

Laredo Urban Transportation Study



Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee

Notice of Public Meeting

**City of Laredo City Hall
City Council Chambers
1110 Houston Street
Laredo, Texas
June 16, 2014
12:00 noon**

MEETING AGENDA

- I. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL MEETING TO ORDER
- II. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL ROLL
- III. COMMITTEE AND DIRECTOR'S REPORTS (No action required)
- IV. ITEMS REQUIRING POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION
 1. Approval of the minutes for the meeting held on May 19, 2014.
 2. Receive public testimony and approve Resolution No. MPO 2014-04 adopting the proposed amendment of the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
 3. Receive public testimony and initiate a 20 day public review and comment period for the proposed FY 2015 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).
- V. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT(S) (No action required)
- VI. ADJOURNMENT

THIS NOTICE WAS POSTED AT THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 1110 HOUSTON STREET, LAREDO, TEXAS, AND AT A PLACE CONVENIENT AND READILY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC AT ALL TIMES. SAID NOTICE WAS POSTED BY 12:00 NOON, JUNE 13, 2014.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aid or services are requested to contact Ms. Vanessa Guerra, City Planning at (956) 794-1604 at least two working days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The accessible entrance and accessible parking spaces are located at City Hall and can be accessed through the Victoria Ave. entrance.

The Laredo Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee is comprised of the following members:

CITY OF LAREDO REPRESENTATIVES:

Honorable Raul G. Salinas, Mayor and LUTS Chairperson
Honorable Roque Vela Jr., City Councilmember, District V
Honorable Juan Narvaez, City Councilmember, District IV
Honorable Jorge A Vera, City Councilmember, District VII

COUNTY OF WEBB REPRESENTATIVES:

Honorable Danny Valdez, Webb County Judge
Honorable John Galo, Webb County Commissioner Pct 3
Honorable Jaime Canales, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 4

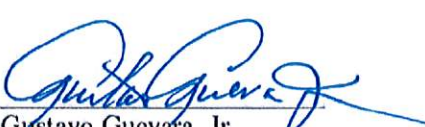
STATE REPRESENTATIVES:

Ms. Melisa Montemayor, District Administrator
Mr. Albert Ramirez, P.E., Transportation Planning and Development Director

**** EX-OFFICIO ****

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


Nathan R. Bratton
MPO Director


Gustavo Guevara, Jr.
City Secretary

Laredo Urban Transportation Study

Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee
City of Laredo Council Chambers
1110 Houston St. -Laredo, Texas



MINUTES OF THE MAY 19, 2014, MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Cm. Vela called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

II. CHAIRPERSON TO CALL ROLL

Vanessa Guerra, MPO Coordinator, called roll to verify that a quorum did exist.

Cm. Narvaez made a motion to excuse members not present.

Second: Cm. Vera
In Favor: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

Regular members present:

Honorable John Galo, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 3
Honorable Juan Narvaez, City Councilmember, District IV
Honorable Roque Vela, Jr. City Councilmember, District V
Honorable Jorge A. Vera, City Councilmember, District VII
Albert Ramirez, TxDOT

Regular members not present:

Honorable Raul G. Salinas, Mayor and LUTS Chairperson
Honorable Jaime Canales, Webb County Commissioner, Pct. 4
Danny Valdez, Webb County Judge
Melisa Montemayor, TxDOT

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 LUTS Agencies) Present:

City:

Nathan R. Bratton, City Planning/LUTS Staff
Vanessa Guerra, City Planning/LUTS Staff
Angie Quijano, City Planning/LUTS Staff

State:

Ana Duncan, TxDOT
Carlos Rodriguez, TxDOT

Others:

Eduardo Bernal, Transit, El Metro
Rafael Flores
Sara Garza, TxDOT

III. COMMITTEE AND DIRECTOR'S REPORTS (No action required)

Neither the Committee nor the Director had any business to report.

IV. ITEMS REQUIRING POLICY ACTION

1. Approval of the minutes for the meeting held on April 24, 2014.

Cm. Galo made a motion to approve the minutes of April 24, 2014.

Second: Cm. Vera
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

2. Motion authorizing the execution of Amendment #1 of the contract with CoPLAN LLC for professional services related to the development of the Congestion Management Plan in order to:

- Add volume based performance measurement to the collected delay data from peak period travel time runs in order to develop a volume weighted listing of top 20 congested locations.
- Increase the contract fee by \$16,429.47 from \$126,135.29 to \$142,564.76 for additional work.
- Extend contract completion date to December 31, 2014.

Cm. Galo made a motion approve the execution of Amendment #1 of the contract with CoPLAN LLC.

Second: Cm. Vera

For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

3. Motion authorizing the execution of Amendment #2 of the contract with Kimley-Horn Associates, Inc. for professional services related to the development of the Railroad Quiet Zone Study Update in order to:

- Increase the number of crossings to be studied from 26 to 32.
- Increase the number of traffic counts to be collected from 10 crossings to 32 crossings.
- Extend contract completion date to March 31, 2015.
- Increase the contract fee by \$8,100 from \$48,600 to \$56,700 for additional work.

Cm. Narvaez asked what the locations of the Quiet Zone are.

Ms. Guerra stated the Quiet Zone will extend along all the Kansas City Southern (KCS) line. There would be the east to west line not north to south.

Nathan Bratton, Planning Director, stated the north to south locations have already been done by the City. There is still some coordination and issues with Union Pacific. In order to qualify for Quiet Zone, you have to enhance your crossings. Part of the process is how many vehicles cross the crossings. When you start closing them done, you get credits. Once you calculate your credits, it will tell you what you need to do. This study will be used for that calculation so you can determine what needs to be done. The more crossings you shut down, it lowers the requirements for the safety treatments for the crossings that remain open.

Cm. Galo made a motion approve the execution of Amendment #2 of the contract with Kimley-Horn and associates.

Second: Cm. Vera
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

4. Receive public testimony and approve a motion initiating a ten-day public review and comment period for the proposed amendment of the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).

Cm. Galo made a motion to open a public hearing.

Second: Cm. Vera
For: 5

Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

There was no input from the public.

Cm. Vera made a motion to close the public hearing and initiate a ten-day public review and comment period for the proposed amendment of the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).

