targets while enhancing data management capabilities.

ENDORSEMENTS

This plan and its details have been shared with the Federal Highway Administration and the Texas Department of Transportation, the two organizations which play a role in overseeing the administration of the MPO. Both organizations fully support and endorse this move to a more independent MPO.

With this endorsement, it was pointed out that the Laredo & Webb County Area MPO represents the last Transportation Management Area (MPO in an urbanized area with a population greater than 200k) in Texas that does not have an independent structure as recommended in this plan.

¹ <https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-guidance/transportation-planning/metropolitan-planning-organization-mpo>

² MPO Staffing and Organizational Structures
https://www.planning.dot.gov/documents/MPOStaffing_and_Org_Structures.pdf

- E. Discussion with possible action on the appointment of an interim MPO Director separate from the interim City of Laredo Planning Director who was appointed by the Laredo City Council.

**LAREDO WEBB COUNTY AREA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
ACTION ITEM**

DATE: 5-17-21	ITEM: IV.F
<p>SUBJECT: MOTION(S) Receive public testimony and initiate a 10-day public review and comment period, for the following proposed amendment(s) of the MPO Bylaws:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Article II, Section 2.3 Membership, Terms and Administration, shall be amended to allow a permanent Director for the MPO separate from the City of Laredo Planning Director who is appointed by City Council. 	
INITIATED BY: Staff	STAFF SOURCE: J. Kirby Snideman, MPO Director
<p>PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION: The MPO Policy Committee adopted the Bylaws in 1997, and subsequently amended them in 2000, 2007, 2009, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2020 and January of 2021.</p>	
<p>BACKGROUND: The Policy Committee of the MPO has requested in the past that staff present a plan for a more independent MPO that can better facilitate regional transportation planning through the collaboration of multiple local government organizations. A plan will be presented at this meeting, and this agenda item is in line with that plan.</p>	
<p>FINANCIAL IMPACT: Although the details are yet to be determined by the Policy Committee, the adjusted staffing situation with an independent MPO will likely result in reduced administrative costs for the MPO.</p>	
TECH. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approval	STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval

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MISSION STATEMENT

To set transportation related policy, identify existing and future local transportation needs in cooperation with TxDOT, and propose and recommend projects for all modes of transportation including mass transit and active transportation, with special attention to freight

ARTICLE I
DEFINITIONS, PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY

Section 1.1 Definitions

- **Laredo Webb County Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (LWCAMPO)** – is the organization, formerly known as the Laredo Urban Transportation Study, designated by the Governor of the State of Texas, to serve as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Laredo Urbanized Area. It shall be hereinafter referred to as the “MPO.”
- **Metropolitan Planning Area-** The geographic area for which the MPO is responsible and in which the metropolitan transportation planning process must be carried out pursuant to Title 23 USC Section 134 and Title 49 USC Section 5303.
- **Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)** - The forum for cooperative transportation decision-making, as designated by the Governor, and units of general-purpose local government representing 75 percent of the affected metropolitan population. The MPO is responsible for identifying local transportation needs, in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), following a "Continuing, Comprehensive, and Cooperative" transportation planning process pursuant to 23 USC 134. The MPO is also responsible for proposing and recommending projects for all modes of urban transportation to those governmental units that are responsible for program development and project implementation.
- **Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee (Policy Committee)** - The policy body, established pursuant to 23 USC 134, with the responsibility for establishing overall transportation for, and taking the required approval actions as the Metropolitan Planning Organization. The Policy Committee is comprised of those governmental agencies identified in the original designation agreement and those agencies or organizations subsequently added to the membership of the board. The Policy Committee shall have decision-making authority over issues such as the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).
- **Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Review Committee (Technical Committee)** - The body of the MPO responsible for professional and technical review of work programs, policy recommendations and transportation planning activities. The Technical Committee shall review issues for accuracy and advise the Policy Committee on recommended actions. The Technical Committee is composed of representatives of the City

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of Laredo, the County of Webb, the Texas Department of Transportation and private sector representatives.

