



Permian Basin MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization

Policy Board Meeting
9601 Wright Dr., Suite 1
Midland, TX 79706
October 16, 2017 5:00 p.m.

Minutes

Policy Board Members Present

Robin Donnelly	Vice-Chair, County Commissioner, Midland County
John B. Love III	Councilman, City of Midland
Ron Eckert	County Judge, Ector County
John Speed, P.E.	District Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Bryan Cox	County Judge, Martin County

Policy Board Members Absent:

David Turner	Chair, Mayor, City of Odessa
Robert Stephens	General Manager, MOU/D

Others in Attendance:

Cameron Walker, AICP	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Lorraine Quimiro	Senior Transportation Planner, Permian Basin MPO
Rina Bale	Mobility Manager, Permian Basin MPO
Rosie Spencer	Administrative Planning Assistant, Permian Basin MPO
Bill Frawley, AICP	Research Scientist, TTI
Chad Windham, P.E.	Director of Operations, TxDOT Odessa District
Ciro Baeza	Director of Construction, TxDOT Odessa District
Hal Feldman	Traffic Coordinator, City of Odessa
Matt Carr, P.E.	City Engineer, City of Midland
Charles Harrington	Development Services Director, City of Midland
Jessica Alexander	Dunaway Associates, Midland County
Trevor Hawes	Midland Reporter-Telegram

AGENDA ITEM

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting of the Permian Basin MPO Policy Board was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Policy Board Vice-Chair, Robin Donnelly. A quorum was present.

2. Introductions and Announcements

John Speed introduced Robert Ornelas as the new Transportation Planning Director, Cameron announced this was Rina's last Policy Board meeting.

3. Public Comment Period

None

4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from September 25, 2017

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by Ron Eckert to approve the Policy Board Minutes from September 25, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approve the August Billing Statement

Rosie mentioned a correction made to the agenda packet and the billing report. The UPWP Task Breakdown table showed an incorrect amount, it has been fixed and all totals changed to match. August is the eleventh billing for FY 2017 and the MPO spent \$39,877.49. The percentage of expenditures is about 85% and the balance of funds is \$302,699.75.

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by Bryan Cox to approve the amended August Billing Statement. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Approve Amendment No. 1 to the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program

Staff has gone through the public participation portion of the proposed amendment and are now seeking Board approval. The TIP shows the proposed projects and funding source for each. Page eleven shows seven projects, two of which have been in the TIP for some time and are under construction. The Fairgrounds Rd. overpass at the Loop 250 intersection and the JBS Parkway realignment. The following projects are newer and come from the TxDOT UTP and the MTP. US 385 at N Loop 338 interchange, I-20 at Lamesa Rd. ramp reversals, new interchange on I-20 at CR 1250 by the Schlumberger office, Loop 250 at CR 1150 (Elkins Rd.) and CR 60, and Loop 338 at Yukon Rd. Some of these projects have local development corporation money, John Love stated only one does. Cameron mentioned the I-20 at CR 1250 and the project following it on the list both do. John Love stated that when he was going through the information he only saw one and went through his files to find it, after some discussion it was determined that only the one project had local development corporation money. John Speed added that he and Robert would be sending in additional projects to be added to the UTP that include the local development corporation money. The way the UTP was developed this time, certain category of funds was not inserted, but they are being inserted now. John Love asked if only the projects that have commitment from the EDCs are being added or are there other TxDOT projects being added.

John Speed answered both, but the primary ones are those with EDC commitments. There are three or four projects that are brand new, they have not been introduced into the MTP and those will have to be put in over the next few months. The projects being added are Loop 250 at CR 1140, an overpass at Faudree Rd. at I-20, intersection of Loop 338 & 52nd/56th St., the reconstruction of the interchange at Midkiff Rd. at I-20. The three that need better definition are the improvement of Faudree Rd. from Hwy. 191 to Yukon Rd., the improvements to west Loop 338 at 8th St., and the improvements at BI-20 & Faudree Rd.

