



# Permian Basin MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization

**Policy Board Meeting**  
9601 Wright Dr., Suite 1  
Midland, TX 79706  
**April 16, 2018 5:00 p.m.**

## **Minutes**

### **Policy Board Members Present**

Robin Donnelly	Chair, County Commissioner, Midland County
John B. Love III	Vice-Chair, Councilman, City of Midland
David Turner	Mayor, City of Odessa
Bryan Cox	County Judge, Martin County
Ron Eckert	County Judge, Ector County

### **Policy Board Members Absent:**

John Speed, P.E.	District Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Gennie Garcia	General Manager, MOU/D

### **Others in Attendance:**

Cameron Walker, AICP	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Lorraine Quimiro	Senior Transportation Planner, Permian Basin MPO
Rosie Spencer	Administrative Planning Assistant, Permian Basin MPO
Robert Ornelas, P.E.	Director of TP&D, TxDOT Odessa District
Ciro Baeza, P.E.	Director of Construction, TxDOT Odessa District
Jessica Alexander, P.E.	Dunaway Associates, Midland County
Jose Ortiz, P.E.	Engineering Services Director, City of Midland
Hal Feldman	Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa
Eddie Landrum	GIS Manager, City of Odessa
Thomas Kerr, P.E.	Public Works Director, City of Odessa
Tim McDaniel	Planner, City of Odessa
Roy Allen	Transportation Committee Chairman, Odessa Chamber
Russ Doss	

## **AGENDA ITEM**

### **1. Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting of the Permian Basin MPO Policy Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Policy Board Chair, Robin Donnelly. A quorum was present.

### **2. Introductions and Announcements**

Introductions were made around the room.

### **3. Public Comment Period**

None

### **4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from March 19, 2018**

A motion was made by Mayor Turner and seconded by Judge Cox to approve the Policy Board Minutes from March 19, 2018. Councilman Love and Judge Eckert both abstained. The motion passed with a 3-0-2 vote.

### **5. Approve the February 2018 Billing Statement**

February is the fifth billing month for FY 2018 and the MPO spent \$26,531.99. The percentage of expenditures ended at about 35% of the annual budget and the actual balance of funds is \$301,016.95.

A motion was made by Councilman Love and seconded by Judge Cox to approve the February Billing Statement. The motion passed unanimously.

### **6. Hold a Public Hearing and Commence a Public Comment Period for the Draft FY 2019 – 2022 Transportation Improvement Program**

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a part of the ten-year statewide UTP and the larger long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). It is a bi-annual process, a short-range list of projects that has funds identified. Staff presented the project list, some are carried over from the previous Statewide TIP (STIP) and include the most recently added City of Midland bike/ped project that included TASA funding. Mayor Turner asked if Category 3 funds is what cities have allocated and where it is outlined. Lorraine pointed out the funds in the chart shown is construction money, the money the ODC contributed was for right-of-way acquisition and not shown in the chart but is in the TIP document. Mayor Turner stated some of their funds should be allocated to construction. Robert Ornelas mentioned that he also understood it was for right-of-way acquisition. Mayor Turner wants staff to look at the letter Odessa City Council sent the MPO regarding the ODC funds because the right-of-way money was only for Hwy. 385 N., and everything else should be construction. Cameron mentioned since this is the draft, staff could make corrections before sending it out for public review and there should still be a clear way to let anyone reading the TIP know these funds are being contributed no matter what for. Commissioner Donnelly asked if Loop 338 & 52<sup>nd</sup>/56<sup>th</sup> St. was in this TIP, Cameron answered no

because it is already being done through the amendment made to the current TIP. Although it is scheduled to let in 2019, it falls into the grouped CSJ category and does not have to be individually listed. Mayor Turner will send TxDOT the letter for confirmation. Staff went over the rest of the TIP and Cameron pointed out the \$6 million project RC-52, upgrade to standards non-freeway on FM 1788 from Hwy. 191 to I-20. TxDOT has just improved the safety on this stretch by adding the continuous left turn lane and widening the shoulders and driving surface and stated if doing more work so soon was necessary. Commissioner Donnelly mentioned he believed this project was actually what was done recently, Robert added that the recent project was done on the existing right-of-way, the listed project is to acquire right-of-way, widen the shoulders to make it more of an urban corridor. Cameron ended that he just wanted to point it out to the Board and no decision needs to be made now. The document will be distributed to the usual seven locations for a 30-day public comment period that will end May 17<sup>th</sup>. Staff will then ask the Board to approve the document at the June meeting. Commissioner Donnelly asked if anyone from the public wanted to comment, no comments were made.