- **Metropolitan Planning Organization Active Transportation Committee** – the body of the MPO responsible for improving and promoting active modes of mobility in the MPO study area by monitoring the implementation of the Laredo Webb County Active Transportation Plan, and providing recommendations on MPO active transportation related activities.
- **Fiscal Agent for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (Fiscal Agent)** – The governmental entity or agency designated by written agreement between the MPO Policy Committee and the governmental entity or agency providing fiscal administrative services and other services (which may include personnel and staff support) to the MPO Policy Committee and the Staff of the MPO.
- **Laredo Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)** - The MTP is an official, comprehensive, intermodal transportation plan developed and adopted for the Laredo Metropolitan Area through the transportation planning process. The MTP identifies the existing and future transportation needs and develops coordinated strategies to provide the necessary transportation facilities essential for the continued mobility and economic vitality of Laredo. These coordinated transportation strategies include roadway development and operations, truck and rail freight movement, transit operations, bikeways and pedestrian facilities. The development of the MTP is required under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) to assure the continuation of federal transportation funds. The plan shall address a continuous twenty-year planning horizon.
- **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** - A staged, multiyear, intermodal program, of transportation projects which is consistent with the metropolitan transportation plan and which is also financially constrained.
- **Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)** - Shall mean the program of work that includes goals, objectives and/or tasks required by each of the several agencies involved in the metropolitan transportation planning process. The UPWP shall describe metropolitan transportation and transportation-related planning activities anticipated in the area during the next one-year period and reflect transportation planning work to be funded by federal, state or local transportation or transportation-related planning funds.

Section 1.2 Purpose

The MPO is the designated organization responsible for identifying local transportation needs in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). The MPO is also the entity responsible for proposing and recommending projects for all modes of urban transportation to those governmental units that are responsible for program development and project implementation.

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Section 1.3 Authority

The MPO shall have the following authority pursuant to 23 CFR Part 450:

- (a) To develop and establish policies, procedures, plans and programs for the metropolitan area.
- (b) To certify such actions as may be necessary to comply with state and federal regulations.
- (c) To establish such rules of procedure and approve such actions as it deems necessary to fulfill its purposes.
- (d) To ensure those requirements of 23 USC 134 and 135 and 49 USC, Chapter 53, 5301, et seq. are carried out.
- (e) To use federal transportation planning funds, as well as in-kind matching funds as authorized by the Texas Transportation Commission, to develop and maintain a comprehensive regional transportation planning program in conformity with requirements of 23 USC 135 and 49 USC 5303.
- (f) To adopt a Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for the metropolitan planning area that will complement the Statewide Transportation Plan required by state and federal laws, a Transportation Improvement Program and a Unified Planning Work Program and such other planning documents and reports that may be required by state or federal laws or regulations.
- (g) To establish one or more advisory committees to assist in the transportation planning process and/or assist in promoting the implementation of approved plans. The Policy Committee may create ad-hoc committees or other technical subcommittees.

ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP, TERMS AND ADMINISTRATION

Section 2.1 Membership and Qualifications

- (a) The MPO shall be comprised of a Policy Committee and a Technical Committee. The Policy Committee shall include the following members:

City of Laredo:	Mayor (Chairperson) Two City Councilmembers, as appointed by the Mayor in his/her sole discretion.
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Laredo Mass Transit Board One Laredo Mass Transit Board member as appointed by the Board's presiding officer/Mayor in his/her sole discretion.

County of Webb: County Judge (Vice-Chairperson)
Two County Commissioners as appointed by the Webb County Judge in his/her sole discretion.

State of Texas: TxDOT District Engineer

Member at Large Member to be appointed by the Policy Committee

*** EX-OFFICIO ***

State of Texas: State Senator(s)
State Representative(s)

- (b) Members shall serve until a replacement is qualified pursuant to section 2.1 Subsection (e).
- (c) The Mayor of the City of Laredo shall appoint the two City Councilmembers that represent the City of Laredo.
- (d) Laredo Mass Transit Board's presiding officer/Mayor shall appoint one member to represent the Laredo Mass Transit Board.
- (e) The County Judge of the County of Webb shall appoint the two County Commissioners that represent the County of Webb.
- (f) Appointments to the Policy Committee shall be for a period of two years. A member may be reappointed with no limitation to number of terms, except that such term will not continue in the event an officer becomes ineligible for membership on the Policy Committee.

