



October 17, 2022

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The Permian Basin Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is pleased to provide you with an opportunity to review and comment on its draft Amendment No. 3 to its 25-year transportation plan for the region. The geographic boundary includes major portions of Midland and Ector Counties, a small portion of western Martin County and the cities of Midland and Odessa. The region's population and employment base has risen rapidly in the past five years. The MPO's decision makers include leaders for each of the agencies named above as well as TxDOT and the EZ-Rider transit provider. Collectively, this group known as the Policy Board makes important decisions related to the use of federal and state funds to improve the region's multi-modal transportation system. Some recently completed projects include an overpass in NE Midland and Northeast Odessa and North Odessa. Many more projects are underway currently as documented in the MPO's TIP which may be found at www.permianbasinmpo.com.

The MPO's funding that comes federal and state sources. The agency works cooperatively to determine how traffic safety, congestion, and freight movement among other issues may be addressed in an effective manner. The recent decision by the Texas Transportation Commission to invest additional funds into this region will help to expedite the construction along the I-20 corridor; the Commission had already made significant investments in other areas inside the MPO boundary.

Key tables and maps are included herein; however, draft versions of the entire Chapters proposed for amendment may be located at www.permianbasinmpo.com. Specifically, of a required 25-year plan that is planned for adoption by the Policy Board in November. The opportunity to review and comment on the draft is extended over a 10-day period to encourage stakeholders and citizens to express their ideas. Topics included in the draft are:

- Chapter 1, Planning Framework
- Chapter 3, Existing Infrastructure
- Chapter 4, Safety
- Chapter 5, Freight
- Chapter 7, Performance Based Planning
- Chapter 9, Project Selection and Projects
- Chapter 10, Financial Plan

The MPO published a notice in the local newspapers and on its website to advise interested persons about the proposed Amendment No. 3. The MPO will host a public hearing on October 24, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting may be attended in-person or virtually (see the MPO's web page). A ten-day public comment period will extend through close of business November 3, 2022. The Policy Board will be requested to consider voting on the Amendment No. 3 at its regular meeting on November 14, 2022.

The MPO Policy Board and staff look forward to presenting the draft document and obtaining your feedback.

Cameron Walker, AICP, Executive Director