## **7. Hold a Public Hearing and Commence a Public Comment Period for the Draft Public Participation Plan**

Under the new requirements that came out of the FAST Act, MPOs are having to update and maintain many of their documents. One of them is adding language to the Public Participation Plan (PPP) indicating that the MPO coordinates with public port facilities and private transportation providers in its transportation planning efforts. As the MTP progresses, staff will meet with the air and space port, and the rail port in Odessa to get information regarding increase in activity, proposed plans of expansion and records of recent expansions because since the current MTP was written there has been much rail expansion in the area. Cameron added that the private transportation providers include many of the oil companies have private vans or shuttles to pick up employees and drive them to a location. Hotels also have courtesy shuttles to and from the airport, the MPO will work with the Permian Road Safety Coalition membership to find out all. Commissioner Donnelly added the Foreign Trade Zone should be included. The document will also be distributed at the 7 locations for a 45-day public comment period that ends June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Staff will ask the Board to approve it at the June meeting. Commissioner Donnelly asked what social media is used, staff answered Facebook and Twitter. Commissioner Donnelly then asked if anyone from the public wanted to comment, no comments were made.

## **8. MPO Staff Reports**

**a. 120-Day Calendar:** Cameron pointed out the MTP public workshops being held the next two weeks to begin the next 25-year plan. The first meeting is tomorrow (Tuesday) at the Centennial Library in Midland from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Woodson Park Community Center in Odessa and Thursday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Music City Mall in Odessa. Cameron thanked Roy Allen for allowing the MPO to use the space at the mall. The workshops continue next Tuesday from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at EZ-Rider and Thursday

from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the MLK Center in Midland. Maps and other activities are planned to get feedback from the public. Councilman Love apologized for not being able to attend any of the workshops since he will be out of town the next 2 weeks. The MPO received 4 submittals for the multi-modal corridor between Midland and Odessa. Staff will be reviewing those with the Bike/Ped advisory committee which has a meeting planned for May 9<sup>th</sup> where they will decide who they would like to interview or who they would like to hire. May is also Bike Month. The June meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. at Odessa College. Cameron mentioned that the MOU/D Board signed a Resolution to make Gennie Garcia an official voting member of this Board.

**b. TDM Update:** Lorraine presented maps showing the Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ) showing the projected population and employment numbers in the area for 2040. Northeast Odessa and Northeast Midland show high numbers in population, many people in the room showed they did not agree with the information on the population map. Cameron mentioned that this work was completed by information given by the Delphi Panel about 2 years ago, the panel consisted of developers, major landowners, members of the chambers, school districts, law enforcement and TxDOT. Scenarios still need to be developed in the model, this is just a small portion of what it does. Lorraine added that things can be updated with changes made since then. Lorraine mentioned making calls to the Transcad help desk for help doing some things in the model and staff has discussed the idea of looking into getting assistance to move the process along further. Especially with the development of the new MTP, this can help with the project selection process. Commissioner Donnelly asked about the employment map, Thomas Kerr asked about the area south of Hwy. 385 and there not being that much activity there. Cameron mentioned David Peck said the neighborhood was growing but water would be an issue for complete build out in the area. The MPO was told it would be a big residential area. Mayor Turner mentioned it is a rural area with minimum of 1 acre lots and he believes West Odessa should show more people than it does on the map since there is about 50,000 people there now. Councilman Love brought up that the MPO is down at least 1 person, it puts pressure on current staff to try and learn the TDM and do everything else. He asked how the search for personnel is going, Cameron answered that he has interviewed one person and may be an extending an offer. Commissioner Donnelly stated he thinks seeking outside help will still help. Cameron mentioned that more money was put in the TDM line item in this fiscal year's UPWP, and along with money being saved with the fourth position being vacant, there is some funding to find help. Staff would like to have a scenario in front of the Board soon. Commissioner Donnelly stated he would like to see more development on the TDM, Judge Eckert added he has no problem with it as long as it is accurate. Mayor Turner mentioned it is not good to see the maps showing inaccuracies, with that Commissioner Donnelly asked staff for a presentation to remind them how and why the information came about.