Section 2.2 Meetings, Quorum and Voting

- (a) The Policy Committee shall meet at least twice per year or as often as necessary to fulfill its purposes.
- (b) Quorum shall consist of four (4) members of the voting membership.
- (c) The use of proxies by the voting members of the Policy Committee is prohibited.
- d) The official actions of the Policy Committee shall be by affirmative action of the majority of the voting membership present and voting at public meetings. All meetings are to be held as

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open meetings as defined in Chapter 551, Texas Government Code (Texas Open Meetings Act), and the ~~Transportation Planning~~ Director of the MPO shall insure that the written notice of the meeting is posted at City of Laredo City Hall and Webb County Commissioners Court Building at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Additionally, the notice may be posted at TxDOT Laredo District Office, and on the City of Laredo and Webb County website. The ~~Transportation Planning~~ MPO Director shall insure that at least two copies of the agenda and such supporting documentation as is available to the Policy Committee are made available for public inspection in the MPO offices at the same time they are made available to the Policy Committee members.

- (e) All official actions of the Policy Committee shall be duly recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- (f) The Mayor of the City of Laredo shall serve as Chairperson of the Policy Committee. The responsibilities of the Chairperson shall include, but are not limited to the following:
 - 1. Preside at all meeting of the Policy Committee.
 - 2. Authenticate, by signature, all resolutions adopted by the Policy Committee.
 - 3. Serve as chief policy advocate for the Policy Committee.
 - 4. Represent the committee at hearings, conferences, and other events as required or designate another member of the Committee or the Chairperson of the Technical Committee to represent the Chairperson.
- (g) The County Judge of the County of Webb shall serve as Vice Chairperson of the Policy Committee. During the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson shall preside over meetings and shall exercise all the duties of the Chairperson.
- (h) In the absence of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from a Policy Committee meeting at which a quorum is present, the remaining members present shall elect a presiding officer who shall serve until the conclusion of that meeting or until the arrival of the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson.

Section 2.3 Administration

- (a) ~~The City of Laredo Planning Director shall act as the Transportation Planning Director for the MPO.~~ The MPO Policy Committee shall hire a full-time MPO Director. The responsibilities of the Director shall include, but are not limited to the following:
 - 1. All staff support for the Policy Committee, oversight and coordination of MPO administration and transportation planning activities, grant administration, maintaining records and providing notice of meetings as required by the Public Participation Process.

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2. Shall act as Chairperson of the Technical Committee with responsibility for drafting findings and recommendations of the Technical Committee for review by the Policy Committee.
3. Shall be responsible for all plans and reports prepared by and for the review and consideration of the Policy Committee and for submitting the recommended policies, procedures and programs of the Technical Committee to the Policy Committee.
4. Supervise the MPO staff.
5. Serve as a liaison to the Texas Department of Transportation's planning program through the department's district office and the department's Transportation Planning and Programming Division's representative.
6. In cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation, collect, maintain, forecast, and report to the department appropriate socioeconomic, roadway, and travel data.
7. Prepare and submit all required plans, reports, programs, data, and certifications.
8. Develop and present to the MPO Policy Committee a Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the metropolitan planning area, a Transportation Improvement Program and a Unified Planning Work Program and such other planning documents and reports that may be required by state or federal laws or regulations.

(b) The Technical Committee shall include the following:

1. City Representatives:
Laredo City Planner
The General Manager of the City Transit System
Laredo Director of Traffic Safety
Laredo Airport Manager
Laredo City Engineer
Laredo Bridge Director
2. County and Regional Representatives:
MPO Director (Chairperson)
Webb County Planning Director
South Texas Development Council Regional Planning Director
The General Manager of the Rural Transit System
Webb County Engineer
3. State Representatives:

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TxDOT Planning Representative (Vice-Chairperson)
TxDOT Planning Representative
TxDOT Area Engineer
TxDOT TPP Field Representative

4. Federal representatives:
FHWA Planning Representative (Austin)

5. Private Sector Representatives:
A representative of the Kansas City Southern Railroad Company
A representative of the Union Pacific Railroad Company
A representative of the Laredo Transportation Association
A Transportation Provider Representative who shall also serve on the Laredo Transportation & Traffic Safety Advisory Committee

6. School system representatives
A representative of the Laredo Independent School District
A representative of the United Independent School District
A representative of Texas A&M International University
A representative of Laredo Community College

- (c) Each voting member of the Technical Committee may have a designated alternate member to serve on the committee in the member's absence. Appointed alternate members will have the voting rights and privileges of members when serving in the absence of the Technical Committee member.

The responsibilities of the Technical Committee include technical review of work programs, policy recommendations and transportation planning activities.

