



Permian Basin MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization

Policy Board Meeting
Permian Basin MPO
9601 Wright Dr., Suite 1, Midland, TX, 79706
May 20, 2019 4:00 p.m.

Minutes

Policy Board Members Present

Robin Donnelly	Chair, County Commissioner, Midland County
John B. Love III	Vice-Chair, Councilman, City of Midland
John Speed, P.E.	District Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Bryan Cox	Martin County Judge
Debi Hays	County Judge, Ector County
Gennie Garcia	General Manager, MOUTD (EZ-Rider)
David Turner	Mayor, City of Odessa

Policy Board Members Absent:

None.

Others in Attendance:

Cameron Walker, AICP	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Lorraine Quimiro	Senior Transportation Planner, Permian Basin MPO
Alyssa Chavez	Office Manager, Permian Basin MPO
Jessica Schuttler, P.E.	Dunaway Associates, Midland County
Roy Allen	Transportation Committee Chairman, Odessa Chamber
Matt Carr, P.E.	City Engineer, City of Midland
Hal Feldman	Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa
David Peck	Project Manager, Ector County Public Works
Gene Powell	Public Information Officer, TxDOT Odessa District
Chad Windham, P.E.	Director of Operations, TxDOT Odessa District
Saul Romero, P.E.	Area Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Phillip Tindall, AICP	Planner, Texas Department of Transportation
Aaron Tuley, AICP	Planning/Landscape Architecture Team Leader, Halff Associates
Landon Merritt	Operations Manager, Halff Associates
David Hamm	Permian Basin Bicycle Association
Bill Frawley, AICP	Research Scientist, TTI
Phillip Tindall, AICP	Planner, Texas Department of Transportation

AGENDA ITEM

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting of the Permian Basin MPO Policy Board was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Policy Board Chair, Robin Donnelly. A quorum was present.

2. Introductions and Announcements

Every attendee introduced themselves.

3. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from March 18, 2019

A motion was made by David Turner and seconded by Debi Hays to approve the Policy Board Minutes from March 18, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approve the February and March 2019 Billing Statements

February is the fifth billing period for fiscal year 2019 and reflects the expenditures from Tasks and Subtasks as approved in the FY 2019 UPWP. During the month of February, Permian Basin MPO expended \$35,801.77, which brings the percentage of expenditures to 37.25% of the FY 2019 programmed funds. The balance of funds is \$282,372.46.

March is the sixth billing period for fiscal year 2019 and reflects the expenditures from Tasks and Subtasks as approved in the FY 2019 UPWP. During the month of March, Permian Basin MPO expended \$29,988.62, which brings the percentage of expenditures to 41.65% of the FY 2019 programmed funds. The balance of funds is \$262,591.03.

A motion was made by Debi Hays and seconded by John Love to approve the February and March 2019 Billing Statements. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Approve amendments to the Permian Basin MPO By-Laws

This amendment is to change the by-laws to allow for a two-year term on the Policy board and the Technical Advisory Committee. These terms would apply to the Chairman and the vice chairman on the Policy board and the vice chairman on the Technical Advisory Committee. The elections for Officers will be held at the February Policy Board meeting in even numbered years, as would be the same for the Technical Advisory Committee elections.

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by John Speed to approve amendments to the Permian Basin MPO By-Laws. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Approve amendments to the FY 2019 Unified Planning Work Program

The Unified Planning Work Program is the MPO's approved annual budget. During the preparation of the FY 2019 UPWP, the funding needed to complete the Multi-Use Trail Study was identified from two sources: an approved grant from TxDOT's State Planning Research funds in the amount of \$17,258 and \$24,742 from the MPO's budget under Task 5, Special Studies. When

the budget was presented to the Board for approval on July 16, 2018, the note shown below should have been deleted.

²\$24,742 was set aside in FY 2018 as the MPO's participation in the anticipated Multi-Use Corridor Trail Study. This amount is pending FY 2018 carryover and is not included in the FY 2019 TPF value.