Second: Cm. Vera
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

V. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT(S) (No action required)

There was nothing to report.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Cm. Vera made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:18 p.m.

Second: Cm. Galo
For: 5
Against: 0
Abstained: 0

Motion carried unanimously

Prepared by 
Angie Quijano
MPO Staff

Reviewed by: _____
Vanessa Guerra,
MPO Coordinator

Reviewed by: _____
Nathan R. Bratton,
MPO Director

Melisa Montemayor,
District Administrator

Raul G. Salinas,
Mayor and LUTS Chairperson

**LAREDO URBAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY
ACTION ITEM**

DATE: 6-16-14	SUBJECT: RESOLUTION Receive public testimony and approve Resolution No. MPO 2014-04 adopting the proposed amendment of the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). TIP13-16/REV 2/Aug.2014 rev. cycle	
INITIATED BY: City of Laredo		STAFF SOURCE: Nathan Bratton, MPO Director
PREVIOUS ACTION: The MPO Policy Committee approved resolution MPO No. 2012-05 on May 21, 2012 adopting the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program. TIP Revision #1 was approved on August 19 th , 2013 and Revision 1A was approved on November 18, 2013. On May 19 th , 2014, the Policy Committee approved the initiation of a ten day public review and comment period for the proposed amendment.		
BACKGROUND: Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21 st Century (MAP21) requires that Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in cooperation with the State and affected transit operators develop Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP) for their planning areas. These Transportation Improvement Programs then become part of the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Selection for projects involving Federal participation is carried out by the State in cooperation with the MPO. The program will include a project, or an identified phase of a project, only if full funding can reasonably be anticipated to be available within the time period that is contemplated for completion of the project. The approved revision is due to the TxDOT District offices on Wednesday, July 21 st , 2014 in order to be submitted for the August quarterly revision cycle.		
<u>MOBILITY: Proposed amendments:</u> <u>Revise Existing Project</u> (<i>See attached Original and Proposed Project Information Sheets</i>) CSJ 0922-33-076– the Flecha/Las Cruces Realignment Project – intended to realign Flecha in order to align with Las Cruces is proposed for revision such that the limits are changed as follows: Original Limits: From 0.25 miles east of Calton Road/Sta. Maria Ave. to 0.25 miles east of Las Cruces/Flecha Lane New Limits: Intersection of FM 1472 and Flecha to 0.174 miles east of FM 1472.		
<u>TRANSIT: Proposed amendments:</u> No transit revisions are proposed at this time.		
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approval.		STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval.

RESOLUTION NO. MPO 2014-04

BY THE LAREDO URBAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION POLICY COMMITTEE

REVISING THE 2013-2016 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

WHEREAS, the Laredo Urban Transportation Study (LUTS), the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Laredo Urban Area, has reviewed the revisions to the adopted 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and,

WHEREAS, the Laredo Urban Transportation Study finds that the revisions to the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) meet the high priority improvements necessary for the LUTS area;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Laredo Urban Transportation Study, as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Laredo Urban Area, amended the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which is attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purpose.

Honorable Raul G. Salinas
Mayor of Laredo and Chairperson of the
MPO Policy Committee

We certify that the above resolution was adopted on May 16, 2014 at a public meeting of the Policy Committee of the Laredo Urban Transportation Study.

Nathan Bratton
MPO Director

Melisa Montemayor
District Administrator

STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
TIP FY 2013-2016
LAREDO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
FY 2015

DISTRICT	COUNTY	CSJ	HWY	PHASE	CITY	PROJECT SPONSOR	YOE COST
22 - LAREDO	WEBB	0922-33-076	CS	C,E			\$ 2,087,741
LIMITS FROM 0.25 MI EAST OF CALTON RD/ST MARIA						REVISION DATE: 07/2012	
LIMITS TO: 0.25 MI E OF LAS CRUCES/FLECHA LANE						INFO PROJ NUM: [REDACTED]	
PROJECT REALIGNMENT OF FLECHA LN/LAS CRUCES ALONG FM1472						FUNDING CAT(S): 10, 3-LC	
DESCR: [REDACTED]						PROJECT HISTORY: FOR THE REALIGNMENT OF FLECHA LN/LAS CRUCES ALONG FM1472	
REMARKS: [REDACTED]						& FOR THE PE WORK OF A GRADE SEP AT CALTON RD/SANTA MARIA INT	
P7: [REDACTED]							
TOTAL PROJECT COST INFORMATION				AUTHORIZED FUNDING BY CATEGORY/SHARE			
PRELIM ENG:	\$ 93,169	COST OF APPROVED PHASES:	FEDERAL	STATE	LOCAL	LC	TOTAL
ROW PURCHASE:	\$ -		10-MISC:	\$ 1,440,411	\$ -	\$ 360,103	\$ 1,800,514
CONST COST:	\$ 1,901,404		3-LOCAL CONTR:	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 287,227	\$ 287,227
CONST ENG:	\$ 93,169	\$ 2,087,741	TOTAL:	\$ 1,440,411	\$ -	\$ 360,103	\$ 2,087,741
CONTING:	\$ 23,760						
IND COSTS:	\$ 152,112						
BND FINANCING:	\$ -						
TOTAL PRJ COST:	\$ 2,367,438						

EXISTING LIMITS

PHASE: C = CONSTRUCTION, E = ENGINEERING, R = ROW, T = TRANSFER
* FUNDING NOT FIXED

LAREDO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
FY 2015

DISTRICT	COUNTY	CSJ	HWY	PHASE	CITY	PROJECT SPONSOR	YOE COST	
22 - LAREDO	WEBB	0922-33-076	CS	C,E			\$ 2,053,632	
LIMITS FROM INTERSECTION OF FM 1472 AND FLECHA						REVISION DATE: 07/2014		
LIMITS TO: 0.174 MILES EAST OF FM 1472						MPO PROJ NUM:		
PROJECT REALIGNMENT OF FLECHA LN/LAS CRUCES ALONG FM1472						FUNDING CAT(S): 10,LC		
DESCR:						PROJECT HISTORY: FOR THE REALIGNMENT OF FLECHA LN/LAS CRUCES ALONG FM1472 & FOR THE PE WORK OF A GRADE SEP AT CALTON RD/SANTA MARIA INT		
REMARKS								
P7:								
TOTAL PROJECT COST INFORMATION				AUTHORIZED FUNDING BY CATEGORY/SHARE				
PRELIM ENG:	\$ 91,647	COST OF APPROVED PHASES:	10-MISC:	\$ 1,440,411	\$ 0	\$ 360,103	\$ 0	\$ 1,800,514
ROW PURCHASE:	\$ 1,250,000		LOCAL CONTR:	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 253,118	\$ 253,118*
CONST COST:	\$ 1,870,339		TOTAL:	\$ 1,440,411	\$ 0	\$ 360,103	\$ 253,118	\$ 2,053,632
CONST ENG:	\$ 91,647							
CONTING:	\$ 23,379							
IND COSTS:	\$ 90,337							
BND FINANCING:	\$ 0							
TOTAL PRJ COST:	\$ 3,519,470							

