



**Permian Basin MPO**  
**9601 Wright Drive Midland, TX**  
**Policy Board Meeting VIRTUAL via Zoom**  
**July 18, 2022 1:30 p.m.**

**Policy Board Members Present:**

Jack Ladd, Jr	Chair, Councilman, City of Midland
Tom Sprawls	Vice Chair, Councilman, City of Odessa
Doug Provance	General Manager, MOUTD (EZ-Rider)
Debi Hays	County Judge, Ector County
Bryan Cox	County Judge, Martin County

**Policy Board Members Absent:**

Robin Donnelly	County Commissioner, Midland County
Eric Lykins, P.E.	TxDOT Engineer, Ector County

**Others in Attendance:**

Cameron Walker, AICP	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Ken Van Dyne, AICP	Sr Transportation Planner, Permian Basin MPO
Janna Dean	Office Manager, Permian Basin MPO
Akyra Hamilton	Transportation Planner/GIS Technician
Hal Feldman, P.E.	Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa
Marisella Campos	Asst Director, Public Works
Steven Davis	Director, Ector County Public Works
Fred Herrera, P.E.	TxDOT Engineer, Midland District
Saul Romero, P.E.	TxDOT Engineer, Odessa District
Andrew Avis	Midland County
Chad Wyndham, P.E.	TxDOT
Jose Ortiz, P.E.	City of Midland, Director Engineering Services
Gene Powell	Public Information Officer, TxDOT Odessa District

**AGENDA**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.m. by the Policy Board Chair, Jack Ladd, Jr.

**2. Introductions and Announcements**

Cameron Walker welcomed our new staff member, Akyra Hamilton.

**3. Public Comment Period (limited to 3 minutes each)**

There were no public comments.

**4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from June 20, 2022**

A motion to approve the Policy Board Minutes from June 20, 2022 was made by Tom Sprawls, seconded by Debi Hays, and approved unanimously.

**5. Approve the May 2022 Billing Statement**

Janna Dean provided the Board members with a breakdown of the May 2022 billing statement. In summary, the MPO spent \$67,869.22 in May 2022. The cumulative expense for the Fiscal Year is \$433,134.68; this is 56.38% of the MPO's annual budget.

A motion to approve the Statement was made by Tom Sprawls, seconded by Bryan Cox, and approved unanimously.

**6. Approve Amendment No. 2 to the FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Staff received a funding authorization letter, known as a Work Order, from TxDOT dated June 23, 2022. The letter indicates that the MPO will need to allocate \$11,195.55 of its existing funding to address identified planning activities that will increase safety for multiple travel modes. The letter also calls for documentation of this funding in the FY 2022 UPWP. Staff has proposed to complete this requirement by adding a new Subtask to the UPWP. This new Subtask is 1.9 "Safe and Accessible Transportation Options". The funding will be used as part of the staff (and TAC) work that is currently underway related to potential MTP amendments.

Staff proposes to add the following new narrative to the current UPWP.

**1.9. Safe and Accessible Transportation Options**

MPO staff will review proposed projects for inclusion into an amended MTP. Review procedures will include analysis of available federal and state crash data records for all modes of transportation and incorporating the findings into the project selection process.

A motion to approve the amended UPWP by adding subtask 1.9 was made by Debi Hays, seconded by Tom Sprawls and approved unanimously.

**7. Approve the FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Staff presented a draft UPWP at the June meeting. Since then, staff has received additional funding approval letters (work orders) from TxDOT for the current budget year. With the new work orders, we are able to identify carry over funding that is anticipated to be available at the end of the fiscal year. This dollar figure is important because it is an indication of the amount of funding we are able to program in FY 2023.