The note indicates that the \$24,742 would come from FY 2018 carryover funds. That was not the intent. Currently the FY 2019 UPWP does not reflect the \$24,742 in the line item labeled Task 5.2, Multi-Use Corridor Study. Staff requested that the Policy Board approve an amendment to the UPWP to reflect the availability of the stated funds into Task 5.2. The funds to cover the \$24,742 are proposed to come from Tasks 3 and 4. Task 3.1 is the line item that includes the TIP and the UPWP; Task 4 includes the MTP, Congestion Management Process, and Travel Demand Model. In addition, staff was informed by TxDOT that the figure \$2,465,418 needs to be inserted into Task 5.1.

It was also mentioned that staff recently put out an RFP for public involvement. There was originally \$35,000 to be used towards public involvement. Staff received no responses to the RFQ that was put out, so staff is requesting that an amendment be made to task 1.5, in order to hopefully receive a proposal for the RFP. It was decided that \$4,000 would be taken from task 1.2 and put into task 1.5.

A motion was made by David Turner and seconded by Debi Hays to approve amendments to the FY 2019 Unified Planning Work Program. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Approve a commitment of the MPO's Category 2 fund balance be programmed for I-20 corridor projects

The TxDOT approved FY 2019 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) that indicates that the MPO has an unprogrammed balance of \$33,700,000. These funds are part of a 10-year allocation of \$174,050,000 of Category 2 funds for the period 2019-2028. Staff recently met with John Speed, the TxDOT District Engineer, about the possibility of committing the MPO's unprogrammed balance of funds to leverage additional funding for projects on the I-20 corridor. The Technical Advisory Committee met with John Speed on May 20th to discuss the potential of allocating the funds. The TAC's recommendation was to provide all \$33 million of the unprogrammed balance funds towards the remainder of the I-20 corridor projects. It was noted that it is very likely that such commitment of MPO funds will result in additional funding support from the Transportation Commission under its Strategic Priority funding category. John Speed reminded the Policy Board that everything, except the mainlines, would be constructed. Various Policy Board members had concerns about providing all \$33 million worth of unprogrammable funds to the remainder of the I-20 corridor projects, due to numerous local projects taking precedent as well. It was noted that there does not have to be an outright commitment for a certain year span, due to the Policy Board having the right to vote on whether to add or remove more funds from the unprogrammable balance of funds. Ultimately, it was decided to provide \$25 million of the \$33,700,000 unprogrammed balance funds.

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by David Turner to approve a commitment of the MPO's Category 2 fund balance be programmed for I-20 corridor projects. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Accept the Multi-Use Trail Study as presented by Halff Associates

Aaron Tuley from Halff Associates presented the multi-use trail study to the Policy Board and other attendees. The multi-use trail study is a study that observes nine different route alternatives to

connect Midland to Odessa. The connection would be from the Scharbauer Sports Complex in Midland to The University of Texas of the Permian Basin in Odessa, with the middle connection point being at the Midland International Airport. The goal of this study is to provide a route that would accommodate all modes of transportation, such as bicycling or walking. The next steps of continuing this study process would require to further refine the various alternatives, identify the preferred alternative and to develop the requisite organization structure.

David Hamm, with the Permian Basin Bicycle Association, provided a statement by thanking the Policy Board and the MPO staff for helping support the study. He mentioned that the next step, as the Permian Basin Bicycle Association, is to search for funding to support this study.

A motion was made by John Speed and seconded by John Love to approve accept the Multi-Use Trail Study as presented by Halff Associates. The motion passed unanimously.

15. Adjourn

Due to emergency weather conditions, MPO staff reports, agency project reports and future meeting date agenda items were deferred, and the meeting was adjourned early.

A motion was made by to adjourn by John Love and seconded by David Turner. The motion passed unanimously with adjournment at 5:32 pm.