PROPOSED

PHASE: C = CONSTRUCTION, E = ENGINEERING, R = ROW, T = TRANSFER

* FUNDING NOT FIXED

**LAREDO URBAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY
ACTION ITEM**

DATE: 6-16-14	SUBJECT: A MOTION Receive public testimony and initiate a 20 day public review and comment period for the proposed FY 2015 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).																																			
INITIATED BY: Staff		STAFF SOURCE: Nathan Bratton, MPO Director																																		
PREVIOUS ACTION: None																																				
<p>BACKGROUND: The Unified Planning Work Program describes and schedules work to be undertaken by the Metropolitan Planning Organization during the 2015 fiscal period. This year's program has been designed to emphasize the following planning issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Growth and Development Projections * Long range planning * Public transportation needs. * Congestion Management * Impact of railroads on the community * Transportation Management Area Certification <p>The final approved Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is due August 4, 2014. Listed below is the proposed budget:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 80%;">Subtask</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1.1 Program support administration</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$105,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>1.2 Travel, training, equipment</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$10,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>2.1 Growth development and monitoring</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$20,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>2.2 Website</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$30,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>2.3 Travel Demand Update</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$5,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>3.1 TIP/UPWP/PPP/LEP/By-Laws</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$20,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>3.2 Limited English Proficiency (LEP)</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$30,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>3.3 TMA Certification Project</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$5,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>4.1 2010-2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$5,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>4.2 2015-2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$75,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>5.1 Congestion Management Plan</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$45,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>5.2 Railroad Quiet Zone Update</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$30,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>5.3 Transit Plan Update</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$100,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>5.4 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$75,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>5.5 Mines Road Study</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$200,000.00</td></tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$755,000.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Subtask	Amount	1.1 Program support administration	\$105,000.00	1.2 Travel, training, equipment	\$10,000.00	2.1 Growth development and monitoring	\$20,000.00	2.2 Website	\$30,000.00	2.3 Travel Demand Update	\$5,000.00	3.1 TIP/UPWP/PPP/LEP/By-Laws	\$20,000.00	3.2 Limited English Proficiency (LEP)	\$30,000.00	3.3 TMA Certification Project	\$5,000.00	4.1 2010-2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan	\$5,000.00	4.2 2015-2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan	\$75,000.00	5.1 Congestion Management Plan	\$45,000.00	5.2 Railroad Quiet Zone Update	\$30,000.00	5.3 Transit Plan Update	\$100,000.00	5.4 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan	\$75,000.00	5.5 Mines Road Study	\$200,000.00	TOTAL	\$755,000.00
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TOTAL	\$755,000.00																																			
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: The LUTS Technical Committee recommends approval.		STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval.																																		

FY 2015

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

ADOPTED BY THE POLICY COMMITTEE ON: JULY 21, 2014

***LAREDO URBAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY
2015 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM***

I. INTRODUCTION

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) originated from the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973 and incorporates into one document all federally assisted state, regional, and local transportation planning activities proposed to be undertaken by the Metropolitan Planning Organization in the study area for the year. The United States Department of Transportation, through its modal administrations, requires development of an annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to describe intermodal comprehensive transportation planning in areas with populations greater than 50,000. This program was designed to incorporate federal Section 112 (“PL” funds) and Section 5303 (transit) planning funds and intended to provide a mechanism for the coordination of all planning activities required by the joint planning regulations of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Federal regulations allow for a one or two year work program.

The Laredo Urban Transportation Study, in its capacity as the Laredo Metropolitan Planning Organization, provides continuous, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning for the Laredo Metropolitan Area as required by The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), and Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21).

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) reemphasized the necessity of the program and much greater emphasis was placed on the planning process. Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century of 1998 prioritized: local officials, in cooperation with the State and transit operators, remain responsible for determining the best mix of transportation investments to meet metropolitan transportation needs. The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) as authorized in 2005 defined the structure of the metropolitan planning process and continued the program’s emphasis on promoting a strong cooperative process between all stakeholders within MPO involvement.

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) was signed into law by the President on July 6, 2012, calls for a streamlined and performance-based surface transportation program. It builds on many of the highway, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian programs and policies established in 1991.

The Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) of 1990 also influences the metropolitan planning process. In general the Act requires that transportation actions and projects proposed and/or implemented in the metropolitan planning area must support the attainment of federal standards for ozone by meeting specific requirements set out by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), regarding air quality conformity. Since the Laredo Urbanized Area has been designated an “attainment” area for air quality conformity, the law exempts the urbanized area (UZA) from conformity requirements and is therefore not addressed in this document.

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is developed to comply with the mandatory metropolitan planning requirements and was adopted by the Laredo Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy

Committee at a public meeting, following a twenty-day comment period as required by the adopted Public Participation Plan.

A. PURPOSE

The UPWP describes and schedules work to be undertaken by the Laredo Urban Transportation Study during the upcoming fiscal period. The UPWP also includes a financial participation summary. In order to ensure public involvement and participation, all MPO work is conducted in accordance with the adopted Public Participation Plan (PPP). The PPP requires that initial adoption of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) follow at a minimum: a 20 day public comment and review period, 72 hour advanced posting of the Policy Committee meeting wherein final action will occur, and publication of a document summary in the newspaper at least 5 days in advance of adoption. The PPP further requires revisions of the document may only be ratified thru action of the Policy Committee following 72 hour posted advance notice to the public. All elements described are consistent and in support of transportation planning objectives.