- (d) The Active Transportation Committee (ATC)

1. The responsibilities of the Active Transportation Committee shall include the following:
 - a. Monitor the implementation of the Laredo and Webb County Active Transportation Plan.
 - b. Recommend active transportation related planning studies to be conducted.
 - c. Provide recommendations to the MPO Policy Committee regarding active transportation planning activities.
 - d. Advise the MPO Policy Committee on active transportation related technical and policy issues.
 - e. Explore and recommend funding options and opportunities for active transportation related projects.
 - f. Promote community outreach efforts such as bicycle and pedestrian safety campaigns and educational programs.

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2. Membership

- a. The Active Transportation Committee shall be composed of a broad group of representatives from the regional community.
- b. Members shall be selected by MPO staff.
- c. The MPO Director shall select the Active Transportation Committee Chair.

Section 2.4 Ethic Policy for MPO Policy Members and Employees

(a) A policy board member or employee of a metropolitan planning organization may not:

- (1) accept or solicit any gift, favor, or service that might reasonably tend to influence the member or employee in the discharge of official duties or that the member or employee knows or should know is being offered with the intent to influence the member's or employee's official conduct; or,
- (2) accept other employment or engage in a business or professional activity that the member or employee might reasonably expect would require or induce the member or employee to disclose confidential information acquired by reason of the official position; or,
- (3) accept other employment or compensation that could reasonably be expected to impair the member's or employee's independence of judgment in the performance of the member's or employee's official duties; or,
- (4) make personal investments that could reasonably be expected to create a substantial conflict between the member's or employee's private interest and the public interest; or,
- (5) intentionally or knowingly solicit, accept, or agree to accept any benefit for having exercised the member's or employee's official powers or performed the member's or employee's official duties in favor of another.

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ARTICLE III
AMENDMENTS

Section 3.1 Bylaw Revisions

The Bylaws may be revised or amended by approval of the Policy Committee at a meeting at which a quorum, as defined herein, is present.

PASSED AND APPROVED, on this the _____, 2021.

Honorable Pete Saenz
Mayor of Laredo and Chairperson of the
LWCAMPO Transportation Planning Committee

We certify that the LWCAMPO By-laws were revised at a public meeting of the Policy Committee of the Laredo Webb County Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

MPO Director

David M. Salazar
TxDOT District Engineer

Angelica Quijano

From: Antonio Rodriguez <anrodriguez@HNTB.com>
Sent: Friday, May 14, 2021 9:05 AM
To: Angelica Quijano; Kirby Snideman; Vanessa Guerra
Cc: Melisa Montemayor; Jed Brown; Doug Howland
Subject: MPO Policy Committee Packet/May 17th, 2021

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Team, please see the update below. I apologize for the delay. If possible, please include in the Policy Committee packet. If not, we will provide this report verbally.

1. Killam Industrial Blvd. Turn Lanes – Construction start date is anticipated for the month of July. The reason for the delay is due to a lag in time for the ordering of the signal poles in the project. This is lag in time from the ordering to the arrival of signal poles is an issue that is being seen on various street projects across the state.
2. Los Presidentes (Cuatro Vientos to Brownwood) – Construction has commenced. Our first construction progress meeting was 5/11/21. The team is preparing their first change order for the project to incorporate the concrete pavement into the project from Cuatro Vientos to Brownwood and match the pavement section from Cuatro Vientos to Concord Hills. A forthcoming change order will be developed to include a traffic signal into the project at Concord Hills as passed by City Council resolution on 4/26/21. Regarding the Cuatro Vientos Acceleration/ Deceleration Lane project, the 90% plans were submitted to TxDOT on the week of the 5th of May. The project is scheduled for letting in October of this year.
3. Vallecillo Road – Chairman Brown is scheduled to meet with Transportation Commissioner Chairman Bruce Bugg to discuss the Vallecillo Road project on 5/25/21.
4. Other Items – The WCCL RMA will have their May Board Meeting on 5/19/21.

If you have any other questions, please let us know. I hope you have a great day.

Antonio Rodriguez, PE

WCCL RMA GEC Deputy Program Manager
Cell (512) 800-0382

From: Angelica Quijano <aquijano@ci.laredo.tx.us>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 4:55 PM
Subject: MPO Policy Committee Packet/April 19th, 2021

Good afternoon,

Below please find website link to packet for Monday's (April 19th, 2021) MPO Policy Committee virtual meeting. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our offices. Thank you.

<http://www.laredompo.org/agendas-minutes/>

Angie Quijano-Administrative Assistant