



9601 Wright Blvd. Midland, Texas
Policy Board Meeting VIRTUAL via Zoom
August 21, 2023 1:30 p.m.

Policy Board Members Present:

Eric Lykins, P.E.	TxDOT Odessa District Engineer
Bryan Cox	Martin County Judge
Terry Johnson	Midland County Judge, via zoom
Doug Provance	General Manager, MOU/D (EZ Rider)
Steve Thompson	Odessa City Councilman

Policy Board Members Absent:

Jack Ladd, Jr.	Chair, Midland City Councilman
Mike Gardner	Vice Chair, Ector County Commissioner

Others in Attendance:

Cameron Walker, AICP	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Ken Van Dyne, AICP	Assistant Director, Permian Basin MPO
Janna Dean	Office Manager, Permian Basin MPO
Akyra Hamilton	GIS Tech, Planner Permian Basin MPO
Jose Ortiz, P.E.	Engineering Services Director, City of Midland via zoom
Andrew Avis	Midland County, Director of Public Works and FloodPlain Mgr
Sara Garza	MPO Manager, TxDOT via zoom
Debra Richmond	Permian Strategic Partnership via Zoom
Bobby Wojciechowski	City of Midland, Construction Manager
Maryann Cedillo	Public Information Officer, TxDOT
Chad Windham, P.E.	Director of Operations, TxDOT Odessa District
Fred Herrera, P.E.	Area Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Robert Ornelas, P.E.	Director of TP&D, TxDOT Odessa District
Thomas Kerr, P.E.	Director of Public Works, City of Odessa
Ken Hankins	Senator Sparks Office

AGENDA

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Steve Thompson.
- 2. Introductions and Announcements**
Everyone introduced themselves and Cameron welcomed Cary Karnstadt with TxDOT.
- 3. Public Comment Period (limited to 3 minutes each)**
There were no public comments.

4. **Approve the Policy Board Minutes from July 17, 2023**

A motion to approve the Policy Board Minutes from July 17, 2023 was made by Doug Provance seconded by Eric Lykins, and approved unanimously.

5. **Approve the May and June 2023 Billing Statements**

Complete financial records from the City of Odessa have been received by MPO for the months of May and June, 2023. A motion to approve the May and June Billing Statements was made by Bryan Cox, seconded by Doug Provance, and approved unanimously.

6. **Presentation from Cary Karnstadt, TxDOT, “Ports to Plains System in Texas”**

Cary Karnstadt shared with the Policy Board how the Ports to Plains system in Texas will benefit all. It will improve safety, mobility, freight movement, and alleviate congestion. The Ports to Plains System is 963 miles that runs from Laredo to Denver through 30 cities, 26 counties, 6 TxDOT Regions and 5 MPOs, on I-27, I-35, and I-20.

7. **Approve the FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Cameron shared the FY 2024 UPWP with the Policy Board. He explained the MPO is budgeting \$8,000 below FY 2023 for FY 2024, explaining where and how the money would be spent in 5 different tasks. A motion to approve the FY 2024 UPWP was made by Doug Provance, seconded by Bryan Cox and approved unanimously.

8. **MPO Staff Report**

a. **90-Day Calendar**

b. **Staff Activities – 30-day**

Cameron shared information about The Innovation Invitational passed by TxDOT’s Transportation Innovation Alliance. happening in Austin on September 19.

He has been working with Michelle Hagerman, City of Midland Grantwriter, to prepare an updated presentation on the Wildcatters Trail. Each team gets 5 minutes to make a presentation for an innovation zone. There are 10 teams, the top 3 will receive TxDOT federal grant writing assistance.

c. **Update on the 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP)**

The Texas Transportation Commission is responsible for approving a ten-year transportation planning and programming document known as the Unified Transportation Program, or simply the UTP. Among other features, the document covers a ten-year period of financial estimates for construction projects along with cost estimates and funding sources for rural and urban projects. All MPO’s benefit from various sources of funding coming from UTP. The Permian Basin MPO directly benefits from Category 2U funding – these are funds that are to be directed toward the construction of on-system (state managed) roadways. The MPO Policy Board determines how these funds are allocated subject to any project proposal meeting state transportation priorities. Other funds are also used for projects in the MPO region; these are directed by TxDOT and the TxDOT Odessa District. In many cases, the projects contained in the ten-year list are funded from various financial sources including the Transportation Commission’s Strategic Funding Category. The projects on I-20 make up the majority of the funds programmed for this region. Eric Lykins pointed out that the TxDOT District will receive approximately 25% of additional funding in the new UTP.

9. **Agency Project Reports**

a. **TxDOT Odessa District**

Big Spring Street reconstruction is continuing. Contractors are working around the clock on I-20 at Cotton Flat and Midkiff. Work is continuing on I-20 and CR 1250. TxDOT is hoping this will be completed by end of year. East and west Loop 250 and Hwy 191 are experiencing extreme backup, they are hoping to have it partially open this week. The BI-20 rehab from 8th Street to FM 1788 will be starting this fall.

b. **City of Midland**

City of Midland reported Briarwood construction is progressing. Avalon to Hwy 158 project is out for bid on water utilities. Wadley and Golf Course Rd is closed for utility repairs. They are also preparing for new traffic signals at Lone Star and Hwy 349, and Andrews Hwy at Woodcrest.

c. **Midland County**

CR 120 south of Midland and FM 349 to FM 1749 are all experiencing reconstruction.

d. **City of Odessa**

The Faudree Rd project is progressing with southbound lanes open. They are accepting bids for Crane Avenue from 2nd Street to I-20 for reconstruct and utility work. City of Odessa reported that 31st street reconstruction should be finished early October.

e. **Ector County**

Ector County shared they are continuing work on 42nd Street.

f. **Martin County**

Martin County is still working on their seal coating project.

g. **MOUTD**

No one was present for EZ-Rider during the Agency Project Reports.

10. **Future Meeting**

The next TAC Meeting will be September 7, 2023.

The next Policy Board Meeting will be September 18, 2023.

We also voted to have the Policy Board Meeting in November on November 13, 2023.

11. **Conduct Executive Session concerning any, and all, subjects and for any, and all, purposes permitted by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government code, including, but not limited to: Texas Government Code Section 551.071 for the purpose of consulting with the Board’s attorney; Texas Government Code Section 551.072 to deliberate the purchase, lease, or value of real property; Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to discuss personnel matters.**

12. **Take Action Concerning Executive Session Matters**

There was no Executive Session.

13. **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Eric Lykins, seconded by Bryan Cox, and approved unanimously at 2:55 p.m.

This meeting was conducted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Law (V.T.C.A. Government Code 551).