John Love asked John Speed and Robert if they could have a map linked to the project when they send out the project status sheet since it is hard to read and to be able to reference it better. Robert stated he could link it to project tracker. Judge Eckert asked why the Hwy. 191 at Yukon Rd. project was not listed and Cameron reminded him that the TIP only shows projects that have an identified funding source. Although it is high on the MPO's priority list, it is scheduled for 2021 in the MTP.

A motion was made by John Love and seconded by Ron Eckert to approve Amendment No. 1 to the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Discuss the I-20 Corridor Project

The MPO has been in touch with Will Barresi who is the lead staff person from CH2M on the I-20 Corridor Study. He has informed staff that they are in the process of obtaining more data that is needed along the corridor to begin the design process. In places where they do have data the design work has begun. There was a recent meeting with the district and communication will continue to address the entire 40-mile corridor. There was a point in time that 13 miles of in-depth design was the goal, but the contract between CH2M and TxDOT has been re-written to include the entire 40-mile corridor. Will also mentioned that as soon as they are done receiving comments from the Odessa District, they want a formal kick-off meeting and invite the I-20 workgroup members. John Speed mentioned that TxDOT has been working with the study team to redefine all the I-20 projects that are currently shown in the MTP and UTP. The purpose is to establish new meaningful projects that can be put together in small portions to rebuild I-20 and convert the two-way frontage roads to one-way where they need to be converted, there are a couple of places where they study shows they should not be converted. The next step is to acquire funding, so these will be sent in for the next UTP update. Most of the projects have a small amount of Category 2 funding assigned to them. John Love asked if the study is considering backage roads, John Speed answered that at this point it does not. The study team identified what features should be in place and the number of lanes needed in the immediate future. John Love asked why some areas of the frontage roads would not be converted and John Speed clarified that they want to try and acquire funding now and the team is focusing on the areas with the higher demands. The conversion of those frontage roads may come at a later time.

8. MPO Staff Reports

Cameron pointed out a pamphlet provided by Dunaway, Jessica Alexander stated that it is a report card put out by ASCE for the country and each state every four years. In the last report card, Texas was at a C and this time it is at a C-. It is published to let everyone know and be mindful where Texas stands with certain issues such as aviation, bridges, wastewater, and highways and roads. The website (infrastructurereportcard.org/Texas) has much more

information and has the actual full report since the pamphlet only has a few of the categories. They also offer suggestions on how to improve the grades. Staff then went over the 180-day calendar and Cameron reminded them that January's board meeting is scheduled on Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a heads up in case the date needs to be moved. Rina reminded everyone that MOUTD/EZ-Rider will be taking over the RCTP program and she is currently helping TxDOT with the transition. Judge Eckert asked if anyone had heard anything else regarding EZ-Rider and Rob Stephens, Cameron mentioned that a replacement was introduced at last month's MOUTD board meeting. When she takes over and Rob leaves is still unknown, he did announce that the September MOUTD meeting was his last. John Love requested that the MPO share all public meetings that come up on social media if they do not already. Robin asked if there was an updated map showing the additional traffic count locations. Lorraine answered that the additional counts were a recommendation and have not been approved, but she will ask for one when it is final and becomes available. Judge Eckert asked about the Travel Demand Model and how can one be sure counters would be placed where the future corridors or unfunded corridors are. Discussion went on about how 200 more counters were added and it should be covered, also the map should help to see where everything is.

The Texas Freight Mobility study is open for the 30-day comment period. Robin is encouraging people to comment about all the trucks in this area that do not have a NCIS, so the truck counts are under reported. The fewer trucks that are counted on the road, means this area will get less money. John Love asked staff to email the link to make the comment, Gene mentioned there are ten days left to make the comment period.