The proposed UPWP is similar to the current version. Key differences are:

- a. Increase in Task 1 by \$49,100 to cover increase in staffing expenses, new subtask 1.9.
- b. Decrease in Task 2 by \$5,000
- c. Decrease in Task 3 by \$8,100
- d. Decrease in Task 4 by \$36,100 – reduced time requirement on the Travel Demand Model
- e. Increase in Task 5 by \$189,000 to complete Comprehensive Safety Action Plan and continue with ongoing work on the outer loop study and the resiliency plan

The total amount of transportation planning funds in the draft FY 2023 budget is \$863,900. The sum of \$414,000 is for special studies. The current budget is \$675,000.

A motion to approve the proposed UPWP was made by Debi Hays, seconded by Bryan Cox, and approved unanimously.

#### **8. Presentation of the draft TxDOT FY 2023-2032 UTP**

TxDOT held a public meeting on July 7. The purpose of the meeting was to open the 30 day public comment period for the 10 year UTP. There will be another public meeting on July 26, and comments will end on August 6. This is to determine how much money is available and which projects will be funded over the next ten year period, 2023-2032.

The TxDOT UTP must be approved by August 31. This is not a guarantee that all projects will be built. The Board asked Cameron to draft a public comment for each of them to sign and submit.

#### **9. MPO Staff Reports**

##### **a. 90-Day Calendar**

Meetings are scheduled at 1:30 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month, August 15, 2022 is the next meeting.

##### **b. Staff Activities – 30-day**

Staff attended a Texas Association of MPOs (TEMPO) meeting in Austin on July 12 and 13. Staff met with TTI to discuss timing related to an update on the MPO's ongoing resiliency plan. Staff also coordinated with Freese Nichols to schedule two Town Hall meetings. These are to be held on August 23<sup>rd</sup> regarding the outer loop study. Cameron invited everyone to attend. Staff continued working with TxDOT on the materials needed for the 2050 Travel Demand Model.

## 10. Agency Project Reports

### a. TxDOT Odessa District-

There are several ongoing projects. TxDOT let 100 million in projects through the district. Garfield and Fairgrounds Rd railroad projects came in over budget. The Rail division in Austin will cover the overage. Some ongoing projects are SH 385- Loop 338 which is open and complete. The project on HWY 191/Yukon has begun. TxDOT is considering installing a traffic light at 87<sup>th</sup>. They are requesting a signal study and the speed study is complete.

### b. City of Midland-

City of Midland is working with TxDOT on the project at Loop 250 at Todd. Thomason Road is almost complete. There is progress being made regarding the construction near the hospital. The City is also accepting bids for the north extension of Fairgrounds Rd to Mockingbird.

### c. Midland County-

They are expecting completion of a city/county combined project on Industrial Loop to Midkiff. The CR 120 from Rankin Hwy to Garden City Hwy project has been let but not awarded.

### d. City of Odessa-

The Faudree bids are way over what they were expecting. The City was expecting \$21-\$23 million and both bids came in over \$32 million. They are not considering delaying the projects. The city will be limiting traffic on Dixie from 46<sup>th</sup>-56<sup>th</sup> to allow construction to be completed before school starts.

### e. Ector County-

Work is continuing on Apple Street, with Phase 1 being 95% complete. The 67<sup>th</sup> Street project is now 50% complete. Cottonwood is also progressing, being 70% complete.

### f. Martin County-

Martin County is continuing work on roads. They are resealing and recoating several of the County roads and streets.

### g. MOUTD-

EZ Rider is working on getting four new buses in service. They have also had a realignment of staff and are working on filling deficiencies in their drivers.

## 10. Future Meetings-

The next meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

**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.**

**A. To consider creating and filling a new MPO staff position titled Assistant Director –**  
The Policy Board and Cameron Walker went into Executive Session at 2:25 p.m.

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

A motion for the Policy Board to reconvene was made by Debi Hays, seconded by Tom Sprawls, and approved unanimously, at 2:35 p.m.

The Board announced the position of Assistant Director will be filled by Ken Van Dyne.

**14. Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Debi Hays, seconded by Bryan Cox and approved by all, at 2:40 p.m.

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