MAP-21 calls for metropolitan planning organizations, public transportation providers and state departments of transportation to establish and use a performance-based approach to transportation decision making to support seven national goals. The USDOT must establish performance measures related to seven goal areas for the federal-aid highway system by April 1, 2014. The goal areas include:

1. Safety
2. Infrastructure Condition
3. Congestion Reduction
4. System Reliability
5. Freight Movement and Economic Vitality
6. Environmental Sustainability
7. Reduced Project Delivery Delays

The goal areas for public transportation address:

1. Transit Safety
2. Transit Asset Management

The states then have one year (till April 1, 2015) to establish performance targets in support of those measures; and the MPO subsequently has 180 days (October 1, 2015) to establish performance targets coordinated with those of the states and public transportation providers. After these targets are set, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) are required to include a description of the performance measures and targets used in assessing the performance of the transportation system. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan will also have to include a system performance report evaluating the condition and performance of the transportation system with respect to the established targets. The TIP is also required to include a description of the anticipated effect of the TIP toward achieving the performance targets set in the plan.

MAP-21 requires that the Laredo Metropolitan Transportation Plan address the following eight factors in considering the transportation needs of the Laredo metropolitan planning area. The current UPWP

includes tasks that will allow ongoing evaluation of community transportation needs in relation to these eight factors, which include:

1. Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
2. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
3. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
4. Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and for freight.
5. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, and improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and state and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
6. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
7. Promote efficient system management and operation.
8. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.

The process used to develop and implement this UPWP is designed to ensure that a continuing comprehensive transportation planning program is carried out cooperatively by the MPO, TxDOT, the City of Laredo, Webb County, the local transit provider, and the citizens of Laredo and Rio Bravo, as represented by the Policy Committee. This effort is carried out through the activities of the Technical Committee and their support of the Public Participation Plan (PPP) and all Title VI and Environmental Justice (Title VI/EJ) requirements. The MPO intends to use this same strategy to implement a performance based planning program that supports the seven adopted national goals and subsequent planning targets.

As mentioned previously, the USDOT must establish specific performance measures related to the seven national goals by April 1, 2014. State DOTs then have one year (April 1, 2015) to establish statewide performance targets to support the national measures. MPOs then have 180 days (October 1, 2015) to establish local performance targets in cooperation with local and regional transit providers and other stakeholders to support the statewide measures. After these targets are adopted, the local long-range plan, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, and the short range plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, will have to be amended to include the newly adopted performance measures and targets to be used in assessing the performance of the transportation network. Accountability and reporting will be foundational to the performance measure strategy.

Public involvement policy and process will be critical to the preparation and implementation of performance measures in the planning process as required by MAP-21. The Laredo MPO's Public Participation Plan (PPP) gives citizens the opportunity to comment during all phases of the transportation planning process. The MPO welcomes public comment throughout the planning process and utilizes its website <http://www.ci.laredo.tx.us/city-planning/Departments/MPO/index.html>, as well as, the local periodical to receive comments and notify the public of opportunities to comment.

B. DEFINITION OF AREA

The Laredo Metropolitan Area includes the City of Laredo and portions of Webb County. (See Map, Appendix B.) The MAB was approved by the Governor in 2004. The Laredo urbanized area, as determined by the 2010 Census, has surpassed 200,000 in population, and designated a Transportation Management Area effective July 18th, 2012.

C. ORGANIZATION

The Laredo Metropolitan Planning Organization is governed by the Policy Committee established in accordance with adopted MPO Bylaws. The Committee is chaired by the Mayor of the City of Laredo and includes as voting members: three members from the City of Laredo City Council, the Laredo TxDOT District Administrator, TxDOT’s District Transportation Planning and Development Director, the Webb County Judge, , and two Webb County Commissioners. The State Senator for District 21, the State Representative for District 31 and the State Representative for District 42 serve as non-voting, ex-officio members. The Policy Committee is the body of the MPO that holds review and decision-making authority over transportation planning efforts undertaken by the Laredo Urban Transportation Study, acting as the Metropolitan Planning Organization, and by the Texas Department of Transportation in the Laredo Metropolitan Area (See Appendix A). Technical Committee responsibilities include professional and technical review of work programs, policy recommendations and transportation planning activities. The Technical Committee includes:

<p><u>City Representatives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laredo City Planner (Chairperson) • The General Manager of the City Transit System • Laredo Manager of Traffic Safety • Laredo Airport Manager • Laredo City Engineer • Laredo Bridge Manager 	<p><u>State Representatives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TxDOT Planning Representative (Vice-Chairperson) • TxDOT Special Projects Coordinator • TxDOT Area Engineer • TxDOT South Region Field Representative
<p><u>Federal representatives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FHWA Planning Representative (Austin) 	<p><u>School system representatives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
<p><u>County and Regional Representatives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webb County Planning Director • South Texas Development Council Regional Planning Director • The General Manager of the Rural Transit System • Webb County Engineer 	<p><u>Private Sector Representatives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A representative of the Kansas City Southern Railway 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 Advisory Committee

City of Laredo staff providing service and support to the MPO include: the Planning Director, a transportation planner, a GIS technician, a clerk, an accountant and others as may be required.

D. PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT

The private sector is encouraged to participate in the development of all transportation programs and plans. Private transportation providers are invited to participate in TIP development as members of the Technical Committee and as project evaluation committee members. Private consultants will be used for the completion of, the TMA Certification Project, the Congestion Management Plan, the 2015-2040 Metropolitan Plan Update, the Railroad Quiet Zone Study Update, the Transit Plan Update, the Bicycle

and Pedestrian Plan, and the Mines Road Study. Outside consulting services are also being considered for the completion of the MPO's website redesign, and the Limited English Proficiency Plan.

E. PLANNING ISSUES AND EMPHASIS

The current UPWP addresses the following transportation areas of concern in the MPO area:

- * Growth and Development Projections
- * Long range planning
- * Public Transportation Needs
- * Congestion Management
- * Impacts of railroads on the community
- * Transportation Management Area Certification

II. TASK 1.0 - ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

A. OBJECTIVE

To ensure that the Laredo Metropolitan Area transportation planning process is fully a cooperative, comprehensive and continuing activity; to monitor ongoing planning activities; to ensure that all modes of transportation are given consideration as elements of a single urban transportation system and are considered in the overall planning process; to ensure public involvement in the transportation planning process.

