

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 JANUARY 19TH, 2021 MEETING

Regular members present:

Honorable Pete Saenz, Mayor and LW-CAMPO Chairperson
Honorable Tano E. Tijerina, Webb County Judge.
Honorable Dr. Marte Martinez, City Councilmember, District VI (joined at 1:45 p.m.)
Honorable John Galo, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 3 (joined at 1:40 p.m.)
Honorable Jesse Gonzalez, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 1
Humberto "Tito" Gonzalez, Private Sector

Regular members not present:

David M. Salazar, Jr., TxDOT District Engineer

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
Jason Hinojosa, City Planning/LW-CAMPO Staff
Angie Quijano, City Planning/LW-CAMPO Staff
Juan Mendive, City Planning/LW-CAMPO Staff
Claudia San Miguel, Transit, El Metro

State: Roberto Rodriguez, TxDOT
Sara Garza, TxDOT

Others: Guillermo Cuellar, Webb County Engineering
Luis Perez Garcia, Webb County Engineering
Antonio Rodriguez, HNTB, Inc.

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.

There were no citizen's comments.

IV. ITEMS REQUIRING POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION:

A. Approval of the minutes for the virtual meeting held on November 16th, 2020.

Judge Tijerina made a motion to **approve** the minutes for the meeting held November 16th, 2020.

Second: CM. J. Gonzalez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

B. Receive public testimony and initiate a 10-day public review and comment period for the following proposed revision(s) of the 2020-2045 Laredo Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP):

1. **Amending Chapter 10, subsection entitled Operation and Maintenance of Unified Transportation Program Projects to include Table 10:2A entitled Roadway and Bicycle/Pedestrian Operations and Maintenance Costs.**
 - **The inclusion of the new table was requested by FHWA and identifies Maintenance and Operations costs, and projected revenue for TxDOT, the City and County, over the next 25 years.**

Kirby Snideman, MPO Director, briefly presented the item. He stated the item would be coming back to the next meeting for approval and adoption of the resolution.

Judge Tijerina made a motion to **open** public testimony and **initiate** a 10-day public review and comment period for the propose revision(s) of the 2020-2045 MTP.

Second: CM. J. Gonzalez
For: 4
Against: 0
Abstained: 0
Motion carried unanimously

- C. **Approval of a motion to ratify the execution of Contract Amendment #3, with CDM Smith, for the 2020-2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update and FAST Act Compliance Project.**

- **The amendment is intended to extend the contract completion date by one year, from December 31, 2020 to December 31st, 2021. Scope of work for tasks remaining to be completed include 10 hours of Travel Demand Model training for MPO Staff. No additional fees will be required. The total project cost will remain \$371,889.50.**

Judge Tijerina made a motion to **approve** and ratify the execution of Contract Amendment #3, with CDM Smith, for the 2020-2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update and FAST Act Compliance Project.

Second: CM. J. Gonzalez
For: 4
Against: 0
Abstained: 0
Motion carried unanimously

- D. **Receive public testimony and approve Resolution MPO 2021-01, adopting the following proposed amendment(s) of the MPO By-laws:**

1. **Article I, Section 1.1, entitled Definitions, shall be amended to include a definition for the Metropolitan Planning Organization Active Transportation Committee; and,**
2. **Article II, Section 2.3, shall be amended to include subsection (d)1 and 2 intended to identify the responsibilities and the membership of the Active Transportation Committee (ATC).**

Judge Tijerina made a motion to open public testimony.

Second: CM. J. Gonzalez
For: 4
Against: 0
Abstained: 0
Motion carried unanimously

Mr. Snideman, briefly presented the item.

Judge Tijerina made a motion to close public testimony and approve Resolution MPO 2021-01, adopting the proposed amendment(s) of the MPO By-laws.

Second: CM. J. Gonzalez
For: 4
Against: 0
Abstained: 0
Motion carried unanimously

E. Receive public testimony and initiate a ten-day public review and comment period for the following proposed amendment(s) of the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):

1. **DELETION/REMOVAL of project CSJ 0018-05-089 intended to provide for the replacement of a bridge structure on IH 35, at Uniroyal Drive, with an estimated total project cost of \$125,323,000. The project letting date was FY 2024.**
 - TxDOT has requested the project be moved 1-month from August 2024 (FY 2024) to September 2024 (FY 2025), in order to ensure Statewide Fiscal Constraint.

Kirby Snideman, MPO Director, briefly presented the item. He stated the item would be coming back to the next meeting for approval and adoption of the resolution.

Judge Tijerina made a motion to open public testimony and initiate a 10-day public review and comment period for the propose revision(s) of the 2021-2024 TIP.

Second: CM. J. Gonzalez

For: 4

Against: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

CM. Galo joined the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

Dr. Martinez joined the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

F. Discussion with possible action on Hachar-Reuthinger.

Guillermo Cuellar, Webb County Engineering, stated the County was still in the process of getting a consultant on board for some additional environmental work that has been requested by TxDOT.

CM. Galo if the County has gone out for proposals to get a consultant.

Mr. Cuellar stated the County has not gone out for proposals. He also stated the County was still having meetings with TxDOT and having discussions with the County's Civil Legal Department.

CM. Humberto Gonzalez, TxDOT, stated TxDOT would be taking care of the design of the project. He stated the County would need to complete the environmental clearance and the City would take care of the Right of Way acquisition. After that is done, the project would be available to go into construction.

Mayor Saenz requested a timeline of what is needed and what are the guidelines for the project in order to move forward.

Judge Tijerina requested from the County at next month's meeting a concrete answer on the status of the project.

CM. Humberto Gonzalez, TxDOT, stated TxDOT's role was to help accelerate the development of the plans.

Mayor Saenz requested a status from Ramon Chavez, City Engineering, regarding the Right of Way acquisition.

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

Antonio Rodriguez, gave a brief status report on the RMA which was 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 March 2021.
2. Los Presidentes (Cuatro Vientos to Brownwood) – Bid opening occurred on 12/30/20. MTZ Construction is the apparent low bidder. Construction start date is anticipated for March 2021.
3. Vallecillo Road –Traffic Study is complete. Geotechnical Study is complete. Laredo Community met with TxDOT Deputy Executive Director Marc Williams to present project, existing funding plan and to request funding support to close funding gap on 1/8/21. A meeting with Texas Transportation Commissioner Chairman Bruce Bugg is anticipated for later in January.
4. Next WCCL RMA Board meeting has yet to be scheduled.

VI. DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS


Mr. Snideman informed the members about the upcoming MPO Joint Workshop scheduled for February 11th, 2021.

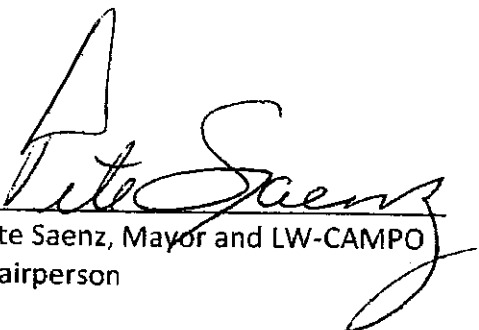
Mr. Snideman also informed the members the Active Transportation Plan would be placed at next month’s MPO meeting for adoption. He also stated he would like to present the plan to the Webb County Commissioner’s Court.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Martinez made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

Second: CM. J. Gonzalez
For: 6
Against: 0
Abstained: 0


J. Kirby Snideman, AICP
MPO Director


Pete Saenz, Mayor and LW-CAMPO
Chairperson