

**Harlingen-San Benito
Metropolitan Planning Organization
Transportation Policy Committee (TPC)
Meeting Minutes for December 20, 2017
Approved at the February 14, 2017 TPC Meeting**

Meeting Called to Order

Mayor Ben Gomez called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. The meeting took place at the San Benito Municipal Building, 401 N. Sam Houston Blvd., San Benito, Texas 78586.

Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Ms. Jennifer Prado stated there was quorum.

Members Present:

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| ✓ Mayor Chris Boswell, | City of Harlingen |
| ✓ Mayor Ben Gomez, | City of San Benito |
| ✓ Mayor Mark Sanchez, | Town of Combes |
| ✓ Mayor George Rivera, | City of Palm Valley |
| ✓ Ms. Veronica Flores | City of Primera Designee |
| ✓ Mr. Ben Medina, | City of Rio Hondo Designee |
| ✓ Mayor Rick Cavazos, | City of Los Indios |
| ✓ Mr. Jaime Sandoval, | City of La Feria Designee |
| ✓ Ms. Rachel Flores, | City of Santa Rosa Designee |
| ✓ Mr. David Garza, | Cameron County PCT # "3" |
| ✓ Mr. Gus Ruiz, | Cameron County PCT # "4" |
| ✓ Mr. Pete Alvarez, | TxDOT |
| ✓ Mr. Dan Serna, | City of Harlingen City Manager |
| ✓ Mr. Manuel De La Rosa, | City of San Benito City Manager |

Others Present:

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| ✓ Mr. Fred Bell, | City of San Benito |
| ✓ Mr. Andres Espinoza, | TxDOT |
| ✓ Mr. Raymond Sanchez, | TxDOT |
| ✓ Mr. Sergio Sustaita, | TxDOT |
| ✓ Mr. David Vera, | TxDOT |
| ✓ Mr. Gabriel Zuniga, | LRGVDC-Valley Metro |
| ✓ Ms. Sarah Dierlam, | LRGVDC-Valley Metro |
| ✓ Mr. Rick Kelly, | Valley Morning Star |
| ✓ Mr. Anthony Garza, | L&G Engineering |
| ✓ Mr. Carlos Sanchez, | City of Harlingen |
| ✓ Ms. Paolina Vega, | Cameron County |
| ✓ Mr. Tim Juarez, | TxDOT-TPP |
| ✓ Mr. Casey Wells, | TxDOT-TPP |

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| ✓ Mr. Joel Garza, | HSBMPO |
| ✓ Mr. Frank Gudino, | HSBMPO |
| ✓ Ms. Jennifer Prado, | HSBMPO |

Public Comment

Commissioner David Garza made a comment and asked when evaluations for the HSBMPO Staff will take place if they haven't done so already, and if there are any possible increases in pay.

Consideration and Action to Approve the November 15, 2017 Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) Meeting Minutes

Mayor Ben Gomez asked the committee if there were any additions or corrections to the November 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes.

A motion to approve the November 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes was made by Mayor Boswell and seconded by Commissioner David Garza Upon a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Consideration and Action to Approve the TIP Revision #3

Mr. Joel Garza presented this item and informed the members that the City of Harlingen and the City of Primera have been awarded two different grants for sidewalk projects, and as a requirement they now have to be added to the TIP process. Mr. Garza informed the members that the document in the packet has been revised and has been printed as a separate document that each member has available at their seat. Some information had to be updated and the items in yellow is what was recommended to be changed.

A motion to approve the TIP Revision #3 was made by Commissioner David Garza and seconded by Commissioner Gus Ruiz. Upon a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Consideration and Action to Approve the MTP Revision #6

Mr. Joel Garza presented this item and informed the members that we are updating our long range plan the MTP. A separate spreadsheet was attached in the packet with the correct figures for the two projects. The items in yellow are the projects that will be officially be submitted into the TIP and MTP, and the items in light pink are projects that were added to Harlingen but are part of the group project under TxDOT. They are not required to be in the TIP but are shown here as illustrative purposes only.

A motion to approve the MTP Revision #6 Plan was made by Commissioner Garza and seconded by Mayor Boswell. Upon a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Discussion of Texas Freight and International Trade: Freight Mobility and Border Master Plans

Mr. Joel Garza presented this item and introduced Mr. Tim Juarez and Casey Wells from the TxDOT Freight and International Trade Office. They gave the members a presentation of the Freight Mobility and Development of the Border Master Plans. Each representative spoke about different topics in regards to the Freight Mobility and Border Master Plans. All questions and comments were addressed at the end of the presentation by Mr. Juarez and Mr. Wells.

For Informational Purposes Only

Status Reports **TxDOT Project Status Reports**

Mr. David Vera with TxDOT presented the Project Status Reports for the projects that are underway. Mr. Vera informed the members that we will be talking about the U.S. 281 in Los Indios project and all the details and information of this particular project. Mr. Vera informed that members that and/if anyone has questions in regards to the presentation of projects he will be available after the meeting to answer any questions or concerns.

For Informational Purposes Only

Valley Metro Status Report Updates

A representative, Sarah Dierlam, from Valley Metro was present to provide the members with status reports. Ms. Dierlam informed the members that she will be giving the status update for the months of September, October and November. There is a 37% increase over last year's numbers. Ms. Dierlam shared with the members that more people want to ride the busses due to high prices of gas and that the service is fare free.

For Informational Purposes Only

Meeting Adjournment

Mayor Gomez adjourned the meeting at 1:44 pm