

**TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD  
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES  
Of March 26, 2021**

**Call to Order:**

Chairperson Lina Ortega called the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting to order at 9:05 am at the El Paso MPO Office, 211 N. Florence, Boardroom Suite 103, and El Paso, TX 79901, conducted telephonically and by video conference. TPB Member attendance was as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT		MEMBERS ABSENT	
TITLES	TITLES	TITLES	TITLES
1. Lina Ortega (Chair)	TX State Representative, 77th District	Joseph Cervantes	NM Senator, District 31
2. Walter Miller (V-Chair)	Alderman 1, Town of Horizon	Esteban Olivas	Alderman, Town Clint
3. Ellen Smyth	Director, Mass Transit-Sun Metro	Antonio Araujo	Mayor City of San Elizario
4. César Blanco	TX State Senator	Raymundo Lara	NM State Representative – 34th District
5. Cissy Lizarraga	City Representative, District 8	Benjamin Romero	Mayor, Town of Anthony, TX
6. Javier Perea	Mayor, Sunland Park, NM	Manuel Leos	Mayor, Village of Vinton
7. Art Fierro	TX State Representative – 79th District		
8. Joe Moody	TX State Representative – 78th District		
9. Ricardo Samaniego	Judge, El Paso County		
10. Yvette Hernandez	Grant Funded Program Director, COEP		
11. Cassandra Hernandez	City Representative – District 3		
12. Mary E. Gonzalez	TX State Representative – 75th District		
13. Tommy Gonzalez	City Manager, City of El Paso		
14. Norma Palacios	Public Works Director, County of El Paso	<b>MPO STAFF</b>	
15. Henry Rivera	City Representative – District 7	Sergio Estrada	MPO/TPB Attorney
16. Trent Doolittle	District Engineer, NMDOT	Eduardo Calvo	Executive Director
17. Claudia Ordaz-Perez	Texas State Representative – 76th District	Harrison Plourde	Assistant Director
18. Chuck McMahon	Doña Ana County Assist. Manager of Operations	Gabriela Lopez	Associate Regional Transportation Analyst
19. Tomas Trevino	District Engineer, TXDOT – El Paso	Marisol Enriquez	Admin. Secretary / TPB Recording Sec
20. Iliana Holguin	El Paso County Commissioner, Precinct 3	Bryan Miskimen	Transportation Financial Analyst
21. Diana Trujillo	Mayor Anthony, NM	Lizeth Peña	Administrative Specialist
22. Sam Rodriguez	Director of Aviation, EP International Airport	Salvador Gonzalez Ayala	Transportation Manager
23. Ivy Avalos	Mayor, City of Socorro	Sonia Perez	Regional Transportation Planner
24. Oscar Leeser	Mayor, City of El Paso	Claudia Valles	Transportation Planner
25.			
<b>OTHERS PRESENT</b>		<b>OTHERS PRESENT</b>	
Michael Sexton – Half Associates	Chris Canales – Rep. Lizarraga	Art Estrada – TXDOT	
Thelma Ramirez- TXDOT	Priscilla Contreras –Rep. Rivera	Blanca Serrano - TXDOT	
Maya Sanchez – San Elizario	Cassandra Urrutia - Rep. L. Ortega		
Greg McNicol – TPAC Chair	David Coronado – City Of El Paso		
Raymond Telles – CRRMA	Estrella Escobar – Mayor Leeser		
Zeina Wafa - Cambridge	Eddie Valtier - TXDOT		
Sean McAtee – Cambridge	Lee Ming Shiun AECOM		

(Meeting began with 20 members)

\* No Public Comment: No member of the public signed up for Initial Public Comment.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION:**

- Approve the minutes of the February 19, 2021 Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting.  
**Motion to approve the minutes for the February 19, 2021 Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting, as amended, made by Representative Henry Rivera, and seconded by Norma Palacios. Motion passed unanimously.**

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) TO:**

- Accept Executive Director's Annual Performance Assessment for Chair Year 2020  
**Motion to accept Executive Director's Annual Performance Assessment for Chair Year 2020 made by Representative Cassandra Hernandez and seconded by Representative Cissy Lizarraga. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. Extend the term of the Executive Director's Employment Agreement for a one-year period from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022 and that the Executive Director's base salary be increased by 4%.