9. Agency Project Reports

TxDOT Odessa District: Chad – Work on Hwy. 191 is moving along and getting done fast. Pavement will start this week hopefully. FM 1788 still needs a final lift before striping can be done. **Robert** – I-20 ramp reversals at FM 715, looking to improve that intersection and they are looking to just include it with this project, so it may affect the letting date. John Love asked if that means the drainage will be worked on because it get terrible in that area all the way to 158. Robert mentioned that they can take a look at it, but it extends the limits and might affect their environmental clearance. John Speed added that Chad has been working with both Midland and Odessa regarding this issue, a lot of the newer buildings are blocking the natural drainage and there are some spots where TxDOT will have to work with the landowners to get in there. John Love mentioned that something does need to happen because there is a lot of economic development going on there. Chad stated that there have been two groups created between Midland and Odessa, a ditch crew and a pavement crew. The pavement crew will start on the I-20 frontage roads in Midland and will go through Ector to get them into decent shape. The ditch crew will start on BI-20 and start getting the ditches clean and some water off the frontage road. That is starting this week and will be going on for a couple of months.

City of Midland: Matt – A culvert and pedestrian bridge on Carver and Scharbauer draw will go out to bid, working with TxDOT on Hwy. 349 north of town, putting in new utility lines on Mockingbird and excavating some detention ponds so the water has somewhere to go after they

widen the roadway. Have some projects being completed within the next 2-3 weeks that are on the COMPASS program, new road, new curb and gutter and ADA ramps. ADA and mill inlay going on Lamesa Rd. Cameron asked if the Midland Development Corporation committed to the Carver St. project, Matt answered yes. Robin asked where exactly the Lamesa project was happening, Matt answered there are two segments.

Midland County: Robin – Waiting for the paving crew to start on CR 140, they finished CR 1230 to CR 140. Other than that, just working on some potholes.

City of Odessa: Hal – Asphalt is going down on 3rd St. project, 31st St. project is complete. Mill and overlay job on 23rd St. between Kermit Hwy. and Andrews Hwy. is out to bid. Wrapping up the easements on the University project, hope to be out to bid at the end of the month for the interim project. That should last from January to May next year and then they will get into roadway construction. The limits of that project are from Andrews Hwy. to Grandview, the roadway widening is about a block shorter than that on either end but they will mill and pave that entire section.

Ector County: Judge Eckert – Have had several meetings with TxDOT to address the ongoing safety issues at the intersection of Loop 338 and 52nd/56th St. There have been several accidents there and TxDOT have installed flashing “intersection ahead” signs and red bordered speed limit signs have been put in as well. John Speed mentioned they will evaluate it later and if serious crashes continue, they may put in some things like rumble strips, but they try to avoid that since drivers will try to go around them and cause other issues.

Martin County: Judge Cox – Went out to bid for new jail and is hoping to break ground at the beginning of the year. Mentioned to John Speed about North 349 project and that the limits should extend to Craddick Hwy. Discussion went on regarding that area and the development going on around it.

MOUSD: Absent

John Love mentioned that at TML he spoke with people from Alpine and Presidio who said to stop calling it “La Entrada”, perception has prevailed that the meaning is a bad thing. The new mayor of Marfa and Presidio’s City Attorney both said the same thing. When talking about the trade corridor then people are on board, just depending on what it is called people have a different perception of it.

Cameron announced that John Love has been elected to be the President of TML. John Love added that this is why he brought up the issue, those people would like to have a regional corridor meeting. The MPO is the transportation leader in this area and he believes it would be a good

opportunity for the MPO to have maybe TML and TxDOT to try and get everyone on the same page. More discussion regarding I-27 came up and John Love wants this to be something the MPO is involved in because of the economic diversity it will bring to the area.

10. Future Meetings

Policy Board Meeting – Monday, November 20, 2017 at 3:00 pm

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 8:00 am

LEAP Rural Rail District Meeting – Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at 8:15 am

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 John Love and seconded by Ron Eckert to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.