**c: FAST Act Compliance Update:** According to the FAST Act, there needs to be a memorandum of understanding between TxDOT, the MPO, and transit providers which in this case is just EZ-Rider (MOU/D). Cameron has spoken with Gennie and reviewed the letter drafted by TxDOT to use as a template. The letter acknowledges the entities work together, EZ-Rider needs to keep track of the condition of their fleet which they do anyway. The MPO has an agreement with EZ-Rider and another with TxDOT already, but this combines them and allows the MPO to be compliant with this requirement. Next month the Board will be asked to sign it along with TxDOT.

**d. Update on the Regional Thoroughfare Plan:** Eddie Landrum thanked everyone for sending him their information and apologized because the proper connections are not available to show what has been done. He has compiled information from the City of Midland, City of Odessa, Ector County, Midland, and Martin County along with information from TxDOT to lay over it. At the last TAC meeting, it was decided each entity go back to make sure they are compliant with what TxDOT is calling their roadways to make sure everything is the same when TxDOT's layer is added. He still has to get the information back to everyone on how to set it up and the plan with move forward from there. Commissioner Donnelly asked if early summer is good, Eddie answered they should be able to get it all together at the next TAC meeting.

**e. 30-Day Activity and Social Media Update:** Most of the information on this topic has been discussed, Commissioner Donnelly asked about the freight program. Cameron stated it was held last week in Belton by 2 FHWA employees. The conference went over opportunities to add to the portions in the MTP that include freight. Gave information on where to go for freight data, Cameron would like to establish a freight committee that could meet a couple of times a year to describe what is going on in this region. Another thing he learned was how much air freight runs through the area. The MPO has 99 likes on Facebook and 80 followers on Twitter, Rosie also mentioned the MailChimp email that was distributed last week regarding the MTP workshops. MailChimp is a new service that allows staff to send information to a high number of people and shows how many people clicked on it, the website and who unsubscribes.

## **9. Agency Project Reports**

**TxDOT Odessa District: Robert** – Wanted to point out the FM 3503, south of JBS Parkway project let earlier this month. The bid came in at \$1.9 million, 19% under with all Category 2 funds. Councilman Love asked for an update on the project at Hwy. 191 and 158, the last thing he heard about it was that a change order was decided to see if Jones Bros. could do it faster. Ciro Baeza answered that Jones Bros. did not want to do the change order because they did not want to commit to coming back to the area since they are elsewhere doing work. Councilman Love thought taking this route would get it done faster, so now what is the strategy to get it accomplished. Ciro added that the meeting just happened today so they want to look at funding avenues to see when TxDOT would be able to let a project as soon as possible. The plans they have for it are similar, they have the configurations and changes. The funding will come from Category 1 which is the District's Discretionary funds. Commissioner Donnelly asked for a timeline, Robert answered that the design is done, but it has to be packaged into a proposal and go through the process, so probably sometime in the Fall of 2018. Councilman Love added that this intersection is the number 1 issue he hears as a Councilman, so he will continue to ask and grill TxDOT staff and John Speed to keep this project going. He added he wished TxDOT staff would have reached out when problems with Jones Bros. came up because he knows one of the Councilman has a good relationship with their owners and he could have possibly done something instead of letting it fall apart. **Ciro:** Awaiting final acceptance on the ramps at FM 1788 at I-20 started. The project on FM 1788 from BI-20 to Hwy. 191 is also awaiting final acceptance. Fairgrounds project is on time, and other projects about to begin are a mill and fill on BI-20 from Loop 338 to Loop 250 will begin sometime in May, awaiting test results for a project in Martin County and it should start in May as well. Midkiff and I-20 is still in design phase, Councilman Love mentioned that his County Commissioner always asks about that project.

