



Permian Basin MPO
9601 Wright Drive Midland, TX
Policy Board Meeting VIRTUAL via Zoom
September 20, 2021 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81612439761?pwd=aFpjYjMvSnVNRCSyTEd2eWZnd2R4QT09>

Meeting ID: 816 1243 9761

Passcode: 646516

One tap mobile

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Pursuant to section 551.127 of the Texas government code, and in conjunction with the guidance and provisions provided by the Governor of Texas in the declaration of disaster enacted March 13, 2020, members of the transportation policy board may be participating remotely in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, as temporarily modified by the governor.

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Introductions and Announcements
3. Public Comment Period (limited to 3 minutes each)
4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from August 16, 2021 **ACTION ITEM**
5. Approve the August 2021 Billing Statement **ACTION ITEM**
6. Approve the FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment No. 2 **ACTION ITEM**
7. Approve the *Forward 45* MTP Amendment No. 2 **ACTION ITEM**

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|---|-------------------------|
| 8. Update from Freese Nichols on the Interregional Corridor Study | INFORMATION ITEM |
| 9. Update from Texas A&M Transportation Institute on the Regional Resiliency Plan | INFORMATION ITEM |
| 10. Report on Agency Procedures | ACTION ITEM |
| 11. MPO Staff Reports | INFORMATION ITEM |
| a. 90-Day Calendar | |
| b. Staff Activities – 30-day | |
| 12. Agency Project Reports | INFORMATION ITEM |
| a. TxDOT Odessa District | |
| b. City of Midland | |
| c. Midland County | |
| d. City of Odessa | |
| e. Ector County | |
| f. Martin County | |
| g. MOUTD | |
| 13. Future Meetings | INFORMATION ITEM |
| 14. 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. | |
| 15. Take Action Concerning Executive Session Matters | ACTION ITEM |
| 16. Adjourn | ACTION ITEM |

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

3. Public Comment Period

The Policy Board members and persons having official business on the Permian Basin MPO agenda may comment and participate in discussions when appropriate.

Any citizen who does not have official business listed on the Permian Basin MPO agenda may address the Board regarding transportation related planning projects or construction within the Metropolitan Area Boundary.

The Policy Board Chairperson reserves the privilege to place a time limit on all comments or rule dialogue out of order. Any deliberation of an issue raised during these comments is limited to a proposal directed by the Board to place the item on an agenda for a future meeting. Everyone wishing to address the Board should provide a name and address.

4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from September 20, 2021

Policy Board Members Present:

PBMPO Conference Policy Board Members Present:

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| Debi Hays | Chair, County Judge, Ector County |
| Jack Ladd, Jr. | Vice-Chair, Councilman, City of Midland |
| Robin Donnelly | County Commissioner, Midland County |
| Tom Sprawls | Councilman, City of Odessa |
| Doug Provance | General Manager, MOU/D (EZ-Rider) |
| John Speed, P.E. | District Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District |

Policy Board Members Absent:

Bryan Cox Judge, Martin County

Others in Attendance:

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Cameron Walker, AICP | Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO |
| Ken Van Dyne, AICP | Senior Transportation Planner, Permian Basin MPO |
| Yazeed Al Rashdi | GIS Technician, Permian Basin MPO |
| Jessica Schuttler, P.E. | Dunaway Associates, Midland County |
| Andrew Avis | Director of Public Works, Midland County |
| Hal Feldman, P.E. | Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa |
| Chad Windham, P.E. | Director of Operations, TxDOT Odessa District |
| Gene Powell | Public Information Officer, TxDOT Odessa District |
| Robert Ornelas, P.E. | Director of TP&D, TxDOT Odessa District |
| Bill Frawley | Senior Researcher, Texas A&M Transportation Institute |

AGENDA ITEM

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting of the Permian Basin MPO Policy Board was called to order at 3:03 p.m. by Policy Board Chair, Debi Hays. A quorum was present.

2. Introductions and Announcements

None.

3. Public Comment Period

None.