**Motion to extend the term of the Executive Director's Employment Agreement for a one-year period from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022 and that the Executive Director's base salary be increased by 4% made by Representative Cassandra Hernandez and seconded by Representative Henry Rivera. Motion passed unanimously.**

Mayor Oscar Leeser commented

Judge Ricardo Samaniego commented

#### **DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

##### **TO:**

4. Amend the Destino 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Amended Destino 2045 MTP, Destino 2019-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and Destino 2021-2024 TIP to:

- a. Amend the NM 404 Widening project to reduce National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) funds and add National Highway Freight Program (NHFP) funds in FY 2022\*
- b. Deprogram the Booth Road Widening-Operational Improvements project using Border State Infrastructure (SBSI) funds in FY 2022\*

**Motion to Amend the Destino 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Amended Destino 2045 MTP, Destino 2019-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and Destino 2021-2024 TIP to:**

- a. Amend the NM 404 Widening project to reduce National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) funds and add National Highway Freight Program (NHFP) funds in FY 2022\*
- b. Deprogram the Booth Road Widening-Operational Improvements project using Border State Infrastructure (SBSI) funds in FY 2022\*

**made by, Representative Henry Rivera and seconded by Alderman Walter Miller. Motion passed unanimously.**

5. Adopt the revised PM2 and PM3 Midpoint Targets for Texas

**Motion to adopt the revised PM2 and PM3 Midpoint Targets for Texas made by Representative Cissy Lizarraga, and seconded by Mayor Oscar Leeser. Motion passed unanimously.**

6. Approve the March 2021 Project Readiness Report and potential corresponding impacts to the MPO's TIP and MTP

**Motion to approve the March 2021 Project Readiness Report and potential corresponding impacts to the MPO's TIP and MTP made by Representative Henry Rivera and seconded Commissioner Iliana Holguin. Motion passed unanimously.**

##### **REPORTS:**

7. Annual Listing of Obligated Projects

**Status report provided by EPMPO – Gabriela Lopez**

8. Status Update on the use of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds transferred to Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for Sun Metro Projects.

**Status report postponed.**

9. Presentation on Camino Real Regional Mobility Authority (CRRMA) activities.

**Status report provided by CRRMA – Raymond Telles**

10. El Paso Regional ITS (Intelligent Transportation System) Architecture Update

**Status report provided by AECOM – Lee Ming Shiun**

11. RMS 2050 Travel Demand Model Status Report

**Status report provided by Cambridge Systematics - Zeina Wafa**

12. Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2020 Project Development Status Report

**Status report provided by EPMPO – Eduardo Calvo**

13. Executive Director's Report

- a) Texas Transportation Committee, February 25, 2021
- b) New Mexico-Chihuahua Border Master Plan
- c) Border Trade Advisory Committee and TX-MX Border Transportation Master Plan
- d) Transportation Committee, TX House of Representatives, March 16, 2021

**Status report provided by EPMPO – Eduardo Calvo.**

The **next meeting** of the TPB is scheduled for **9:00 a.m.** on **April 23, 2021** at the El Paso MPO Office located at 211 N. Florence Street, Suite 103 (MPO Boardroom on 1<sup>st</sup> Floor), El Paso, TX 79901.

*\*These projects met the seven-day public comment requirement of the El Paso MPO's Public Participation Plan.*

14. Adjournment.

**Motion to adjourn at 10:32 a.m. made by Representative Cassandra Hernandez, seconded by Representative Cissy Lizarraga. Motion carried unanimously.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

*The Transportation Policy Board may retire into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** pursuant to the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D, to discuss any of the following: (The items listed below are matters of the sort routinely discussed in Executive Session, but the Transportation Policy Board may move to Executive Session any of the items on this agenda, consistent with the terms of the Open Meetings Act.) The Transportation Policy Board will return to open session to take any final action and may also, at any time during the meeting, bring forward any of the following items for public discussion, as appropriate.*

**The TPB did not retire into Executive Session.**

Approved as to content:



Marisol Enriquez, Recording Secretary of the  
Transportation Policy Board for the El Paso MPO Study Area