B. EXPECTED PRODUCTS

The smooth and efficient operation of the Metropolitan Planning Organization to include the following: fulfillment of planning objectives; compliance with state and federal requirements; continuation of a proactive public involvement process, reports, certifications, and administration.

C. PREVIOUS WORK

Both the Technical and Policy Committee meetings were held on an ongoing basis to make appropriate revisions to documents and approved program. Staff conducted public meetings as required by FHWA, FTA, the State and local government in the development of transportation planning documents, and reports. Staff attended various meetings, and workshops, and made presentations at public meetings.

D. SUBTASKS

- 1.1 Program support administration. This includes program administration, record keeping, and monitoring completion of UPWP projects, audit, preparation of reports, interagency coordination, facilitating citizen participation, and preparation of meeting minutes.
- 1.2 Travel, training, equipment, and supplies. All computer hardware, software and equipment expenditures of Federal planning funds over \$5,000 will require prior approval.

E. FUNDING & PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

Task 1 - FY 15

Subtask	Responsible Agency	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF)¹	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
1.1	LUTS	105,000	0	0	105,000
1.2	LUTS	10,000	0	0	10,000
TOTAL		115,000	0	0	115,000

TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 programs. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

(1) TPF – This includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 funds.

III. TASK 2.0 - DATA DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

A. OBJECTIVE

Maintain a database on population, housing, land use and transportation characteristics. Monitor growth patterns in the study area for their impact on community transportation systems. Staff will assist with the continual integration of data into GIS format in order to facilitate organization, retrieval and analysis, and to continue and further the goals and objectives of comprehensive transportation planning.

B. EXPECTED PRODUCTS

Updated demographics including population, land use, housing employment and roadway databases and maps. A fully integrated mapping/data base system to be used in data retrieval, analysis, projection, mapping, and graphic publication elements of future transportation planning tasks. Demographic data will be done in-house using resources available in the community. The MPO website will be redesigned to increase functionality, ease of use, visualization capacity, public outreach, and transparency.

C. PREVIOUS WORK

For the previous fiscal year, staff reviewed and updated the functional classification of the entire network. Staff also smoothed the boundaries as necessary. All data was input and submitted. After review by TxDOT, the MPO attended a series of webex meeting with TxDOT and FHWA to further review the network’s functional classification and clarify or revise selected segment classifications if required. MPO staff received and reviewed the files and reports for the Congestion Management Project. Projects in Progress: finalization of the preliminary files of the Traffic Demand Model, and the MTP. Projects map are developed, retrieved and or printed as new projects are approved by the MPO Committee, or requested.

D. SUBTASKS

- 2.1 Growth and development monitoring projections. The GIS Analyst will assist in the ongoing collection, review, analysis and mapping of demographic data related to population, land use, housing, and employment. . The subtask will also provide for GIS related staff training, and the purchase of equipment, software, materials and supplies for printing of maps.
- 2.2 Website – Professional services will be procured to redesign the MPO website in order to increase the site’s functionality, ease of use, visualization capacity, public outreach ability and transparency. (Staff is considering whether to perform the task in house or procure professional)
- 2.3 Travel Demand Model Update - Objective: The GIS Analyst will review all socioeconomic data, necessary for the updating of the 2003 Travel Demand Model, produced by selected consultant. Expected Outcome: Update of the current travel demand model from a 2003 to a 2008 base year and from a 2035 forecast year to a 2040 forecast year (To be conducted by consultant. This is a carryover project.)

E. FUNDING & PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

Task 2 – FY 15

Subtask	Responsible Agency	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF)¹	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
2.1	LUTS	20,000	0	0	20,000
2.2	LUTS	30,000	0	0	30,000
2.3	LUTS	5,000	0	0	5,000
TOTAL		55,000	0	0	55,000

TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 programs. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

(1) TPF – This includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 funds.

IV. TASK 3.0 - SHORT RANGE PLANNING

A. OBJECTIVE

To complete those activities associated with near-term planning and implementation of projects that will be undertaken within the next five years.

B. EXPECTED PRODUCTS

Short range planning activities will result in strategies that will support those planning policies needed to preserve the continuing flow of traffic. The MPO will develop and/or revise as necessary the UPWP, the TIP, By-Laws, and the Public Participation Plan. A Limited English Proficiency Plan will be developed and adopted in accordance with federal and state guidelines. The MPO also anticipates continued participation in the regional service planning process, as well as, any activity associated with FTA's 5310 Senior's with Disabilities Program or 5339 - Bus and Bus Facilities Program. The MPO will also participate in both a mock and formal certification review to be conducted by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

C. PREVIOUS WORK

Staff assisted in the development of the 2015- 2018 TIP, the 2014 UPWP, as well as the continuous revisions of the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Staff worked closely with the selected consultant on the TMA Certification Project which is intended to prepare the MPO, its planning partners and organizational documents for both the mock and formal certification review process. A draft of the Certification Notebook has been prepared and submitted for preliminary review by FHWA. Staff continued to research the development of a Limited English Proficiency Plan while deliberating whether to develop the project in-house or to procure outside consultant assistance.

D. SUBTASKS

- 3.1 TIP/UPWP/By-Laws/PPP/LEP/TMA Certification – assisting in the development and/or revision of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), UPWP, By-Laws, the Public Participation Plan, the Limited English Proficiency Plan and the TMA Certification project.
- 3.2 Limited English Proficiency Plan – In accordance with Title VI non-discrimination laws the MPO seeks to develop and adopt a Limited English Proficiency Plan, in compliance with all Federal and State laws, which will define the manner in which the Laredo MPO will accommodate persons with limited ability to read, write, speak or understand English. (Under consideration for development by Staff or consultant- This is a carry-over project.)
- 3.3 Transportation Management Area (TMA) Certification Project – Objective: All current MPO Policies, Plans, Programs, Procedures, and Agreements will be reviewed and amended if necessary, in order to comply with all requirements pertaining to a TMA under Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (Map21). The Certification Notebook addressing the TIP, MTP, UPWP, and other planning issues will be produced in preparation of the Desk Audit. The project will provide recommendations for short and long term improvements necessary to achieve TMA certification. Expected Outcome- All MPO Policies, Plans, Programs, Procedures, and Agreements in full compliance with Map 21's requirements for TMAs, including the production of the Certification Notebook in preparation of precertification and certification. (Mock certification is currently scheduled for December of 2014) (To be conducted by consultant. This is a carry-over project)

E. FUNDING & PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

Task 3 - FY 15

Subtask	Responsible Agency	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF)¹	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
3.1	LUTS	20,000	0	0	20,000
3.2	LUTS	30,000	0	0	30,000
3.3	LUTS	5,000	0	0	5,000
TOTAL		55,000	0	0	55,000

TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 programs. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

(1) TPF – This includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 funds.