4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from September 20, 2021

A motion was made by Jack Ladd, Jr., and seconded by Tom Sprawls to approve the Policy Board minutes from August 16, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approve the August 2021 Billing Statement

Staff advised the Policy Board that the City of Odessa will be assisting with Billing statements and that two statements covering the months of August and September would be presented at the October meeting. A motion to table approval of the billing statement was made by John Speed, seconded by Robin Donnelly. Robin Donnelly asked staff if the payments to be made to consultants for the work items shown in Task 5 would be financially secure after the start of the new budget year. Staff stated that the funds available to consultants are available in the next budget year. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Approve the FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment No. 2

Staff made a presentation about the proposed amendments to the FY 2021-2024 with comments about the Texas Transportation Commission's support of the MPO's listed priority projects shown in a December 2020 resolution. Staff reminded the Board that the FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment No. 1 was completed to reduce the amount of funding and move certain I-20 projects out of the TIP timeframe (beyond 2024). Staff stated that the passage of the new ten-year Unified Transportation Program by the Transportation Commission on August 31 allows the MPO to add the once removed projects back into the four-year TIP window. In addition, several low-cost projects were added into the UTP; these are the lower cost projects that the MPO prioritized previously. Staff highlighted the projects on a table shown on the screen and on a map displayed to the Board.

Staff pointed out that the projects in FY 2021 have already been let but they are still part of the four-year TIP window through FY 2024. A public hearing was held; no comments were received. Robin Donnelly motioned for approval of the TIP Amendment No. 2; Doug Provance seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Approve the Forward 45 MTP Amendment No. 2

A similar presentation was made by the staff for the proposed Amendment No. 2 of the MTP. Staff pointed out that the TIP and MTP need to align and reflect the projects and the funding sources for the proposed transportation improvements in the region. Staff showed the Policy Board a table and map of where the remaining projects in the UTP are located; these are all outside of the four-year TIP window but are in the ten-year UTP. Most of the funding is for the modernization of the I-20 corridor but there are several low-cost projects that are now in the UTP in both communities

Jack Ladd, Jr. pointed out that the City of Midland will benefit from the project at Avalon Drive where it intersects Business 20. A motion to approve the MTP Amendment No. 2 was made by Robin Donnelly, seconded by Tom Sprawls. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Update from Freese Nichols on the Interregional Corridor Study

Mr. Eddie Haas pointed out to the Board that there are two public Town Hall style meetings planned; one on September 20th at the Hispanic Cultural Center in Midland and the other at Odessa College on September 21st. John Speed asked about timing on the study. Mr. Haas mentioned a published survey being made available in both English and Spanish for additional comment regarding the proposed corridor. Staff pointed out that Mr. Haas and his team had completed an important Planning and Environmental Linkage corridor study in the region previously and that study allowed the consultants to gain a better understanding of the needs of the MPO region. Mr. Haas also spoke about several of the north/south corridors that could connect to a potential regional corridor. He also mentioned the large size of the study area. He also stated that the consultants had received lots of input.

9. Update from Texas A&M Transportation Institute on the Regional Resiliency Plan

Mr. Bill Frawley opened a discussion on the resiliency planning effort underway with the MPO and TTI. He mentioned that TTI has started to analyze both resiliency and mitigation of the results of incidents on the transportation system. Mr. Frawley met numerous stakeholders at the June Shale Energy Conference held at the Midland County Horseshoe. He pointed out the boundaries of the study area with emphasis on detour routes. He commented on signage he noticed on Route 66 about incident bypass routes. TTI is analyzing extreme weather events over the past 25 years as well as major crashes. The TTI team is also reviewing the projects listed in the approved MTP. He commented on the work coordination with Freese Nichols and his TTI team regarding the ongoing PEL study. He mentioned the queuing of traffic when incidents occur; this problem could be prevented by early notification to drivers. They are also looking at bridge heights throughout the region. Jack Ladd, Jr. asked about the signage on Route 66. He also inquired about flooding conditions on local streets and whether this study would include the local network. Mr. Frawley answered that it would address those problems. Robin Donnelly commented about the transportation of nuclear waste through the region to Andrews County. Mr. Frawley stated that TTI has looked at that issue. John Speed commented that an effective resiliency plan would need to involve law enforcement agencies since TxDOT does not have the authority to shut down roads, but law enforcement agencies do. First responder agencies need to be involved as well. Robin Donnelly commented on google maps during phases of I-20 construction in the area between Sweetwater and Abilene.