Robert added that the plans are about 90% complete, but it has no construction funds assigned to it at the moment, but it is a candidate for Category 4 and 12.

**City of Midland: Councilman Love:** Excited for the start on construction for Carver St. bridge which is in his district. The road bond progressing nicely, general surfacing on Scharbauer. **Jose:** to elaborate on year 1 for the road bond program, they have let all 4 projects and are nearing completion for Greentree Blvd. Hicks is under construction, Cuthbert and Taylor will be under construction soon. Jones Bros. is the contractor for Greentree, Hicks, and Taylor and Reece Albert is the contractor for Cuthbert. Will seek approval from the Council to go into a partnership with the state and do the drainage portion on Hwy. 349 from Loop 250 to Martin County. Hoping to award that in May. Bid out the Lamesa Rd. mill and overlay project and should start construction in the summer from north of Wadley Ave. to just south of Loop 250. Donated 100% signal plans for Mockingbird and Hwy. 349 which is in conjunction with reconstruction of Hwy. 349 north of Loop 250. There is a lot of concern at that intersection and the signal is warranted. Judge Cox asked if they are adding a left turn lane at the Martin County line Hwy. 349, Robert answered that it will match the curb and gutter section just north of the Loop. Judge Cox mentioned that he had talked to Gary Law before about adding it through Craddick Hwy. because it will be needed. Robert stated a project at the County line north is coming up in early 2019 that could make those accommodations. Woodcrest Project, between Andrews Hwy. up to Sinclair is underway. Lane closures in the westbound direction will happen because they are trying to loop the water line system starting in the next couple of weeks.

**Midland County: Commissioner Donnelly** – Ready to officially open CR 1250 south of the loop, they have not been able to keep drivers off it because barriers keep getting taken away. They have a condemnation to extend it south, still acquiring right-of-way. Went out to bid for CR 127 east of FM 1788 north of BI-20, south Midkiff at CR 1210, and CR 1290 at Coors Rd.

**City of Odessa: Hal** – The contractor that was hired for the University Blvd. project for right-of-way clearing is progressing between Andrews Hwy. and Dixie. Oncor has crews moving power poles on the corridor as well. The contractor from Atmos Energy is doing the next phase of gas line replacement east of Maple, from Maple to Dixie. 23<sup>rd</sup> St. is under construction between Andrews and Kermit Hwy., out to bid for 2 new traffic signals, one at Faudree Rd. and Dorado and the other at Yukon Rd. and Dawn.

**Ector County: Judge Eckert** – Have had some success as a county cooperating with TxDOT with the issue at the intersection of Loop 338 and 52<sup>nd</sup>/56<sup>th</sup> St.

**Martin County: Judge Cox** – Sealcoat project is going on, about to start pouring concrete for the new jail. TxDOT will be starting on the bridge

**MOULD:** Cameron mentioned the memorandum of understanding again, and the Transit Condition Report was received by them last week as part of a FAST Act requirement. Councilman Love asked about Greyhound and Cameron stated they are having issues with freight storage since a lot comes in through those busses. The front lobby is almost always full, and many of the

riders walk over I-20 on FM 1788 to buy snacks while they wait, and it is a safety issue due to all the trucks that go through there.

#### **10. Future Meetings**

Policy Board Meeting – Monday, May 21, 2018 at 5:00 pm

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 8:00 am

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee – Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 9:00 am

LEAP Rural Rail District Meeting – N/A

Cameron added a safety workshop being held at the Atmos Energy building by TxDOT and TTI on May 17<sup>th</sup> and suggested anyone who can make it to attend since they only scheduled 4 and the other 3 are in Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio.

Lorraine mentioned she will not be at the May Policy Board meeting because she was selected to be in a program called Leadership Texas. They have 4 cities throughout the State they visit with emphasis on their communities and what makes them unique. She was the only one selected from the Permian Basin and this year's sessions are in Ft. Worth, Abilene, El Paso and Houston.

#### **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 purposes 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**

A motion was made by Councilman Love and seconded by Judge Cox to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.