V. TASK 4.0 – METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN / LONG RANGE PLANNING

A. OBJECTIVE

To continue study and analysis of projects and data for long-range planning elements and long-range project studies. Includes activities associated with publishing or updating the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, formerly called the Long Range Plan.

B. EXPECTED PRODUCTS

Staff expects to assist in the continual revision of the existing Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to conform to state and federal requirements. Staff will also assist in the development of the 2015-2040 MTP.

C. PREVIOUS WORK

Staff assisted in the continuous revision of the 2010-2035 Laredo Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Staff worked closely with the selected consultant on the development of the 2015-2040 MTP. Existing conditions data collection has been conducted and 4 draft chapters of the MTP document have been developed and distributed to the Technical Committee for review. The first public meeting was held wherein crash location data and maps of forecast population distribution were presented. A survey was conducted on the attendees regarding their perception of local congested locations and a summary report of the results was developed and also distributed to the Technical Committee. Environmental Justice areas were identified based on the 2010 US census, and documents identifying both environmentally sensitive and cultural resources were developed.

D. SUBTASKS

- 4.1 2010-2035 Laredo Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) - assist in the ongoing revision of Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

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FY 2015 UPWP

4.2 2015-2040 Laredo Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) - Update existing MTP to conform to state and federal requirements. This includes and evaluation of the existing transportation system, public transportation, environmental conditions and transportation needs and developing a financially constrained implementation plan. The project will include a land use and socioeconomic conditions and forecast element. (To be conducted by consultant. This is a carry-over project)

E. FUNDING & PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

Task 4 - FY 15

Subtask	Responsible Agency	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF)¹	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
4.1	LUTS	5,000	0	0	5,000
4.2	LUTS	75,000	0	0	75,000
TOTAL		80,000	0	0	80,000

TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 programs. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

(1) TPF – This includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 funds.

VI. TASK 5.0 - SPECIAL STUDIES

A. OBJECTIVE

To further the goals and objectives of the transportation planning process through special studies undertaken by MPO staff or consultants in support of existing or projected local needs. To maintain the transportation management systems required by federal and state regulations, to assist decision-makers in selecting cost-effective strategies to improve the efficiency and safety of and protect the investment systems.

B. EXPECTED PRODUCTS

These are specific studies and projects that address special problem areas or help promote and support transportation related topics.

C. PREVIOUS WORK

The Downtown Signalization Study was completed in FY 2008, the Transit Development Plan was completed in FY 09, the McPherson Corridor Capacity and Mobility Analysis Project was completed in FY 10. In FY 11 both the Bus Rapid Transit Plan and the Del Mar Corridor Study were completed. In FY 2013, The Para-Transit Plan Update was completed and the Congestion Management Study, the TMA Certification Project, the 2015-2040 MTP, and the Rail Road Quiet Zone Update studies were initiated. In 2014 staff continued to worked closely with the selected consultants on the Congestion Management Study, the TMA Certification Project, the 2015-2040 MTP, and the Rail Road Quiet Zone Update studies. Contract amendments were developed and executed for both the Congestion and Railroad Quiet Zone studies.

D. SUBTASKS

- 5.1 Congestion Management Plan -Objective: To identify and evaluate the likely performance and expected benefits of a variety of congestion management strategies. The CMP is required to be developed and implemented as an integral part of the metropolitan planning process in Transportation Management Areas (TMAs). Expected Outcome: The plan will provide congestion management recommendations, intended to facilitate the safe and effective management and operation of new and existing transportation facilities, in accordance with all Federal guidelines. (To be conducted by consultant. This is a carryover project.)
- 5.2 Railroad Quiet Zone Study Update - Objective: Develop a strategy to implement a train whistle ban in Laredo following adopted federal guidelines. The study will evaluate railroad lines by segments and provide detailed recommendations for implementation. Data will be collected at each railroad crossing and analysis and recommendations will be developed for each crossing. The study will also provide recommendations regarding capital improvements necessary, cost estimates, alternative recommendations, and order of implementation for infrastructure improvements. Expected Outcome: To update the study that was performed for the MPO in 2006. (To be conducted by consultant. This is a carry-over project.)
- 5.3 Transit Plan Update-Objective: The study will include: the review and analysis of current operation data, including trend analysis and peer analysis; the evaluation of existing transit services and programs, the assessment of unmet transit needs and service gaps; analysis of individual and system route performance; assessment of current/future operating, capital, and matching needs with available resources; recommendations for service modifications/improvements, and guidance in the preparation of annual budgets. Expected Outcome: To update the study that was performed for the MPO in 2009. (To be conducted by consultant)
- 5.4 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan - Objective: To develop a plan for creating an environment conducive for walking or cycling as a mode choice, as well as, providing recreational opportunities for walking and cycling in order to encourage a healthy lifestyle . Expected Outcome: To adopt a plan that will provide guidance for the development and implementation of an interconnected network of designated on-street bicycle facilities as well as off-roadway trails and sidewalks.
- 5.5 Mines Road Study- Objective: To evaluate Mines Road, from its intersection with IH 35 north to its intersection with 255, for mobility improvements with a concentration on increasing roadway capacity and level of service. Analysis should include at a minimum: an origin and destination study, evaluation of commercial, transit, and passenger vehicle traffic patterns, access management, alternative access routes, both existing and proposed and signal timing improvements. Expected Outcome: A comprehensive traffic study also including short and long term, prioritized improvement recommendations, cost estimates and possible revenue sources.