Mr. Frawley stated that the MPO has been supported extremely well by the Texas Transportation Commission in the recent UTP. He also stated that he uses the Permian Basin MPO as a model for other agencies when they consider coordination and cooperation with their other planning agencies including TxDOT Districts and cities. Robin Donnelly stated that he appreciated the support of the ODC and the MDC to expedite the timing of improvements that are now funded on I-20.

10. Report on Agency Procedures

Staff reported on agency procedures and the proposed “operations manual” as presented in the Board packet. Staff mentioned that discussions with John Speed were productive; he suggested that the document should contain language referring to the “most current laws or policies” where applicable. Jack Ladd, Jr. asked if the City of Odessa’s policies and procedures that are currently in place are sufficient to

address problems that have occurred in the past. Staff stated that there is a good degree of coordination between the MPO and the City. Tom Sprawls asked if there are any outstanding issues. Staff said that there are none. John Speed spoke about the agreement between the City, the MPO, and TxDOT as a frame of reference for everyone. Chair Hays called for a vote to pass the operations manual. The votes were all affirmative.

11. MPO Staff Reports

a. 90-Day Calendar

Staff included a 90-day event calendar to inform the Policy Board of upcoming events.

b. Staff 30-day activities include: Staff attended the Texas Transportation Commission meeting virtually to hear the discussion on the UTP. Staff also attend the PBRPC monthly meeting and the EZ-Rider Board meeting regarding the RCTP.

c. Update on Interregional Planning and Environmental Linkage Corridor Study:

Mr. Eddie Haas gave a presentation to the Board on the feedback that Freese Nichols has received from stakeholders. He also discussed the upcoming proposed Town Hall meetings on September 20/21 at two locations in the region – one at Odessa College and the other at the Midland Hispanic Cultural Center. Mr. Haas requested Board comment on the type of meeting that should be held given that Covid cases are on the rise. The Board concurred with his concern and suggested that the meetings could still be held in person but opportunity for remote involvement should also be offered to interested persons.

8. Agency Project Reports

- a. TxDOT Odessa District – John Speed stated that the project report is in the handout. The major projects are on I-20 at Midkiff and at CR 1250. Some challenges are being realized. He also stated that the opening of CR 1150 and CR 60 on Loop 250 will be open to traffic next week. He stated that the I-27 committee was adopted by the legislature; two entities in the MPO are listed in the statute – the Midland Mayor and the Midland County Judge. He described the corridor segment through Midland County. The Mayors that make up the I-27 Advisory Committee will be looking to appoint individuals representing the energy industry (1), international trade (1), agriculture (1), and economic development (3) to serve in an advisory capacity. The group will meet on 10/23 to introduce the responsibilities and possibly appoint the advisors. Mr. Speed mentioned SH 158 to the east of Midland as part of the I-14 corridor. Discussion occurred regarding the location(s) of the I-14 corridor. Robin Donnelly pointed out that the County’s CR 1232 project could be part of the I-14 corridor. Mr. Speed also spoke about I-20 drainage considerations.
- b. City of Midland – Jose Ortiz updated the Board on projects at Tradewinds Boulevard concrete work; the Sinclair Avenue project near Loop 250; Midkiff at Loop 250 capacity improvements are complete;

Loop 250/Thomason Drive.

- c. Midland County – Robin Donnelly mentioned the bidding of the Yukon extension and the CR 1232 extension. CR 1210 at Monahans Draw will be completed next year. The crossing of CR 1232 at Monahans Draw is underway. Andrew Avis mentioned the bidding of the Industrial Avenue project between Loop 250 and Midkiff.
- d. City of Odessa – Hal Feldman stated that University Blvd will be complete and open to traffic on Thursday.
- e. Ector County – Debi Hays mentioned projects that are ongoing at Cotoonwood; flooded roads in west Odessa. Cathleen Hamilton stated that the CTIF sealcoat projects are nearing completion. Also, the 87th Street widening project is in the third week of construction. A bid opening has been held for the 67th Street drainage work.
- f. Martin County – No report.
- g. MOUTD – Doug Provance mentioned that finding drivers has been difficult. EZ Rider may have to delay expansion of the system until they can find the drivers – possibly in early 2022. Plans to purchase buses have been delayed since the manufacturers cannot get vehicle chassis currently. Typical lead time to get the chassis is several months – typically eight.

