



9601 Wright Blvd. Midland, Texas
Policy Board Meeting IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL via Zoom
October 16, 2023 1:30 p.m.

Policy Board Members Present:

Eric Lykins, P.E.	TxDOT Odessa District Engineer
Jack Ladd, Jr	Chair, Midland City Councilman
Mike Gardner	Vice Chair, Ector County Commissioner
Terry Johnson	Midland County Judge

Policy Board Members Absent:

Bryan Cox	Martin County Judge
Doug Provance	General Manager, MOUSD (EZ Rider)
Steve Thompson	Odessa City Councilman

Others in Attendance:

Cameron Walker, AICP	Executive Director, Permian Basin MPO
Ken Van Dyne, AICP	Assistant Director, Permian Basin MPO via zoom
Janna Dean	Office Manager, Permian Basin MPO
Akyra Hamilton	GIS Tech, Planner Permian Basin MPO
Andrew Avis	Midland County, Director of Public Works and FloodPlain Mgr via zoom
Sara Garza	MPO Manager, TxDOT via zoom
Bobby Wojciechowski	City of Midland, Construction Manager
Dustin Fawcett	Ector County Judge
Debra Richmond	Permian Strategic Partnership via Zoom
Fred Herrera, P.E.	Area Engineer, TxDOT Odessa District
Robert Ornelas, P.E.	Director of TP&D, TxDOT Odessa District
Chad Windham, P.E.	TxDOT Odessa District, Director of Transportation
Gabriel Ramirez, P.E.	TxDOT Odessa District, Advanced Planning Engineer via Zoom
Dallas Teston	TxDOT PFD Management Analyst
Saul Romero, P.E.	TxDOT Odessa District, Construction Manager
Sara Harris	Midland Development Corporation via Zoom
James Beauchamp	President, MOTRAN via Zoom
Kirk Fauver, P.E.	Planning and Research Engineer, FHWA via Zoom
Ellen Ramsey	Executive Director Permian Road Safety Coalition via Zoom

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jack Ladd, Jr., Chair, at 1:30 p.m.

2. Introductions and Announcements

Everyone introduced themselves. We had special presenters, Matt Miller and Bob Hazlett from TTI and Dallas Teston with TxDOT, State Infrastructure Bank.

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

There were no public comments.

4. Approve the Policy Board Minutes from September 18, 2023

A motion to approve the Policy Board Minutes from September 18, 2023 was made by Mike Gardner, seconded by Terry Johnson, and approved unanimously.

5. Approve the August 2023 Billing Statement

Staff explained that the City of Odessa had not supplied the MPO with the August or September Billing Statements for inclusion in the Board packet. Staff plans to share 2 months of billing with the Policy Board at the November meeting.

6. Presentation from TTI on the MPO's Resiliency Study

Texas A&M Transportation Institute staff was present and provided the Policy Board with an update on the ongoing MPO resiliency plan, or RIP-Resiliency Improvement Plan. Matt Miller with TTI explained about funding opportunities available for the cities and counties for improvements. He is hoping to have the final RIP to the MPO by December 31, 2023 following a 30 day public comment period in November.

7. Presentation on the TxDOT State Infrastructure Bank

Dallas Teston from TxDOT provided information to the Policy Board regarding the TxDOT State Infrastructure Bank and how the counties and cities alike could benefit from using it. He explained how the loan process works, and answered questions from the Board and others regarding the lending process. He shared that it is a revolving fund and a federal program. The loan funds can be used for construction, contingency, right of ways, utility locating, for on or off system roads. The process usually takes 4-6 months to complete and receive the funds.

8. Approve Resolution supporting the planning and construction of future Interstate Highway 27 in Texas

Staff believes it is important for the Policy Board to consider a resolution to be delivered to TxDOT which supports the continued planning for the construction of future Interstate Highway 27. After a discussion with the Policy Board and TxDOT, about the wording of the Resolution, it was tabled to the November meeting for revisions.

9. Approve the 4% pay increase from the City of Odessa

Cameron shared with the Policy Board the City of Odessa approved a 4% cost of living raise for all employees. The MPO staff are subject to the regulations of the City of Odessa.

A motion to approve the 4% cost of living raise was made by Terry Johnson, seconded by Mike Gardner and approved unanimously.

10. MPO Staff Reports

- a. **90-Day Calendar**
- b. **Staff Activities – 30-day**
- c. **Update on Call for Projects and upcoming Board decision**

Cameron shared we have asked for responses to our Call for Projects from the public and interested parties. We have posted the information along with a submission form, on the website, and in the newspapers. A television interview was also aired. Also, the MPO has published a RFQ to assist with the MTP and the planning efforts. We have listed this information on the website as well as the Texas Register and are accepting submissions until October 26, 2023.

11. Agency Project Reports

- a. **TxDOT Odessa District**
- b. **City of Midland**
- c. **Midland County**
- d. **City of Odessa**
- e. **Ector County**
- f. **Martin County**
- g. **MOUTD**

Due to time constraints, this item was tabled to the November meeting.

12. Future Meetings

The next TAC Meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2023
The next Policy Board Meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2023.

13. 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.

14. Take Action Concerning Executive Session Matters

There was no executive session.

15. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn at 3:00 p.m. was made by Mike Gardner, seconded by Terry Johnson, and was approved unanimously.

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