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FY 2015 UPWP

E. FUNDING & PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

Task 5 - FY 15

Subtask	Responsible Agency	Transportation Planning Funds (TPF)¹	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total
5.1	LUTS	45,000	0	0	45,000
5.2	LUTS	30,000	0	0	30,000
5.3	LUTS	100,000	0	0	100,000
5.4	LUTS	75,000	0	0	75,000
5.5	LUTS	200,000	0	0	200,000
TOTAL		450,000	0	0	450,000

TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 programs. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

(1) TPF – This includes both FHWA PL-112 and FTA Section 5303 funds.

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FY 2015 UPWP

TABLE 1 –BUDGET SUMMARY-- FY 15

UPWP Task	FTA Task	Description	TPF1 Funds	FTA Sect. 5307	Local	Total Funds
1.0	44.21.00	Administration-Management	115,000	0	0	115,000
2.0	44.22.00	Data Development and Maintenance	55,000	0	0	55,000
3.0	44.24.00	Short Range Planning	55,000	0	0	55,000
4.0	44.23.00	Metropolitan Transportation Plan	80,000	0	0	80,000
5.0	44.27.00	Special Studies	450,000	0	0	450,000
TOTAL			755,000	0		755,000

Identified

¹ TRANSPORTATION PLANNING FUNDS

FHWA (PL-112) ²	\$ 348,834.00
FTA Section 5303 ²	\$ 109,787.00
Estimated Unexpended Carryover	<u>\$ 296,379.00</u>
TOTAL TPF	\$ 755,000.00

² Estimate based on prior years authorizations

By minute order, the Texas Transportation Commission authorizes the use of transportation development credits as TxDOT's non-Federal share for FHWA (PL-112) and FTA 5303 funds. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the funding tables.

APPENDIX A

LAREDO URBAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY POLICY COMMITTEE

Honorable Raul G. Salinas	Mayor	City of Laredo
Honorable Roque Vela, Jr.	City Councilmember	City of Laredo
Honorable Juan Narvaez	City Councilmember	City of Laredo
Honorable Jorge A. Vera	City Councilmember	City of Laredo
Honorable Danny Valdez	Webb County Judge	Webb County
Honorable John Galo	Webb County Commissioner	Webb County
Honorable Jaime Canales	Webb County Commissioner	Webb County
Ms. Melisa Montemayor	District Administrator	TxDOT
Mr. Albert Ramirez, P.E.	Transportation Planning and Development Director	TxDOT
<i>**Ex-Officio**</i>		
Honorable Judith Zaffirini	Senator - District 21	State of Texas
Honorable Richard Raymond	Representative - District 42	State of Texas
Honorable Tracy O. King	Representative- District 80	State of Texas

**APPENDIX B
METROPOLITAN AREA BOUNDARY MAP**

Map will be inserted separately

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APPENDIX C

**DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION
NEGOTIATED CONTRACTS**

- 1) The Laredo Urban Transportation Study (LUTS), as Contractor, certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:
 - a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal department or agency;
 - b. Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public* transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
 - c. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity * with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1) (b) of this certification; and
 - d. Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions* terminated for cause or default.
- 2) Where the Contractor is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such Contractor shall attach an explanation to this certification.

* Federal, State, or Local

MPO Policy Committee Chairperson

Date

APPENDIX D

LOBBYING CERTIFICATION

**CERTIFICATION FOR CONTRACTS, GRANTS,
LOANS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS**

The undersigned certifies to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

- 1) No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- 2) If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
- 3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclosure accordingly.
- 4) This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

MPO Policy Committee Chairperson

Date

APPENDIX E

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

I, **Raul G Salinas**, Chairperson of the Laredo Urban Transportation Study, a duly authorized representative of the Laredo Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), do hereby certify that the contract and procurement procedures that are in effect and used by the forenamed MPO are in compliance with 49 CRR 18, "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements with State and Local Governments," as it may be revised or superseded.

MPO Policy Committee Chairperson

Date

Attest:

Name

Title

APPENDIX F

I, Raul G. Salinas, a duly authorized officer/representative of the Laredo Urban Transportation Study (MPO) do hereby certify that the forenamed MPO has adopted and does enforce an internal ethics and compliance program that is designed to detect and prevent violations of law, including regulations and ethical standards applicable to this entity or its officers or employees and that the internal ethics and compliance programs satisfies the requirements of by 43 TAC subsection 31.39 "Required Internal Ethics and Compliance Program" and 43 TAC subsection 10.51 "Internal Ethics an Compliance Program" as may be revised and superseded.

Date

Chairman, MPO Policy Committee

Attest:

Name

Title

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Appendix G
MPO SELF-CERTIFICATION

In accordance with Title 43, Part 1, Chapter 15, Subchapter A, Rule §15.5 of the Texas Administrative Code, the Texas Department of Transportation, and the Laredo Urban Transportation Study which is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Laredo urbanized area(s) hereby certify that the transportation planning process is addressing the major issues in the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements of:

- (1) 23 U.S.C. 134, 49 U.S.C. 5303, and this subpart;
- (2) In nonattainment and maintenance areas, sections 174 and 176 (c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7504, 7506 (c) and (d)) and 40 CFR part 93;
- (3) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d-1) and 49 CFR part 21;
- (4) 49 U.S.C. 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
- (5) Section 1101(b) of the SAFETEA-LU (Pub. L. 109-59) and 49 CFR part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in USDOT funded projects;
- (6) 23 CFR part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
- (7) The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and 49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38;
- (8) The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
- (9) Section 324 of title 23 U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and
- (10) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

Ms. Melisa Montemayor
District
Texas Department of Transportation

Mayor Raul G. Salinas
Metropolitan Planning Organization
Policy Board Chairperson

District Engineer

Chairperson

Date

Date

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION TO APPENDIX G

METROPOLITAN AND STATEWIDE PLANNING

The Laredo MPO certifies that it provides continuous, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning, addressing major issues facing the Laredo urban area and its planning process is conducted in accordance with all applicable transportation planning requirements, including the eight planning factors outlined in SAFETEA-LU. All requested reports and necessary documentation is submitted as required and on a timely basis. The Laredo MPO extends full cooperation and consultation as needed with the State on planning activities and programs.

CLEAN AIR ACT

The Laredo MPO is in attainment status in regards to air quality (Ozone, CO and PM-10). However, air quality issues are incorporated into the transportation planning process and environmental impacts are addressed in most studies funded through the MPO.