9. Future Meetings

Policy Board Meeting – Monday, October 18, 2021 at 3:00 pm

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 8:00 am

10. 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:

None

11. Take Action Concerning Executive Session Matters

None

12. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Tom Sprawls, seconded by John Speed. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by Judge Hays at 4:34 p.m.

5. Approve the August 2021 Billing Statement

Staff is working with the City of Odessa to complete documentation needed for the August report on MPO expenditures. Staff intends to prepare billing statements for the months of August and September and deliver these to the Board in October.

6. Approve the FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment No. 2

Staff will present the Draft FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment No. 2. A public hearing was held on September 7th at 8:30 a.m. to present the draft document via Zoom. There were no participants. The public comment period was opened for ten-days. No comments were received.

7. Approve the *Forward 45* MTP Amendment No. 2

Staff will present the Draft *Forward 45* MTP Amendment No. 2. A public hearing was held on September 7th at 8:30 a.m. to present the draft document via Zoom. There were no participants. The public comment period was opened for ten-days. No comments were received.

8. Update from Freese Nichols on the Interregional Corridor Study

Mr. Eddie Haas will be in attendance to present an update on the Interregional Corridor Study.

9. Update from Texas A&M Transportation Institute on the Regional Resiliency Plan

Mr. Bill Frawley will be available to present an update on the Regional Resiliency Plan.

10. Report on Agency Procedures

At the March Policy Board meeting staff was requested to prepare a summary of MPO operations for discussion in June. Staff made a brief presentation on this in June, and it was left without action pending a discussion between John Speed and staff about the clarity and intent of the draft agency procedures. Staff spoke with Mr. Speed about this proposed “MPO Operations Manual”; he stated that reference(s) needs to be made in the document itself about using the “most current version” of any applicable manual or other document – i.e. personnel manual, any policies adopted by the City of Odessa or the MPO. The proposed MPO Operations Manual is attached as a separate file delivered to the Policy Board with the TIP, MTP and packet materials. Staff recommends that the Policy Board adopt the MPO Operations Manual as amended from discussion with John Speed.

11. MPO Staff Reports

b. 90-Day Calendar

Staff included a 90-day event calendar to inform the Policy Board of upcoming events.

| September 2021 | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Sun. | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thurs. | Fri. | Sat. |
| | | | 1 | 2 TAC 8:00am | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 Policy Board Town Hall - Odessa | 21 Town Hall - Midland | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |
| | | | | | | |

October 2021

| Sun. | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thurs. | Fri. | Sat. |
|------|------------------------------|-------|------|-----------------|------|------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 TAC 8:00am | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 Policy Board 3:00pm | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

| November 2021 | | | | | | |
|---------------|--|------|-----------------|------|------|------|
| Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thurs. | Fri. | Sat. | Sun. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 TAC 8:00am | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 Policy Board Meeting – 3:00 P.M. | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |

b. Staff 30-day activities include: Staff continued to work with TTI on the regional Resiliency Plan. Staff attended the Texas Transportation Commission meeting (virtual) and began preparations of amended TIP and MTP documents. Staff attended the RCTP coordination meeting and the PBRPC Board meeting. Staff worked to get the TIP and MTP documents ready for the September Board meeting including holding a public hearing on September 7, 2021.

12. Agency Project Reports:

- a. TxDOT Odessa District
- b. City of Midland
- c. Midland County
- d. City of Odessa
- e. Ector County
- f. Martin County
- g. MOUTD

13. Future Meetings

Policy Board Meeting – Monday, September 20, 2021 at 3:00 pm

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 8:00 am

14. 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.

15. Take Action Concerning Executive Session Matters

16. Adjourn