

TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Of March 24, 2023

Call to Order: TPB Chair Ricardo Samaniego called the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting to order at 9:00am at the Blue Flame Building, 17th Floor (Center for Community Engagement), 304 Texas Avenue, El Paso, TX 79901, and also conducted the meeting telephonically and by video conference. TPB Member attendance was as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT	TITLES	MEMBERS ABSENT	TITLES
1. Walter Miller	Alderman 1, Town of Horizon City	Joseph Cervantes	NM State Senator, District 31
2. Chris Canales	City of El Paso Representative – District 8	Willie Madrid	NM State Representative District 53
3. Rudy Cruz	City of Socorro, District 3 Representative	Eddie Morales	TX State Representative – 74 th District
4. Isela Reyes	Mayor, City of San Elizario, TX	Claudia Ordaz	TX State Representative – 76 th District
5. Cassandra Hernandez	City of El Paso Representative – District 3	Cesar Blanco	TX State Senator
6. Tommy Gonzalez	City Manager, City of El Paso	Mary E. Gonzalez	TX State Representative – 75 th District
7. Benjamin Romero	Mayor, Town of Anthony, TX	Joe Moody	TX State Representative – 78 th District
8. Ellen Smyth	Director, Mass Transit-Sun Metro	Rachel Quintana	Mayor, Village of Vinton
9. Diana Murillo	Mayor, Anthony, NM	Sam Rodriguez	Director of Aviation, El Paso International Airport
10. Lina Ortega	TX State Representative – 77 th District	Manuel Sanchez	County Commissioner, Doña Ana County
11. Norma Palacios	Assistant Public Works Director, El Paso County		
12. Isabel Salcido	City of El Paso Representative - District 5		
13. Tomas Trevino	District Engineer, TXDOT El Paso District	MPO STAFF	
14. Ramon Cano	Mayor, Town of Clint	Sergio Estrada	MPO/TPB Attorney
15. Yvette Hernandez	CID Grant Funded Program Director, COEP	Eduardo Calvo	Executive Director
16. Iliana Holguin	El Paso County Commissioner, Precinct 3	Harrison Plourde	Assistant Director
17. Oscar Leeser (Vice-Chair)	Mayor, City of El Paso	Anne Guayante	Regional Transportation Manager
18. Ricardo Samaniego (Chair)	Judge, El Paso County	Tim McDaniel	Associate Regional Transportation Analyst
19. Trent Doolittle	District Engineer, NMDOT	Claudia Valles	Transportation Planner
20. Javier Perea	Mayor, Sunland Park, NM	Gabriela Lopez	Transportation Financial Analyst

(Meeting began with 20 members)

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

DISCUSSION AND ACTION:

1. Consider and approve the minutes of the February 17, 2023 TPB meeting.
Presenter: TPB Chair
Motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2023, EPMPD TPB meeting made by Representative Lina Ortega and seconded by Mayor Benjamin Romero. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Consider approval of the El Paso MPO Title VI Program
Presenter: Anne Guayante/Tim McDaniel (MPO).
Motion to approve the El Paso MPO Title VI Program made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Mayor Oscar Leeser. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Consider approval of amendments to the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to detail efforts to develop a Safety Action Plan for the El Paso MPO region.
Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO)
Motion to approve amendments to the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2022-2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to detail efforts to develop a Safety Action Plan for the El Paso MPO region made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Consider approval of amendments to the Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), and RMS 2023-2026 Transportations Improvement Program (TIP) to amend the *South Central Regional Transit District (SCRTD) Electric Buses Acquisition* project by increasing the amount of New Mexico Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Mandatory program funds and adding New Mexico CMAQ Flex funds in FY 2023.
Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)
Motion to approve amendments to the Regional Mobility Strategy (RMS) 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), and RMS 2023-2026 Transportations Improvement Program (TIP) to amend the *South Central Regional Transit District (SCRTD) Electric Buses Acquisition* project by increasing the amount of New Mexico Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Mandatory program funds and adding New Mexico CMAQ Flex funds in FY 2023 made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Representative Isabel Salcido. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Consider approval of Legal Services Agreement with Kemp Smith LLP.
Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO)
 - Chris Canales commented
Motion to approve the Legal Services Agreement with Kemp Smith LLP made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion passed unanimously.
6. Consider and authorize the Executive Director to sign letters of support for the City of El Paso's Community Project Funding requests through the offices of United States Representatives Veronica Escobar and Tony Gonzalez.
 - a. Ysleta Port of Entry Feasibility Study
 - b. Sun Metro Micro Transit Project
 - c. El Paso International Airport (EPIA) Terminal Drive Bridge Improvements**Presenter: Omar Martinez (City of El Paso)**
Motion to and authorize the Executive Director to sign letters of support for the City of El Paso's Community Project Funding requests through the offices of United States Representatives Veronica Escobar and Tony Gonzalez.
 - a. Ysleta Port of Entry Feasibility Study
 - b. Sun Metro Micro Transit Project
 - c. El Paso International Airport (EPIA) Terminal Drive Bridge Improvements**made by Representative Rudy Cruz and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion passed unanimously.**
7. Consider and authorize the Executive Director to sign a letter of support for the El Paso Chamber's request to the 16th Congressional District Community Project funds for the El Paso Region Ports of Entry Development Study and Operation Plan.
Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO)
 - Oscar Leaser commented
 - Rudy Cruz Jr. commented
 - Chris Canales commented
 - Tommy Gonzalez commented
 - Yvette Hernandez commented**Motion to authorize the Executive Director to sign a letter of support for the El Paso Chamber's request to the 16th Congressional District Community Project funds for the El Paso Region Ports of Entry Development Study and Operation Plan made by Representative Rudy Cruz and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion passed unanimously.**
8. Consider and adopt a resolution in support of the Paso del Norte (PDN) Trail Project.
Presenter: Tracy Yellen (Paso del Norte Health Foundation)
Motion to adopt a resolution in support of the Paso del Norte (PDN) Trail Project made by Mayor Javier Perea and seconded by Commissioner Iliana Holguin. Motion passed unanimously.
9. Consider and authorize the Executive Director to submit a letter of support for Madhu Venugopal's nomination for the Senior Researcher Award at Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI).
Presenter: Salvador Ayala (MPO)
Motion to authorize the Executive Director to submit a letter of support for Madhu Venugopal's nomination for the Senior Researcher Award at Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) made by Alderman Walter Miller and seconded by Representative Lina Ortega. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Consider and approve Task Order No. 6 pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Master Agreement with Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) to provide training to MPO staff on safety related issues and training sessions for the Transportation Policy Board and MPO staff in Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00.

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO)

- Chris Canales commented

Motion to approve Task Order No. 6 pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Master Agreement with Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) to provide training to MPO staff on safety related issues and training sessions for the Transportation Policy Board and MPO staff in Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 made by Mayor Oscar Leeser and seconded by Commissioner Iliana Holguin. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

11. Assessment of Direct Economic Cost of Delay at Texas-Mexico Commercial POEs Final Report

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo (MPO) and Okan Gurbuz (Texas A&M Transportation Institute)

12. Quarterly Reports

- a. March 2023 Project Completion Report (PCR)
- b. March 2023 Project Readiness Report (PRR)
- c. FY 2023 2nd Quarter Administrative Amendments Report

Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)

13. Amendments to STIP PE and ROW projects phases.

Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)

14. New Mexico Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Surface Transportation Program-Large Urban (STP-LU) Call for Projects.

Presenter: Tim McDaniel (MPO)

15. RMS 2020 Project Status Report

Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)

16. Carbon Reduction Program Presentation

Presenter: Anne Guayante (MPO)

17. Executive Director's Report

- a. Update on Training Policy for TPB members
- b. Update on Financial Disclosure for TPB members
- c. SS4A grant award to El Paso MPO
- d. February TTC meeting – FY24 Draft Unified Transportation Program (UTP)
- e. Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a General Planning Consultant

Presenter: Eduardo Calvo, Executive Director (MPO)

The **next meeting** of the TPB is scheduled for **9:30 a.m.** on **April 21, 2023**, at the at Blue Flame Building, Floor 17 (Center for Community Engagement), 304 Texas Ave, El Paso, TX 79901

18. Adjournment.

Adjournment at 10:45 a.m.

Approved as to content:



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