

**Permian Basin MPO
9601 Wright Drive
Midland, TX Policy Board
January 18, 2022 1:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

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.

Policy Board Members Present:

PBMPO Conference Policy Board Members Present:

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

Policy Board Members Absent

Bryan Cox	Martin County
Tom Sprawls	Councilman, City of Odessa

Others in Attendance:

Cameron Walker, AICP	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Yazeed Al Rashdi	GIS Technician, Permian Basin MPO
Hal Feldman, P.E.	Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa
Jose Ortiz, P.E.	Director of Engineering Services
Gene Powell	Public Information Officer, TxDOT Odessa District
Robert Ornelas, P.E.	Director of TP&D, TxDOT Odessa District
Cathleen Hamilton	Ector County
Bill Frawley	Transportation Researcher, TTI
Jessica Schlutter	Dunaway Associates

1. **Call Meeting to Order-**

At 1:34 p.m. by Chair, Debi Hays

2. **Introductions and Announcements-**

Cameron Walker announced that Yazeed Al Rashdi will be leaving at the end of the month. Item 7 was prepared by Yazeed, and Cameron thanked him for his work on this.

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

None

4. **Approve the Policy Board Minutes from December 13, 2021-**

Motion to approve by Jack Ladd Jr, seconded by John Speed, approved unanimously

5. **Approve an administrative update to the 2045 MTP to add the FHWA and FTA amended Grouped Project Definitions-**

Cameron explained that the FHWA, FTA and TxDOT allow projects that are not individually listed in the MTP. Examples include traffic signals, bridge repair, and shoulder widenings. This is an administrative amendment, just to change the description, to reflect the new format. This would apply to MTP and TIP. Motion to approve by John Speed, second by Jack Ladd Jr, approved unanimously.

6. **FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Development-**

TAC acceleration- Cameron explained this is actually a 4-year window, with construction, adding projects not already on there to the back end of the TIP. Some current projects are SH 191 at Yukon, 1250 at Business 20, Midkiff at I-20. The 2021-2024 TIP is expiring at the end of this year, we have no projects for 2023. The TAC will bring up recommendations for the new FY 2023-2026 TIP. This is due by 3rd week in June to TxDOT. The TIP can be amended at any time. Debi Hays spoke about dangerous conditions on south SH 385 south of I-20, with multiple driveways, service trucks entering the highway. John Speed spoke about turning lanes and safety, stating there is a study being done in the next month, but plans to improve safety will take another year or more. Applying for permits takes time as well. Jack Ladd, Jr mentioned Craddick Highway to Todd Drive. John Speed said he doesn't have anything recommending this need as of yet. Outer Loop and Loop 338 study should show this and should be ready to plan for evaluation by summer 2022.

7. Presentation on safety in the Metropolitan Area Boundary-

Cameron thanked Yazeed for his work on this report. In the last 6 weeks, MPO staff have studied 2019-2021. We have identified roads with high crashes for all 3 counties, identified trends of crashes, and contributing factors, all data came from TxDOT. Single occupant vehicle crashes make up more than 71% of accidents, where multiple occupant accidents are 27%, with pedestrian, motorcycle following. Also, we noted that in the summertime, fatalities are higher. Cameron stated where the crashes occurred, most on I-20, 42nd in Odessa, followed by Loop 250, Big Spring Street, Andrews Highway, he also noted that Hwy 191 was not listed in the top areas. He noted the top 5 reasons why; failed to control speed 23% of accidents, fail to yield right of way 22%, disregard stop signal 8%, failed to drive in single lane 6%, changing lane when unsafe 6%. For the period 2019-2021, there was a decline in accidents and fatalities. Fatalities were listed as 86 in 2019 and down to 66 in 2021. Ector County leads in crashes in 2021 with 51%, down from 53% in 2020, followed by Midland County with 48%. Cameron believes that the safety railing, cable barriers, traffic signals and overpasses will help reduce fatalities. Hwy 385 is one of the scariest roads to drive on, Cameron believes with the cable barriers this road should improve. John Speed stated that even though fatalities are up across the US, 18-24% there is a 33% reduction in crashes overall from the 2018 peak, here in the Permian Basin. Traffic volumes in our District did not drop as it did across the US.

8. MPO Staff Reports

- a. 90-Day Calendar- The Board moved the meeting to February 22, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.
- b. Staff Activities – 30-day -working closely with TAC on TIP 2023-2026, MPO has been working with Frees Nichols on Resiliency study. Bill Frawley will have an update next month.

9. Agency Project Reports

- a. TxDOT Odessa District- US 385, 42nd, Hwy 140, Florida Street, repaving starting soon
- b. City of Midland- working on A street all the way to Wadley, repair traffic lights
- c. Midland County-phase 3 south Loop-CR 1160 to SH 158, bridge at Monahans Draw progressing on Yukon
- d. City of Odessa- Dixie at 46th-56th, starting in February, Estancia Blvd, 56th to SH 191, east of Billy Hext new street, ongoing Faudree road construction
- e. Ector County-still working on Gardendale Rd, 87th street still under construction
- f. Martin County-no one present
- g. MOUTD-FTA Audit-occurring soon

10. **Future Meetings**- February 22, 2022 3:00 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.

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

None

13. **Adjourn**-

Motion by Robin Donnelly, second by Jack Ladd Jr, approved unanimously at 4:32 p.m.

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