

**Harlingen-San Benito  
Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Transportation Policy Committee (TPC)  
Meeting Minutes for February 14, 2018  
Approved at the March 21, 2018 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.

**Introductions**

Each member and public/person present introduced themselves one by one

**Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum**

Ms. Jennifer Prado stated there was quorum.

**Members Present:**

- |                           |                                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ✓ Mr. Gabriel Gonzalez,   | City of Harlingen Designee      |
| ✓ Mayor Ben Gomez,        | City of San Benito              |
| ✓ Mayor George Rivera,    | City of Palm Valley             |
| ✓ Mayor R. Dave Kush,     | City of Primera                 |
| ✓ Mr. Ben Medina,         | City of Rio Hondo Designee      |
| ✓ Mayor Rick Cavazos,     | City of Los Indios              |
| ✓ Mr. Jaime Sandoval,     | City of La Feria                |
| ✓ Mayor Andres Contreras, | City of Santa Rosa              |
| ✓ 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:**

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Mr. Fred Bell,       | City of San Benito    |
| ✓ Mr. Raul Gomez       | Cameron County Pct. 3 |
| ✓ Mr. Andres Espinoza, | TxDOT                 |
| ✓ Mr. Raymond Sanchez, | TxDOT                 |
| ✓ Mr. Sergio Sustaita, | TxDOT                 |
| ✓ Mr. Juan Bosquez,    | TxDOT                 |
| ✓ Mr. Pete Sepulveda,  | CCRMA                 |
| ✓ Mr. Tom Logan,       | 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. Sergio Contreras,  | RGV Partnership   |
| ✓ Mr. David Garcia,      | Cameron County    |
| ✓ Mr. Xavier Villarreal, | Cameron County    |
| ✓ Mr. Joel Garza,        | HSBMPO            |
| ✓ Ms. Jennifer Prado,    | HSBMPO            |

## **Public Comment**

### **Consideration and Action to Approve the December 20, 2017 Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) Meeting Minutes**

Mayor Ben Gomez asked the committee if there were any additions or corrections to the December 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes.

A motion to approve the December 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes was made by Mayor George Rivera and seconded by Mr. Dan Serna. Upon a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

### **Discussion of HSBMPO's FY17 Annual Performance & Expenditure Report**

Mr. Joel Garza presented this item and informed the members that each year a report is submitted to TxDOT and Federal Highway, outlining what was done during Fiscal Year 2017. This report was enclosed in each member's packet as a separate item. The budget summary is found in the last page of this document and reflects the amount used for Fiscal Year 2017. This document has already been submitted to TxDOT on the month of December.

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### **Discussion of HSBMPO's FY 17 Annual Listing of Projects**

Mr. Joel Garza presented this item and informed the members that these are projects that are in the group that the San Benito office did within this region or projects that have been done for transit they are submitted to TxDOT and Federal Highway for their review. This has been enclosed in each member's packet.

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### **Consideration and Action to Approve the Resolution 2018-04 in Support of TxDOT's Performance Measures and Targets**

Mr. Joel Garza presented this item and a power point. Mr. Garza informed the members that enclosed in their packets was the Texas Strategic Highway Safety Plan and as per

the last two legislations passed by congress MAP 21 and Fast Act required the state DOT's and MPO's to do some type of performance targets and performance measures. We hope to support the first five measures in the safety aspect and reduce the number of accidents, serious injuries and their rates, this can be found on page ten of the packet. Appendix A found on page 13 of each packet is what they are proposing for their targets in FY18 and on. Mr. Garza then explained Appendix A in detail.

Mr. Gonzalez informed the members that during the TAC meeting there were suggestions for revisions to the language on the resolution. On the resolution under item number 5, it only talked about non-motorized fatalities and non-motorized serious injuries, the TAC asked for "Bicycle & Pedestrians" to be included in the language so that anyone who reads this can understand what a non-motorized serious injury is. Mr. Gonzalez also pointed on that on page 13 of the packet it lists the number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries and that is bike & ped 2,151 however on page 15 of the packet there is no funding available for education and enforcement for bike & ped. Mr. Gonzalez would like to address this and ask if there is an opportunity to put funding towards this.

Mr. Pete Alvarez, then addressed any questions pertaining to this matter.

A motion to approve the Resolution 2018-04 in Support of TxDOT's Performance Measures and Targets was made by Mayor George Rivera and seconded by Mr. Gabriel Gonzalez. Upon a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

## **Status Reports**

### **TxDOT Project Status Reports**

Mr. Sergio Sustaita, informed the members that we will be talking three projects and they are the Rio Hondo Lift Bridge, Rio Hondo Side Walk and FM 106. Mr. Sustaita informed the members of each project individually and details and answered any questions or concerns anyone had regarding the presentation of projects

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Commissioner David Garza asked about the status of the MPO Merger. Mr. Joel Garza informed the members that Harlingen and Brownsville are looking into bylaws but did not know any in specific.

Mr. Dan Serna, then informed the members that the City of Harlingen has been working and having several meetings and hope to have additional information in the upcoming weeks.

Mayor Rivera requested for an MPO merger status to be added to the agenda every month, to keep everyone informed of any updates.

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### **Valley Metro Status Report Updates**

A representative, Tom Logan, from Valley Metro was present to provide the members with status reports. Mr. Logan informed the members that he will be giving the status update for the months of. There is a 35% increase over last year's numbers. Reports can be found in each member's packet.

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### **Executive Session: Discussion of MPO Director's Annual Evaluation**

A motion to approve the Executive Session: Discussion of MPO Director's Annual Evaluation was made by Mayor Cavazos and second by Mr. Dan Serna. Upon unanimous vote the motion carried.

Entered Executive Session at 1:34 p.m.

### **Reconvene into Regular Session**

Reconvene at 2:02 p.m.

### **Meeting Adjournment**

Mayor Gomez adjourned the meeting at 2:03 pm