TITLE VI, CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

The Laredo MPO implements a Public Involvement Process that facilitates the participation of minority and low-income populations in transportation decision-making and strives for increased public involvement as part of the metropolitan planning process. By constantly evaluating its public involvement efforts, as well as developing new techniques, the MPO attempts to increase community awareness to address the needs of low-income populations within the urban area. As part of the MPOs efforts to increase public awareness, attempts are being made to establish working relationships with the local media. The resulting publicity may increase the exposure of MPO activities and increase the involvement of the community. MPO Policy Committee meetings are also televised in order to allow the community to keep abreast of MPO planning activities.

Every decision by the MPO is made with the challenge of ensuring that projects do not disproportionately have adverse impacts on minority or low-income populations. In addition, special efforts are made to identify minority and low-income sectors within the urban area. Because 94% of the population within the urban area is of Hispanic origin, data and mapping efforts focus primarily around low-income populations, as determined by US Health and Human Services guidelines and utilizing US Census information as it becomes available. The products developed as part of this effort will allow for better planning by all agencies involved and will assist in identifying needs in areas inhabited by traditionally underserved populations.

MPO and City staffs are active in addressing environmental justice issues in Laredo. This is evidenced by the implementation of the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), which is managed by the Department of Community Development. The CDBG is a Federal entitlement program that provides assistance to income-qualified families in designated target areas. Historically, the City has provided affordable housing, public facilities and public infrastructure improvements (streets, sidewalks, sewer and waterlines, etc.) to low-income areas of the community.

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (DBE)

The Laredo MPO is committed to maximizing the opportunity of minority and women owned enterprises to participate in the performance of contracts financed in whole or in part with Federal funds. The Laredo MPO maintains a list of consultants that is used for mailing requests for proposals and these

are also noticed in the newspaper. The MPO honors all written requests by consulting firms for inclusion to the list. Furthermore, all consulting contracts address DBEs through Article XXIII (Minority Business Enterprises) and any work subcontracted by a hired consultant must adhere to these provisions (Article XIII).

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990

The Laredo MPO exercises good judgment in ensuring that discrimination based on disability does not enter into the transportation planning process. This includes taking into account the special needs of disabled persons in all aspects of the planning and implementation of new transportation projects. In regards to public transportation, paratransit service is provided to persons with disabilities with efforts to accommodate special needs. Since 1994, the Laredo transit system (El Metro) has complied with the ADA Paratransit Plan for Laredo, TX. The Laredo MPO also coordinates with the City of Laredo Planning Department and the Sidewalk Access Committee, which was developed for the sole purpose of identifying and addressing ADA access issues along major thoroughfares.

RESTRICTIONS ON INFLUENCING CERTAIN FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

The Laredo MPO (both Policy Committee members and staff) commit and certify that no Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any federal agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement. This component of self-certification is also upheld through the “Lobbying Certification” (Appendix D) included in the UPWP.

FTA/TxDOT Section 5303 Budget Worksheet for FY2015

MPO: Laredo Urban Transportation Study

PART A. TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

Show estimated cost (Section 5303 only) by appropriate activity line item.

		Section 5303 Federal Share
Metropolitan Planning		
44.21.00	Program Support and Administration	\$ _____
44.22.00	General Development and Comprehensive Planning	\$ _____
44.23.01	Long Range System Level Planning	\$ <u>109,787</u>
44.23.02	Long Range Project Level Planning	\$ _____
44.24.00	Short Range Transportation Planning	\$ _____
44.25.00	Transportation Improvement Program	\$ _____
Other		
44.27.00	Other Activities	\$ _____
TOTAL (Section 5303 Funding)		\$ <u>109,787</u>

TxDOT will apply transportation development credits sufficient to provide the match for FTA Section 5303 program. As the credits reflect neither cash nor man-hours, they are not reflected in the above.

PART B. FUND ALLOCATIONS

How will the MPO's FTA funds be allocated:

- A) Metropolitan Planning Organization \$ 109,787
- B) Transit Agencies (Pass-through Funds) \$ _____
- C) State/Local Agencies (Pass-through Funds) \$ _____

Please identify individual agency(s)/amount(s) for pass-through funds

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

TOTAL (matches the total on pg 1) \$ 109,787

Person to contact regarding this worksheet:

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FTA BUDGET CODE EXPLANATIONS

Metropolitan Planning

Program Support and Administration (44.21.00) Include basic overhead, program support, and general administrative costs directly chargeable to the FTA project, i.e., direct program support, administration, interagency coordination, citizen participation, public information, local assistance, UPWP development, etc. (If direct program administrative and support costs are included in each work or activity, do not enter them a second time in this category.)

General Development and Comprehensive Planning (44.22.00) Include only the costs of activities *specifically emphasizing* regional policy and system planning for non-transportation functional areas, including the development and maintenance of related data collection and analysis systems, demographic analysis and non-transportation modeling and forecasting activity, i.e., land use, housing, human services, environmental and natural resources, recreation and open space, public facilities and utilities, etc.

Long Range System Level Planning (44.23.01) Include only the costs of activities *specifically emphasizing* long range transportation system planning and analysis, i.e., long range travel forecasting and modeling including appropriate data base development and maintenance for transportation in the entire metropolitan area or state, system analysis, sketch planning, system plan development, reappraisal or revision, and all long range, Transportation System Management (TSM) activities.

Long Range Project Level Planning (44.23.02) Include only the costs of activities *specifically emphasizing* long range project level planning and analysis, i.e., corridor and sub-area studies, cost effectiveness studies, feasibility and location studies, and the preparation of related draft environmental impact studies.

Short Range Transportation Planning (44.24.00) Include only the cost of activities *specifically emphasizing* short range transportation system or project planning and analysis proposed in the next three to five years, i.e., management analyses of internal operations such as, management/administration, maintenance, personnel, and labor relations; service planning including appropriate data base development and maintenance; TDP preparation; financial management planning, including alternative fare box policies; all short range Transportation System Management (TSM) activities including vanpool/ridesharing, high occupancy vehicles, parking management, etc.

Transportation Improvement Program (44.25.00) Include only the costs of activities *specifically emphasizing* TIP development and monitoring.

Other

Other Activities (44.27.00) Include only the cost of those activities whose primary emphasis is unrelated to the specific types of activities described above.